

FIVE REASONS TO CREATE AN ENDOWMENT

The Holston Conference Foundation Endowment program continues to grow because more and more of our churches and individuals recognize the benefits of creating their own endowment funds. Some churches create the stewardship guidelines for targeted needs before any funds are in hand to attract designated and planned gifts from individuals in the future. Some individuals prefer to launch their own endowments to benefit a specific church program or ministry or to benefit several needs. Some individuals establish funds now so they can see them work, while others establish endowments through wills or charitable trusts.

Why do these people choose to create or add to endowment funds for the church? There are a number of reasons, of course. Here are five you may wish to consider:

1. Durability

The idea of creating a perpetual stream of financial support makes sense to people who see a similarity between retirement funds and endowment provisions. They like the concept of a fund that is guarded and invested separately from other assets so the principal of the fund will stay in tact. Only the income or a percentage of the value will be used to support the chosen ministry.

2. A Positive Legacy

When donors attach their names to an endowment fund or add funds to a church established endowment fund, they create an enduring legacy that will outlive them and influence succeeding generations. Other family members and friends will be reminded on the person's values and commitments. Endowment funds can also be used to honor the lives of others who have made a significant impact on the donor and/or the church.

3. Perpetuate Gifts

Many donors see an endowment fund as a means to underwrite their own regular giving. For example, an endowment fund of \$20,000 could create an annual "gift of \$800 - \$1,000 forever. It's a great way to "leave your mark" and strengthen the church or a specific area of ministry.

4. A Firm Foundation

Endowments should be properly invested in a diversified long-term mix of socially responsible assets to provide maximum return and minimal risk. Written guidelines should be in place to provide appropriate stewardship. Annual payouts from endowment funds permit a church or ministry to plan more confidently for the future. A church or ministry with a strong endowment is simply more stable financially.

5. Personal Satisfaction

There is something wonderfully fulfilling about doing something good that lasts, something that really makes a difference. Other kinds of giving are important, but creating or adding to a fund that will benefit others for centuries is truly satisfying.

If you would like to learn more about creating or supporting an endowment, fill out and send in the form below.

	<i>CLIP AND MAIL</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Creating an endowment fund	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Personal estate planning	Name _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Creating and properly investing permanent endowment funds at my church	Address _____
	City/State/Zip _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling a program or seminar at my church	Telephone _____
	Church Name _____
HOLSTON CONFERENCE FOUNDATION Roger Redding, Executive Director 9915 Kingston Pike, Suite C Knoxville, TN 37922 (865) 690-4080 rogerredding@holston.org	

22 ENDOWMENT IDEAS

An endowment is money that is given or set aside as a permanent fund to meet special, designated or emergency needs not met through current income. An endowment is meant to last in perpetuity and only the income or a specific percentage of the market value should be expended each year. An endowment can be named in honor or memory of a loved one and the designated to support general or specific uses. For example:

- Annually provide Bibles to every third grade Sunday school student or Confirmation class in your church.
- Annually provide Bibles to new members joining the church or for visitation.
- Establish or support a food pantry for those in need.
- Sponsor a choir retreat, new music, choir robes, new hymnals, special music, musical instruments, etc.
- Sponsor children to attend Conference Camps or upgrade camp facilities.
- Seed money to launch or support a new community or global mission initiative.
- Sponsor Continuing Education/Retreat for pastor/staff through the Wesley Institute.
- Continuing support for drug and alcohol abuse programming and other teen issues.
- Support an annual conference/program on family issues, health issues, senior citizen issues, women's issues, parenting issues, or men's issues, etc.
- Scholarship to Holston Conference Colleges.
- Scholarship to Seminary students who will return to the Holston Conference.
- New Church Development in the Holston Conference.
- Maintenance & Upgrade of church buildings, equipment, grounds.
- Toys, supplies for children's program, nursery.
- Funds for special memorial garden, artwork, etc.
- Upgrade and maintenance of parsonage.
- Grants to worthy church-related or community charities.
- Acquisitions & equipment for church library.
- Support special programs for specific purposes like Asbury Place Retirement Communities, Holston Home, Emerald Youth Foundation, Builder's Club, Ministers Pension Fund Campaign, Change for Children, Youth Resurrection, Conference Disaster Relief Fund, Wesley Foundations, Wesley Community Centers, Project Crossroads, The Upper Room, etc.
- Area of greatest need to be determined by church endowment committee, Foundation Board, Bishop, Pastor, etc.
- Grants to local missions.
- Grants to global missions.