



# The Vine & Branch Society

*I am the vine; you are the branches.*

*John 15:5-8*

## **How wonderful to be one of the branches of the “vine” of Jesus’ love!**

The Vine and Branch Society was created in 1998 to recognize and thank those who have made a planned gift for Christ’s work in the Diocese of Northern California. These are people who know the joy of having provided for the future mission and ministries of the Church.

Membership is automatic for anyone who has included the Church in their estate plans. Just let us know about your planned gift! You will receive a Vine and Branch pin, annual updates from the Bishop and invitations to local Vine and Branch events.

**Planned gifts** can be as simple as a bequest in your will or trust or naming the Church as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance. Other types of gifts can provide you an income for life, and then the remainder goes to the church for your designated purpose.

### **Make a bequest to the Church in your will/trust**

There are four commonly used methods:

- Percentage of your estate
- Specific dollar amount
- A specific asset
- Residue of your estate

### **Make the Church a beneficiary of retirement plans**

You may name your church or other Episcopal ministry as a beneficiary of your retirement plans

### **Make the church a beneficiary of life insurance**

You may name your church or other Episcopal ministry as a beneficiary of a insurance policy

### **Planned Gifts that provide income**

Charitable gifts that provide income can be made through the national Episcopal Church Foundation as well as other local foundations.

- Charitable Gift Annuity –A gift of cash or marketable securities (minimum \$5,000) in return for guaranteed fixed income for your lifetime based on your age.
- Charitable Remainder Trust – An irrevocable trust that generates a potential income stream for you or your beneficiaries, with the remainder of the donated assets eventually going to the church or other Episcopal ministry.



**From Gratitude to Action**



# The Episcopal Foundation of Northern California

Please return this portion to EFNC

**Yes, I would like to include the Church in my Estate Plans**

I have spoken with my Clergy about my plans

I wish to remain anonymous

I would like more information about including the Church in my Estate plan

Please contact me via:

Phone     Email     Mail

**I believe I already qualify to become a member of *Vine and Branch***

I have included the following in my will, trust, or other estate plans:

- The Congregation of \_\_\_\_\_, City \_\_\_\_\_
- The Diocese of \_\_\_\_\_
- A program or ministry of this Diocese or the Episcopal Church

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Specify)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

MY CONGREGATION/CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

In recognition of all that we are and all that we have comes from God, thank you for remembering the Church in your estate planning!



**The Episcopal Foundation of Northern California**

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