

The Light Eternal Society

By establishing a planned gift you demonstrate your commitment to the future of our Church.

The Light Eternal Society is named for the beautiful prairie style windows that adorn Ingram Hall and the Library. These windows are a symbol of our Church's commitment to be a beacon of light for our congregation and the broader community. The Light Eternal Society has been created to thank and recognize those who have chosen to share their intent to provide a planned or deferred gift to our Church.

By sharing your plans during your lifetime, our Church will be better prepared to honor your wishes and appropriately reflect your legacy. As a member of The Light Eternal Society, you will join a dedicated group of people who share a common vision for the future and believe in the mission of our Church.

Planned or deferred gifts include bequests in wills, insurance arrangements, charitable gift annuities or deferred annuities, many trust arrangements, pooled income funds, gifts of appreciated securities or real property as well as other arrangements.

The details of your gift are always confidential. The Church will not release gift information or publish your name without your consent. You may also decline membership in The Light Eternal Society or request anonymity.

If you have any questions about the Light Eternal Society, please feel free to contact the Church office at 715.834.2668 or pastor@firstucceaclaire.org.



First Congregational United Church of Christ
Eau Claire

FOUNDED 1856



Six goals have been identified as our Church's targeted endowments.

- Legacy endowment
- Facility endowment
- Music endowment
- Mission endowment
- Religious Education endowment
- Spiritual Life endowment

As an endowment, the original amount of your gift remains with the Church; only the income is used for the areas specified in the endowments. The Planned Giving Committee suggests that givers consider giving at least 10 % of their gift to the mission endowment.

For more information, please contact the Church office or the senior minister at 715.834.2668 or pastor@firstucceaclaire.org.

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Legacy endowment

Create a flexible endowment fund that can support the general purpose and mission of the Church at any time in the future.

The Church Council in 2002 wisely established the Legacy Fund. The Legacy Fund is managed as a part of the Endowment Fund and is a flexible, unrestricted, permanently endowed account wherein only the income may be used. "It is created for the purpose of maintaining an everlasting and growing stream of income designated to support the general purpose and mission of the Church. The Legacy Fund is established to accrue resources to the Church to meet exceptional capital needs and to engage in outreach or other special ministries beyond that provided for in the regular offerings for its day-to-day operations."

The Legacy Fund is a simple but brilliant idea that assures that our Church will have the flexibility to meet the needs of an unknown future.

Religion Education endowment

Plan ways to develop and implement a Christian education program that will expand learning opportunities to meet the needs of people of all ages.

A first rate Christian education program is essential to further the spiritual growth of all people. Religious Education endowment funds allow us to attempt innovative programming, begin new initiatives, and to invite guest teachers and lecturers. Endowment funds also allow us to provide scholarship money for children, youth and adults to attend Church camps, Lay Academy, and to participate in other events and learning opportunities provided by the Northwest Association, the Wisconsin Conference and the United Church of Christ in its national setting.

Mission endowment

That mission giving and social concerns become a major priority in the deeds and financial commitment of the Church.

Your gift to the Mission endowment will be used to proclaim the love and compassion of Jesus Christ by supporting designated missions, local and global. Support will be enhanced for organizations that address human conditions such as hunger, homelessness, illness, personal violence, systemic injustice and the anguish brought about by natural disasters. Education that fosters personal growth, economic and community development is also supported by gifts to the Mission endowment. Together we can engage in God's mission to care for those in need. Mission efforts currently supported by our Church include:

- Our Church's Wider Mission
- Neighbors in Need
- One Great Hour of Sharing
- Veterans of the Cross (The Christmas Offering)
- Church World Service-CROP
- SERRV International
- Habitat for Humanity
- Interfaith Hospitality Network
- Community Table
- Chippewa Valley Free Clinic
- Feed My People
- Back Bay Mission

Spiritual Life endowment

Develop worship opportunities that speak to a broad spectrum of religious sentiment, and accommodate traditional and innovative worship.

With your gift to the Spiritual Life endowment, you will provide a variety of worship and spiritual enhancement opportunities. These will include speakers of regional and national interest as well as religious training for staff and lay ministers. These will also invite artistic expression through dance, poetry, painting, fabric and photography.

Music endowment

To provide a broad spectrum of high quality music for worship

Consistent excellence adequately describes the music tradition of our Church. Gifts to the Music endowment ensure continuation of that tradition. Sheet music, garments, guest musicians and clinicians are some of the things that are provided by your gift.

The Music endowment assists the directors, instrumental and vocal musicians in providing the highest possible level of contribution to the worship services.

Facility endowment

Create an accessible, flexible, well maintained building and grounds capable of handling a wide variety of activities including worship, education, music and social activities, and that have modern support facilities.

Much of our Church's ministry flows from our beautiful facility. Placed on the Historic Registry in 1974, our well-maintained and technologically current building allows us to offer a wide variety of worship, education, social and mission opportunities to our congregation. Our Church is committed to providing hospitality for a variety of not-for-profit groups in the Chippewa Valley which promote health and wholeness for body, mind and spirit; encourage community involvement and enrichment; foster education and advocate international understanding.