

If you would like assistance in making a decision about the current or anticipated needs of the parish and how your designated gift could make a difference, you are encouraged to speak with the rector.

Honoring your Restricted Gift

The wishes of the donor of any restricted gift will be honored unless it is impossible to do so. This might happen if the purpose for which the gift is designated is no longer part of the church's mission and/or it is not possible, for any other reason, to fulfill the donor's wishes. In such a case the vestry will ensure that the funds are applied for a purpose as close as possible to the original intent of the donor.



One generation shall praise your works to another. Psalm 145:4

The Cornerstone Society

The Cornerstone Society was established by the vestry in 2015 to acknowledge and thank those who make plans to help support, through legacy gifts, the ongoing life of our 'stone church on the corner.' The society's goal is to encourage, support, and celebrate gifts to God that ensure our church remains vibrant and vital for generations who come after us.

How do I become a Cornerstone for Christ Church?

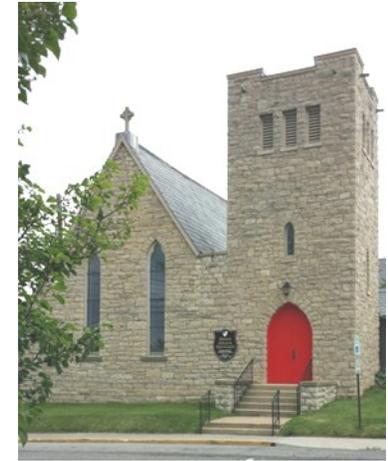
First, **prayerfully discern** that you want to make a planned legacy gift.

Second, decide whether your gift will be **unrestricted** (to be used as the vestry and rector see fit at the time of receipt); **restricted** by being invested in one or several of the endowment funds; or designated to be spent for a specific purpose either immediately or over a specified time period.

Third, with **financial/legal advice**, set up your gift with wording to document your wishes.

Finally, **inform** the rector or senior warden that you have made a planned gift. You do not need to reveal details or any amount. It is your commitment that we wish to acknowledge and honor. If you prefer to keep your gift confidential, please consider yourself a Cornerstone for Christ Church in spirit!

Planned Giving Christ Episcopal Church



The Cornerstone Society

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gifts each of you has received. I Peter 4:10

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Legacies for the Future of Christ Church

The Book of Common Prayer, on page 415, encourages all persons to make wills, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods and not neglecting to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses. These bequests, often called planned giving, are different from the gifts we make each year for our annual stewardship pledges. Planned gifts are a regular part of an individual's estate.

Making a bequest to the church helps ensure continued ministry and mission long after one is able to sustain them with his or her own time, abilities, and financial giving.

Giving a legacy gift is a ministry that is crucial to the future mission of Christ Episcopal Church. You will be looking beyond this life to witness to the fact that all that we are, and all that we have, comes as a gift from God and will one day return to God.

Why does it matter?

We enjoy a rich heritage in the Episcopal Church. Generations of worshipers knelt before the same altars and prayed the same prayers we pray. The services of the church are an important part of the framework and progress of our lives. We can help ensure that this wonderful legacy is handed on to future generations through planned giving.

Keep in mind that we are not owners of the gifts and resources with which God has blessed us, but merely stewards. When we make our plans for distribution of the resources accumulated in our lifetime, we should do so with thankful hearts and an awareness of God's presence in our lives.

How do I decide what to do?

The decision to make a bequest or other type of planned gift to Christ Episcopal Church should be made prayerfully, taking into consideration the needs of your family and your overall estate plan. If you do not already have a will, make that your first priority. It will require considerable thought so that you address all the things that are important to you.

Seek advice from your lawyer, financial adviser, and/or estate planner to determine the best way(s) in which to set up your planned gift. There are a number of possibilities, including cash, securities, properties, various types of trusts, a gift annuity, life insurance, transfer on death or payable on death accounts, and others. Professional advice will help you make the best decisions for you and your family.

What type of gift should I make?

In addition to deciding how to set up your gift, you will need to think about whether you wish to make an unrestricted gift, or whether you wish to designate part or all of your gift for a specific purpose.

Unrestricted Gift

An unrestricted gift is one whose use can be determined by the vestry and rector in accordance with the needs of the parish at the time your gift is received. If there is an emergency need, these funds can help meet it.

If there is not, part or all of the funds can be invested in the Christ Episcopal Church Endowment Fund.

To make an unrestricted planned gift or bequest, you simply need to document that the funds should go to Christ Episcopal Church, Blacksburg, Virginia, noted as "unrestricted."

Restricted Gift

A restricted gift is one for which the donor has specified the purpose(s) for which it is to be used.

If, for example, you wish your gift to be invested and the income used to benefit the parish, you could specify that it is to go to one of the established endowment funds.

The **Christ Episcopal Church Endowment Fund** was established by the vestry in 2015. The income from this fund is to be used "for any purpose deemed by the vestry to be important for the ongoing viability and mission of the church." The principal will be preserved indefinitely, which means your gift will continue to help Christ Church for years to come.

If you wish your gift to go to campus ministry or outreach, you may designate that it go to any of the following specific endowments:

- The April 16 Memorial Fund for Campus Ministry
- The William Mackie Fund for Campus Ministry
- The William Mackie Fund for Outreach

If you wish your bequest to go to any of the endowment funds, your documentation should indicate the beneficiary as "(name of fund) of Christ Episcopal Church, Blacksburg, Virginia."

You may also make a restricted gift that does not go to an endowment, but rather can be spent immediately, or in a specified time period, for your designated purpose. The documentation should clearly indicate your wishes.