

# The Endowment Program

at



**SUNNYVALE**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church has established an Endowment Fund supported by gifts from members of the church community. The endowment is funded by generous members such as yourself and is often part of estate planning. Endowment funds are used for special church projects that are not part of our annual church budget but are important for sustaining and growing our Christian community and mission.



## *Why choose to leave a bequest?*

Leaving a bequest to the Endowment Fund as part of your estate planning reflects a belief that we are never ultimately owners, but only stewards entrusted by God to use wisely what God has placed in our hands.

When you create an endowment gift for the church during or beyond your lifetime, it declares to present and future generations the importance of your faith and trust in God. Each of us has drawn water from wells we have not dug and sat under shade trees we did not plant. The Endowment Fund offers a wonderful opportunity to provide a strong and empowering ministry for generations to come.

*"Opening their treasures,  
they offered him gifts ..."*

*—Matthew 2:11b*

*"Command those who are rich  
in this present world not to be  
arrogant nor to put their hope in  
wealth, which is so uncertain, but to  
put their hope in God, who  
richly provides us with  
everything for our enjoyment.  
Command them to do good, to be  
rich in good deeds, and to be  
generous and willing to share. In this  
way they will lay up treasure for  
themselves as a firm foundation for  
the coming age, so that they may  
take hold of the life that is truly life."  
—1 Timothy 6:17–19*

## *How Funds Are Used*

Generally, the principal of this fund remains untouched, with only income and growth used for the following:

1. Special needs within the church and/or the community
2. Short-term programs not funded through the church budget
3. Mission activity

Most recently, the Endowment Fund has been used to purchase equipment and software enabling a more robust and meaningful hybrid (onsite and online) worship service. Past initiatives have focused on children, youth, and senior programs. For example, we have funded short-term youth interns and the Director of Senior Adult Programs and partially funded the Special Needs Children's Coordinator.

On occasion, we have chosen to use Endowment Fund principal to invest in strategically important initiatives. For instance, our church manse — the house occupied by our pastor — was funded in large part with endowment funds. This investment allows us to attract and retain talented pastoral staff who otherwise might not be able to afford the high cost of living in our area.

*Leave a  
Legacy...*





## *Tax Savings*

Bequests to religious, charitable, and educational organizations are not subject to federal estate taxes.

By making a bequest to the Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church Endowment Fund in your will, you may reduce the total federal taxes to be paid out of your estate. Thus your gift to the Fund may cost less than its actual value. Also, in cases where survivors are willed a life interest with the remainder interest going to the Fund, survivors may receive income from a much greater amount than if the property had been bequeathed to them.

# *Types of Bequests*

There is a wide range of choices for the kind of church work you can support through a bequest. You may wish to underwrite a special project completely, or you may wish your bequest to be combined with other bequests in the Endowment Fund.

## *Undesignated Bequest*

One of the most useful ways you can give to the Endowment Fund is the undesignated bequest. Since it is impossible to predict the needs of Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church ten, twenty, fifty or more years in advance, such undesignated bequests allow the church to survey its needs and, with concurrence of the session, use the earnings where they will do the most good.

## *Designated Bequests*

Designated bequests are those in which donors specify the cause or causes they support. After conferring with a member of the Endowment Committee, donors may make their bequests to the Fund and designate that the income and/or the principal be used for the purpose(s) named, assuming it meets with session approval.





## *How to Proceed*

If you have not already done so, we invite you to prepare your estate plan now, so that through your bequests you will be able to strengthen Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church for generations to come.

To help you fulfill your intentions through your estate plan, we encourage you and/or your attorney to contact any of the people listed below. Any conversation will be held in the strictest confidence.

## *For More Information*

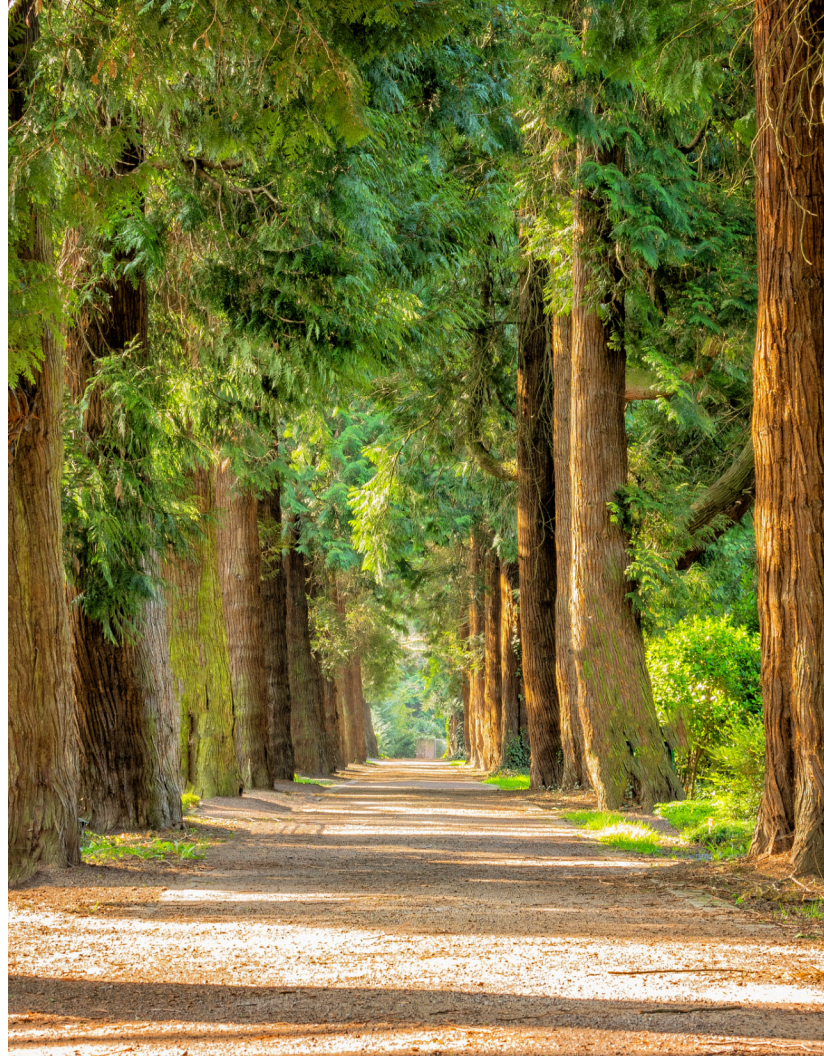
### **Pastors**

Pastor Hardy Kim	408-739-1892
Pastor Karin Hejmanowski	408-739-1892

### **Endowment Committee Members**

Barry Vickrey, Chair	605-670-6225
Larry Page	408-300-8980
Barbara McClellan	408-739-6030
Kevin Coolidge	415-730-2814
Timblin Kelleher	408-209-3268

*Communication with any of the people listed above will be held in the strictest confidence.*



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**Disclaimer:** The information in this document is intended for informational purposes only. It is recommended you consult your attorney and accountant for legal and financial issues which relate to your specific situation.