

*“The Church has played major roles in our lives  
and it was an easy decision to include bequests  
to First Pres in our estate plans.”*

J. Downs & Sondra Kerr Herold

# Legacy Partners

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Sharing Blessings of a  
Lifetime with Generations  
to Come



*I declare your power to the next generation,  
your might to all who are to come.*

Psalm 71:18



Dear Friends,

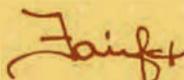
Thank you for considering an endowment or special gift to First Presbyterian Church! There is no better testimony to one's gratitude to God than one's wanting to continue to support God's work beyond their time on this earth. This support can be realized through ministries that glorify God through faithful worship; teach the faith to children and new believers; care for those who are ill, grieving, homeless, or frightened; and welcome college students, new residents, and all people to find grace and hope at First Presbyterian. That's what you can do as a Legacy Partner!

All of us are the beneficiaries of gifts given by past good and faithful stewards. Because of the generosity of those who have come before us, we have a landmark facility to call our church home. We have learned the great stories of the Bible from dedicated teachers, and have been challenged and nourished by the word preached and the sharing of the sacraments. We have been cheered on in good times and comforted on difficult days. Now it is our turn to provide for those who will follow us, figuratively to plant trees that will give shade to our children and grandchildren, to ensure that they will have opportunities like we have had: to hold a candle against the darkness while singing Silent Night; to shout 'He is risen!' on Easter morning, to walk the trails of Camp Westminster; to thrill to the singing of great choral works; to know the joy of giving to another.

This brochure contains information to help you decide the best way for you to carry out your wishes. There are many areas of the church's life and outreach that can benefit from a gift over and above what can be provided through regular pledges each year. I am happy to talk with you about any area of the church and our ministry. And I rejoice at the grace you have known in your life that has brought you to wanting to give back in a sustaining way.

Your example inspires us all to live the faith we profess in more than words, to live our faith in deeds. Bless you – and thank you.

Grace and peace,



The Rev. Dr. Fairfax F. Fair, Pastor

This brochure will help members and friends learn about endowments and special gifts and how to give or leave a gift to First Presbyterian Church. We are thankful for all the many wonderful, heartfelt gifts we have received or will receive from our "Legacy Partners". They are members or friends of First Presbyterian who give a special gift, leave a gift, or plan to leave a gift to our Church as part of their will or estate plan. The following are stories from several of our members and friends sharing why giving or leaving a gift to our church is or was so important to them.

## Stories from Our Members and Friends

As we recently reviewed and updated our wills and trusts, we seriously considered several requests for gifts and bequests which we've noticed are increasing in numbers, much like our ages. We also prepared plans for our memorial services using the Church's helpful guide. In doing this we realized that between us we have over 100 years of membership. We have wonderful memories of our children as a Boars' Head Sprite and Beefeater, their and our marriages in the Nave, serving as Deacons and Elders and as Chancel Choir members leading worship and singing in Eastern Europe. Many enduring friendships flow from our many years at First



Presbyterian. The Church has played major roles in our lives and it was an easy decision to include bequests to First Pres in our estate plans. We are grateful that we have been fortunate to have resources for our bequests and see our commitment as a way to help First Pres continue to be an active community in Christ long after our ashes are interred in the Memorial Garden.

J. Downs & Sondra Kerr Herold (2012)

Including First Presbyterian Church in our estate plan was a priority. It reflects our faith and lifelong relationships with God. Our bequest to the Church ensures that our family's current commitment to supporting His work here in Ann Arbor will continue into the future.



Daniel, Jennifer, Zachary, and Jacob Edwards (2012)

Kay Reebel was an accomplished woman with a distinguished career at the University of Michigan School of Social Work. She was a very active member of First Presbyterian Church, serving in numerous leadership roles. She had keen interests in several ministries, including children, youth, campus, and resident ministers. Our Church was blessed with a gift from Kay of about \$500,000 in 2011. While her gift was undesignated, selected members of the Endowment and Special Gifts Committee and First Presbyterian Staff met with close friends of Kay's who had known her, as she had no family at the time of her death. In the spirit of



how Kay would have wanted her gift to be used, a majority of the gift (95%) has been designated to support the Resident Ministry Program and is a significant step toward endowing that Program so that it will be self-funding in the future. The remaining portion (5%) will support our weekly Radio Ministry which enabled Kay and others to worship with us each week. Kay's service and gift to our Church are legacies to celebrate and will live on for generations to come.

Kay Reebel, In Memoriam (2012)

Our family wished to make a gift to First Presbyterian Church in memory of our parents without too many strings attached. Ideally we would like it to go toward an updated plan for the church grounds. We feel that preserving and continuing to improve the church property with all its inherent beauty, will provide enduring value to the church and would be consistent with our parents' interests and values. We are hoping this gift will be helpful in creating a meaningful plan that can guide church grounds maintenance and improvements now and in the future.



Chris, Sue, and John Cares and Alison Pritz (2012)

## How Will my Gift be Used?

Your gift will be used exactly as you request – either a gift that you designate for a specific purpose(s) or one that is undesignated and would support a variety of needs of the Church. Throughout our first 185 years, First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor has received many gifts, large and small. These generous gifts have helped to support vibrant and meaningful worship and music; ministries targeted for youth, campus, and mature members; heartfelt pastoral care; a model Resident Ministry Program; and local, national and international mission outreach. Additionally, bequests and special gifts can help sustain our historic Sanctuary and facilities and can help fund new and innovative outreach opportunities that expand the ministries of our church.

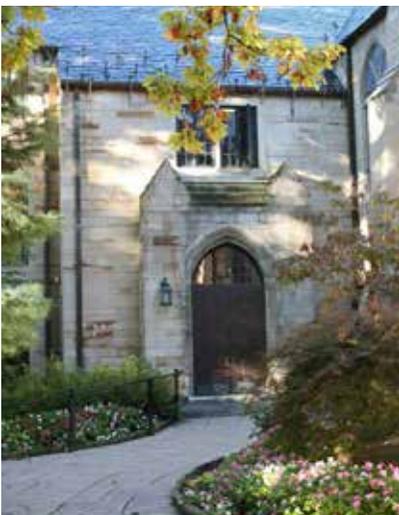
## How do I Become a “Legacy Partner” and Make a Planned Gift?

The process to make a gift to First Presbyterian Church is simple and straightforward. The most common way to designate or make a gift is to include First Presbyterian in your will with a bequest. The following is a sample bequest. “I give \$\_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_ % of my estate) to First Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor, Michigan, for its General Endowment Fund (or state a specific use).”

Additional details on special gifts and planned giving at First Presbyterian can be found on the church’s website [www.firstpresbyterian.org](http://www.firstpresbyterian.org); click on Stewardship and Giving.

## Who Can I Talk To?

Reverend Dr. Fairfax F. Fair is happy to meet with you as you begin your deliberations concerning a planned gift to our church. Endowment and Special Gifts (E&SG) Committee chair Doug Gottliebsen and the Finance Office staff are happy to assist you.



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