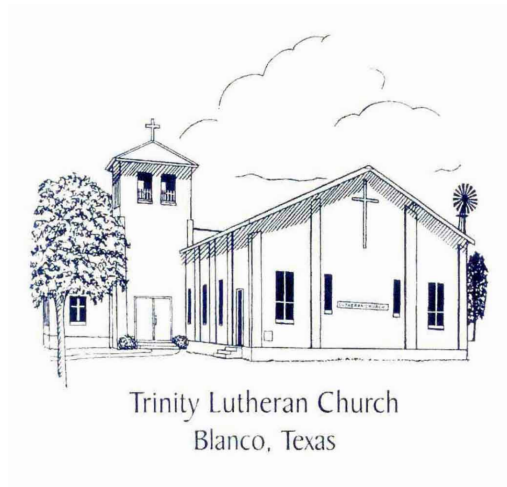
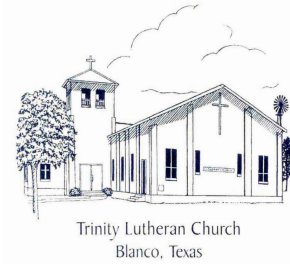


Trinity Lutheran Church

Institutional Stewardship Program



Trinity Lutheran Church



SUBJECT: Institutional Stewardship Program

PURPOSE: To delineate the Financial Stewardship Programs of Trinity Lutheran Church

BACKGROUND:

- Imperative. Christian giving to support the spiritual nurturing of God's people and the accomplishment of the Great Commission is well documented in the Bible and, for purposes of Trinity's financial stewardship programs, is considered to be not only a given but an imperative.
- Time and Money. While giving of one's material possessions is the focus of these programs, this is not intended to denigrate other forms of Christian giving. Indeed, perhaps the most precious thing God has given us, collectively and as individuals, is our time. Just as one can spend money for Christian purposes, so too do we all make decisions about how to spend the time that God has given each of us. Trinity's financial stewardship programs, however, focus exclusively on the giving of material resources to support the work of Christ on this Earth.
- Tithing. Studies have shown that overall, fewer than 10% of Christians tithe. While it is not known what percentage of Trinity's church family tithes, it is assumed that there is now and always will be room for improvement.
- Private Decision. The details of personal finance are wide and varied. These programs, therefore, make broad generalities that may or may not apply to every individual or family. At the end of the day, the amount and details of what an individual gives to Christ is a private matter between the person and Christ.

THREE SOURCES OF GIVING: For the majority of Christians, there are three sources of funds from which we give to God. They are:

- Monthly Income. Be it earned income, retirement income, or other sources of funds that flow periodically into one's possession, most Christians tap this source to make their periodic contributions.
- Savings. Christians, like other people, often have various savings and investments that grow over time. This is the source of funds most of us may tap when asked to make a contribution over and above our periodic contributions, such as contributions to a Capital Giving Campaign.
- Accumulated Wealth. We all come into this world with nothing. Over the course of our lives, most of us accumulate wealth to varying degrees. This can include savings, investments, homes, land, and a variety of other material possessions. Few Christians ever even consider how they might designate a portion of this accumulated wealth in such a manner that they can have a significant impact on supporting the Kingdom of Christ on Earth even after they have joined Him in heaven.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT. As evidenced by the exceptional level of monthly giving to Trinity, sustained over many years, our congregation is extremely faithful and generous in its monthly giving. The purpose of the Trinity Stewardship Program, therefore, is not to increase the amount of money that flows to the church on a monthly basis. It is, rather, to provide a way for church members to experience the joy of making a regular, deliberate financial contribution to Christ through tithing a portion of their monthly income and to encourage the congregation to seriously consider Christian giving from the other two sources, savings and accumulated wealth. The amount of giving is infinitely less important than the commitment to give. The Trinity Institutional Stewardship Program, therefore, is not about contributions; it is about **commitment**.

TRINITY FUNDS. Trinity Lutheran Church currently has or shall establish the following funds:

1. General Operating Fund to finance general church operations to include salaries, utilities, building maintenance, worship resources, Christian education materials and programs, and other day-to-day requirements of the church. Existing within the General Operating Fund may be several sub-funds dedicated to specific purposes as determined by the Church Council.
2. Building Fund to finance expansion of the church's physical facilities to include Christian education areas, fellowship facilities, administrative spaces, worship areas, parking areas, etc.
3. Memorial Fund to finance purchases or programs to honor, individually or collectively, persons, events, causes, etc., in keeping with the values and goals of the Church in whose memory or honor the funds are donated. The church's clarion bell system, for example, was purchased from the Memorial Fund to honor those members in whose name contributions were made.
4. Trinity Endowment Fund to be invested in assets that will provide a continuing source of funds for the future operation or expansion of the church and its ministries

The Church Council may establish additional special purpose funds to meet future requirements.

TRINITY STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM. The Trinity Stewardship Program consists of two major parts, a Tithing Program and a Legacy Giving Program

- TRINITY TITHING PROGRAM. Dedicating a portion of one's livelihood to support the work of Christ is a firmly established Biblical mandate. In order to encourage more members of Trinity's congregation to tithe on a regular basis from the first fruits of their current income, members shall be afforded the opportunity to sign a *Tithing Covenant* (encl 3). The *Covenant* is to be signed individually even though there may be multiple members in the same household, e.g., a household of two people, a husband and wife, may both sign a single *Tithing Covenant* if they so desire. The *Covenant* is as follows:

"As a committed Christian, I believe that it is my duty to tithe a portion of the first fruits of my current income on a regular basis in support of the

work of Christ. The amount and timing of this tithe is a private matter between myself and Christ. I hereby make the commitment to do so. All or a portion of this tithe may go to Trinity Lutheran Church and/or any other entity or cause that I believe supports the work of Christ.”

- The *Tithing Covenant* can be obtained from the Church Office or from Trinity’s website. It can be signed at any time during the year and returned to the Church Office where it shall be kept confidential in accordance with all other giving records of the church. A signed copy of the *Covenant* shall be retained by the member(s).
- Once a year, on a Sunday to be determined by the Church Council, members will be encouraged to review and renew their *Tithing Covenant*, though members need not sign any sort of renewal document. That is a matter between the member and Christ. Members who have yet to make a commitment to tithe will be encouraged to do so at that time as well as at other opportunities throughout the year as appropriate.
- There shall be no public acknowledgement of members who have signed a *Tithing Covenant*. The Church Office, however, will keep a record of how many church members and households have signed a *Covenant*, e.g., 55 members in 37 households. This number will be publicized in a manner to be determined by the Church Council in order to encourage more members to make the commitment.
- TRINITY LEGACY GIVING PROGRAM. In order to encourage members of Trinity’s congregation to arrange for designating a portion of their accumulated earthly wealth to supporting the work of Christ after they have departed this life to be with Him, members shall be afforded the opportunity to sign a *Legacy Giving Covenant* (see annex). The *Covenant* is to be signed individually even though there may be multiple members in the same household. The *Legacy Giving Covenant* is as follows:

“As a committed Christian, I wish to use a portion of my accumulated earthly wealth to support the work of Christ after I have departed this life to be with Him in heaven. Accordingly, I have made written arrangements to do this in my will and/or other documents that will determine the legal disposition of this wealth upon my death. The amount, percentage, timing, and all other aspects of this commitment is a private matter between myself and Christ. All or a portion of this tithe may go to Trinity Lutheran Church and/or any other entity or cause that I believe supports the work of Christ.”

- In order to effectuate this *Covenant*, upon request Trinity Lutheran Church will provide a *Legacy Giving Program* packet of general information to any member considering signing the *Covenant*. The packet will cover the basics of legacy giving and point the member to other sources of information. The church will

not provide direct advice on the program to any member such as what to designate, how much to designate, how to document the designation, what lawyer to use, etc.

- The *Legacy Giving Covenant* can be obtained from the Church Office or from Trinity's website. It can be signed at any time during the year and returned to the Church Office where it shall be kept confidential in accordance with all other giving records of the church. A signed copy of the *Covenant* shall be retained by the member(s).
- There shall be no public acknowledgement of members who have signed a *Legacy Giving Covenant*. The Church Office, however, will keep a record of how many church members and households have signed a *Covenant*, e.g., 24 members in 15 households. This number will be publicized in a manner to be determined by the Church Council in order to encourage more members to make the commitment.
- Members wishing to sign the *Legacy Giving Covenant* and wishing to bequeath a portion of their accumulated wealth to Trinity Lutheran Church shall be encouraged to make it an "undesignated/unrestricted" gift in order to allow maximum flexibility to meet unanticipated challenges and opportunities in the church's future.
- Disposition of Legacy Giving. Monies received through the Legacy Giving Program, to include funds derived from the sale of donated real property, stocks, bonds, or other such assets typically shall be deposited in one of two funds established at Trinity Lutheran Church:
 - **Trinity Endowment Fund**, that normally will be invested in such a manner as to generate sustained income for the church in future years. The Church Council shall determine the disposition of income thus generated to include possible reinvestments to build the fund over time.
 - **Trinity Building Fund**, in which case the bequest shall be considered a restricted gift, with the restriction being that the proceeds must be used for the purposes stated in the Building Fund.
- The Legacy Giving Program and the Trinity Memorial Fund. The *Trinity Memorial Fund* shall continue to exist and function under the general supervision of the Church Council. The *Memorial Fund* shall be separate and distinct from the *Legacy Giving Program*. The *Memorial Fund* is primarily a vehicle for members or others to make contributions to the church in memory or in honor of loved ones who have departed this life to be with Christ, though donations for other purposes may be received into the Memorial Fund. The Memorial Fund

Committee will determine disbursements from the fund, subject to the approval of the Church Council.

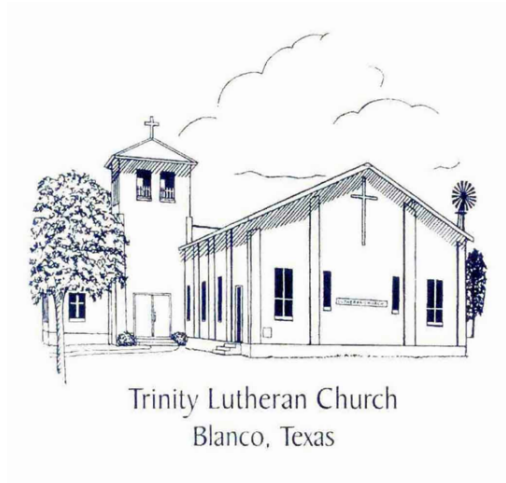
- Training. The Church Council shall periodically arrange for Christian **Financial Literacy Seminars** or presentations to enable church members to prayerfully make financially wise decisions regarding the *Tithing Covenant*, *the Legacy Giving Covenant*, and all other church-related financial matters.

8 Annexes:

- A. Benevolence Policy
- B. Gift Acceptance Policy
- C. Tithing Covenant
- D. Legacy Giving Covenant
- E. Endowment Fund
- F. Building Fund
- G. Memorial Fund
- H. Other Resources and References
 - a. "Planned Giving: Innovative Charitable Options," Find and Flourish, LLC
 - b. Church Council approvals and modifications

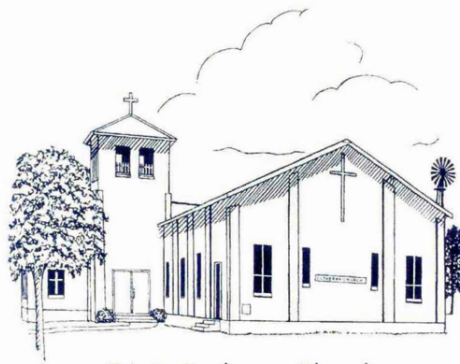
Trinity Lutheran Church

Annexes



Trinity Lutheran Church

Benevolence Policy



Trinity Lutheran Church
Blanco, Texas

Benevolence Policy

Trinity Lutheran Church
Blanco, Texas

On April 8, 2020, the Church Council approved the following Benevolence Policy:

“Trinity Lutheran Church shall designate as benevolences a percentage of its unrestricted income as determined by the Church Council to support organizations outside of Trinity. Organizations receiving benevolence from Trinity shall meet one of the following three criteria: 1) support making disciples for Christ, 2) help those who are least able to help themselves, or 3) help any worthy community organization/cause not now specifically named but which has been thoroughly researched to include identifying its funding resources.”

Trinity Lutheran Church

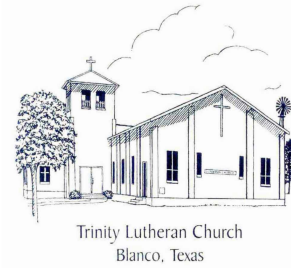
Gift Acceptance Policy



Trinity Lutheran Church
Blanco, Texas

Trinity Lutheran Church

GIFT ACCEPTANCE, USE, AND EXPENDITURE POLICY



Policy Statement

It is important that Trinity Lutheran Church offers its donors as many opportunities as possible to make gifts. It is also important that Trinity has systems in place to expedite the processing of gifts from receipt to deposit so that it is maximizing the effectiveness of that gift in accordance with Trinity's values while at the same time honoring the intentions of the giver(s). No gift can be accepted which is overly restrictive in purpose or which sets limits that are inconsistent with the mission of the church. Trinity Lutheran Church will not accept gifts which involve discrimination based upon race, gender, age, national origin, color, disability, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state, and local laws.

Purpose

This Gift Acceptance Policy provides guidelines to representatives of Trinity Lutheran Church who may be involved in the acceptance of gifts, to outside advisors who may assisting the gift planning process, and to prospective donors who may wish to make gifts to Trinity. Although the gift review policy outlined here is intended to be followed closely, it allows for some flexibility on a case-by-case basis. Neither Trinity Lutheran Church nor its representatives offer tax or financial advice.

Gift Review Committee

Any questions which may arise in the review and acceptance of gifts to Trinity Lutheran Church will be referred to a Gift Review Committee appointed by the Church Council. The Gift Review Committee shall serve for a duration determined by the Church Council and shall exercise whatever authority it is granted by the Church Council when it is formed or as the Council may later determine. In most cases, the Gift Review Committee will simply make recommendations to the Church Council on matters concerning gifts offered to the church.

Direct Gifts

Cash

Normally, all unrestricted gifts by check made payable to Trinity Lutheran Church or cash gifts in U.S. currency shall be accepted by Trinity regardless of amount. In special circumstances, the Church Office staff may request review by the Gift Review Committee prior to accepting the gift. Upon request, receipts for cash gifts shall be provided by an authorized representative of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Publicly Traded Securities

Readily marketable securities, such as those traded on the New York, American or NASDAQ stock exchanges, may be accepted by Trinity Lutheran Church. For gift crediting and accounting purposes, the value of the gift of securities is the closing price of the security on the date of the gift. A gift of securities to Trinity normally will be liquidated immediately unless the

Church Council makes an affirmative determination that the security is appropriate to hold as part of the investments of the fund or endowment to which it is allocated.

Real Estate

Any gift of real estate must be reviewed by the Gift Review Committee. At the discretion of the Committee, an appraisal may be required prior to making a recommendation to the Church Council. The appraisal must be performed by a qualified appraiser, in accordance with applicable IRS guidelines, and, upon authorization by the Church Council, paid for by Trinity Lutheran Church.

Additionally, other assessments such as an environmental assessment of any potential real estate gift may be required prior to accepting the gift. Such assessments must be performed by a qualified professional and, upon authorization by the Church Council, paid for by Trinity Lutheran Church.

The property must be transferred to Trinity Lutheran Church prior to the time that any contract for purchase by a third party has been made.

For gift crediting and accounting purposes, the value of the gift is the appraised value of the real estate; however, this value may be reduced by costs of maintenance, insurance, real estate taxes, appraisal costs, other assessment costs, broker's commission, and other expenses of sale.

Life Insurance

Trinity Lutheran Church may accept a gift of a life insurance policy if doing so is allowed under applicable insurance laws. The value for gift crediting and accounting purposes is the policy's cash surrender value on the date of donation. Trinity Lutheran Church may, at its option, surrender the policy for its immediate cash value or retain the policy until such time as the death benefit amount is paid by the insurance company, i.e., after the death of the donor.

Tangible Personal Property

Any gift of tangible personal property shall be referred to the Gift Review Committee. The value of a gift shall be its value to Trinity Lutheran Church, which may be realized either by being sold or by being used in connection with the church's exempt purpose. If necessary, a qualified outside appraisal may be required to determine its value for federal income tax reporting purposes as a condition to Trinity's accepting the gift. This appraisal, when authorized by the Church Council, shall be paid for by Trinity Lutheran Church.

If the gift is restricted to use by Trinity Lutheran Church in furtherance of its exempt purpose or if the donor intends the gift to be used by Trinity as opposed to being sold, then the Church Council shall task the Gift Review Committee with reviewing the proposed gift, its intended use and any restrictions. In considering whether to accept the gift, the Gift Review Committee shall consider whether the property will be used to fulfill the church's mission, whether the donor's intentions or express restrictions on the use or display of the property are

consistent with the church's mission and are flexible enough to facilitate changes in the church's physical plant, decor and/or use of space in the future. In addition, the Gift Review Committee shall consider any additional costs to the church for insurance, maintenance or security of the property in determining whether to recommend that the Church Council accept the gift.

As a general rule, Trinity Lutheran Church will not accept a gift of tangible personal property that is subject to a permanent restriction on its ability to sell the property. If the property is to be sold by Trinity, then the Gift Review Committee and, ultimately, the Church Council must consider all carrying costs (e.g. insurance, storage, maintenance, and upkeep) and marketing costs (e.g. brokerage commissions, auction costs, advertising costs, etc.) associated with the property in determining whether to accept the gift. The likelihood that the church will be able to obtain a fair market price on sale of the property within a relatively short period of time shall also be considered.

Trinity Lutheran Church shall adhere to all IRS requirements relating to disposing of gifts of tangible personal property and will provide appropriate forms to the donor and IRS.

Other Gifts

Any gift not falling in any of the above categories shall be considered by the Gift Review Committee that will then make a recommendation to the Church Council.

Deferred Gifts

Trinity Lutheran Church encourages deferred gifts in its favor through any of a variety of vehicles.

Trinity Lutheran Church (or its agent) shall not act as an executor (personal representative or trustee) for a donor's estate. A member of the church staff, Church Council, or any member of Trinity Lutheran Church serving as personal representative or trustee in connection with any deferred gift to the church shall do so in a personal capacity, and not as an agent of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Trinity Lutheran Church may invite prospective donors to consider the gift vehicles offered by the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), Thrivent Financial/inFaith, Community Foundation or other appropriate organizations.

When donors are provided planned gift illustrations or form documents, these will be provided free of charge. For any planned-gift-related materials, the following (or similar) disclaimer must be included: *"We suggest that you meet with your financial or estate planning professional, or other such professional to discuss your gift. We will gladly work with your advisors to assist in any way."*

All information obtained from or about donors/prospects shall be held in the strictest confidence by Trinity Lutheran Church, its representatives, staff, and volunteers. The name,

amount, or conditions of any gift shall not be published without the express approval of the donor.

Trinity Lutheran Church may seek qualified professional legal or financial counsel in the exploration and execution of all planned gift agreements. The church recognizes the right of fair and just remuneration for professional services.

The Church Council, upon the advice of the Gift Review Committee, if applicable, reserves the right to decline any gift that does not further the mission or goals of the church or does not meet the requirements stated above. Additionally, any gifts that would create an administrative burden or cause the church to incur excessive expenses may be declined.

Disposition of Bequests

Purpose

This gift acceptance and use policy governs the disposition of bequests which, for purposes of this statement, shall mean any type of gift in which the assets are transferred upon the death of the donor. The assets may be in any form, such as cash, securities, personal property, real property, etc.

In every case, the bequest should be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 487, Blanco, Texas 78606-0487.

Types of Bequests

All bequests to Trinity shall be considered by the Gift Review Committee that will then make a recommendation on acceptance of the gift to the Church Council.

Bequests designating Trinity Lutheran Church as beneficiary can be of two general types, designated bequests and unrestricted bequests.

Designated bequests are those in which the donor identifies a specific purpose(s) for which the funds should be directed. Bequests may be designated to one or more of the church programs, endowed funds, or special funds. The Church Council has ultimate responsibility for determining whether or not to accept a designated bequest and ensuring that the gift will be used in accordance with the donor's wishes.

If the bequest is given for a designated purpose, then the value of the assets will be applied to establish or supplement the designated fund and the funds made available for use for that designated purpose only.

All dedicated bequests will be gratefully accepted, provided that the intent of the gift may be reasonably carried out by the expenditure of the amount of the gift without the assistance of additional funds.

All bequests shall be reviewed by the Gift Review Committee and approved by the Church Council to determine how best to receive and use them in keeping with the donor's wishes.

In the case of designated bequests, it is strongly recommended that the donor, financial planner, or attorney contact the Gift Review Committee or Church Council for guidance.

Unrestricted bequests are those in which the donor does not designate a specific use for the funds. Trinity Lutheran Church especially welcomes unrestricted bequests. Because the gift may be received some years after the donor's plan is made, an unrestricted bequest gives the Church Council the ability to apply the bequest where it would be most needed at the time it is received.

Unrestricted bequests typically shall be placed in the **Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund** or a similar fund. However, from time to time, urgent needs of the church may arise which would necessitate an exception to this policy. Only the Church Council shall have the authority to grant such an exception to the policy for unrestricted bequests.

The procedure for handling all bequests begins with the church office, church treasurer, and/or church financial secretary who will see that any cash is immediately deposited and held in Trinity's bank account pending a decision regarding the final disposition of the bequest. Care shall be taken to avoid comingling bequest funds with any other funds of Trinity Lutheran Church until such time that the Church Council has accepted the bequest and has designated its disposition.

The church treasurer will see that copies are made of relevant documents and that they are distributed as appropriate.

The method, timing, agent, etc. for the liquidation of other assets (such as real estate or tangible property) will be decided by the Church Council with guidance and recommendations, as necessary, from the Gift Review Committee and/or the treasurer. Appropriate acknowledgments of bequests will be given by the Pastor or by the staff member in charge of resource development in a timely manner.

Expenditure Policy for the Endowment Fund

Allocations of funds available for distribution from the Endowed Fund(s) of Trinity Lutheran Church will be made in two general ways: (1) upon direction from the Church Council, funds will be released from the Endowed Funds for those uses that conform to the purposes and restrictions stated in the Funds' enabling resolutions as adopted by the congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church, and (2) the Church Council may obligate monies for general expenses incident to the management and administration of the Funds.

Special Funds

Building Fund.

The **Trinity Lutheran Church Building Fund** is special fund in which donations are received for the specific purpose of funding facilities to further the mission of the church. Donations to the Building Fund are typically cash received from donors on a periodic basis. However, bequests can also be made. Thus, the Building Fund may receive donations directly through periodic contributions or through the Legacy Giving Program, i.e., funds or assets may be transferred to the Building Fund after an individual has passed.

All donations made to the Building Fund other than cash shall be considered by the Gift Review Committee that will then make a recommendation on acceptance of the gift to the Church Council.

Memorial Fund.

The **Trinity Lutheran Church Memorial Fund** is special fund in which donations are received for the specific purpose of funding purchases or programs to honor, individually or collectively, persons, events, causes, etc., in whose memory or honor the funds are donated.

All donations other than cash donations made to the Memorial Fund shall be considered by the Gift Review Committee that will then make a recommendation on acceptance of the gift to the Church Council. Cash donations may be deposited directly to the Memorial Fund without further review.

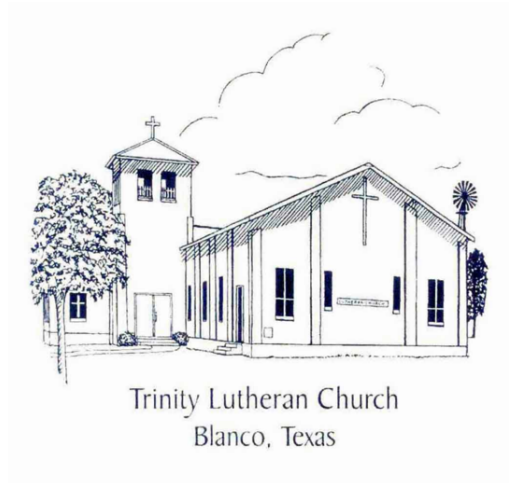
A Memorial Fund Committee shall be appointed by the Church Council whose purpose is to make recommendations to the Council on the use of funds or other assets in the Memorial Fund. No member of the Gift Acceptance Committee shall serve on the Memorial Fund Committee.

Other Funds.

The Church Council may establish other special funds for specific purposes as circumstances require.

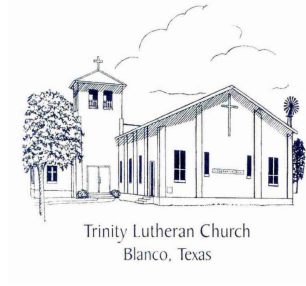
Trinity Lutheran Church

Tithing Covenant



Trinity Lutheran Church

Tithing Covenant



“As a committed Christian, I believe that it is my duty to tithe a portion of the first fruits of my current income on a regular basis in support of the work of Christ. The amount and timing of this tithe is a private matter between myself and Christ. I hereby make the commitment to do so regularly and joyfully. All or a portion of this tithe may go to Trinity Lutheran Church and/or any other entity or cause that I believe supports the work of Christ.”

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

This ____ day of _____ in the Year of Our Lord 20__

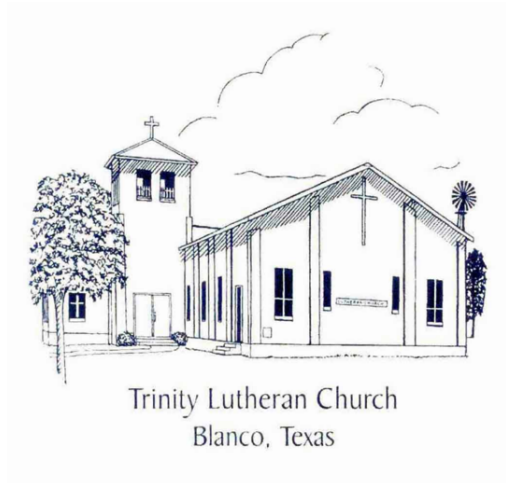
Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

This ____ day of _____ in the Year of Our Lord 20__

Trinity Lutheran Church

Legacy Giving Covenant



Trinity Lutheran Church

Legacy Giving Covenant



Trinity Lutheran Church
Blanco, Texas

“As a committed Christian, I wish to use a portion of my accumulated earthly wealth to support the work of Christ after I have departed this life to be with Him in heaven. Accordingly, I have made written arrangements to do this in my will and/or other documents that will determine the legal disposition of this wealth upon my death. The amount, percentage, timing, and all other aspects of this commitment is a private matter between myself and Christ. All or a portion of this gift may go to Trinity Lutheran Church and/or any other entity or cause that I believe supports the work of Christ.”

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

This ____ day of _____ in the Year of Our Lord 20__

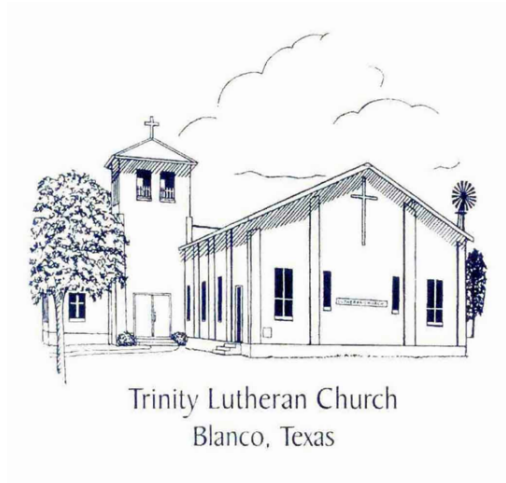
Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

This ____ day of _____ in the Year of Our Lord 20__

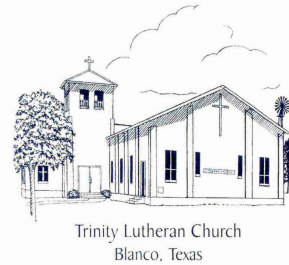
Trinity Lutheran Church

Endowment Fund



Trinity Lutheran Church

Endowment Fund



Purpose. The purpose of the Endowment Fund shall be to sustain Trinity Lutheran Church of Blanco into the indefinite future.

Source and Accountability of Funds. Any funds given to the church through the Legacy Giving Covenant or otherwise so designated by a donor shall be deposited in Trinity's Endowment Fund. This fund shall be established and accounted for separately from any other church funds. There shall be no co-mingling of funds in the Endowment Fund with any other fund.

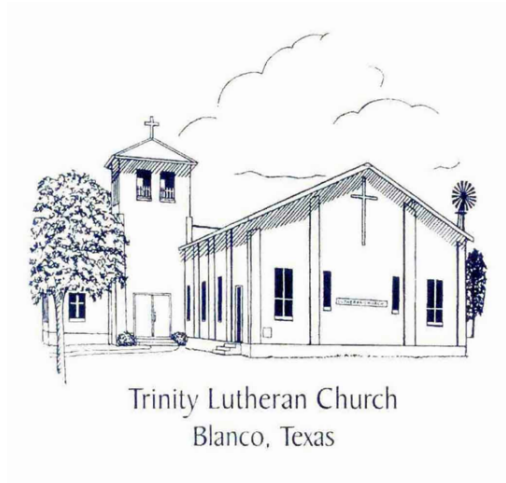
Use of the Endowment Fund. Proceeds from Endowment Fund investments as well as the Endowment Fund principal may be used for any purposes approved by the Church Council. The Fund shall be used to support new programs or expansion of existing programs that cannot be done with current income. With the approval of the Congregation, the Fund may be used as a last resort to support church operations during times of financial stress.

Investment of Endowment Funds. The proceeds from the Fund will normally be reinvested in order to optimize Fund growth. The Endowment fund shall be invested in such a manner as to produce a moderate rate of growth while minimizing risk.

Responsibility. The Church Council shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining the Endowment Fund. The Council may delegate this responsibility to a specialized committee or individual as determined by the Council though the Council shall retain responsibility and accountability for the fund.

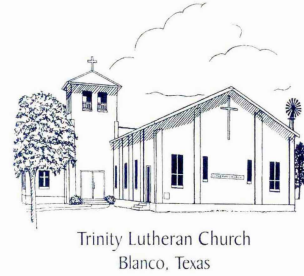
Trinity Lutheran Church

Building Fund



Trinity Lutheran Church

Building Fund



Purpose. The purpose of the Building Fund shall be to fund new construction or do major renovations of existing structures or facilities.

Source and Accountability of Funds. Any funds given to the church through any giving program may be designated by the donor for deposit in the church's Building Fund. This fund shall be established and accounted for separately from any other church funds. There shall be no co-mingling of funds in the Building Fund with any other fund.

Maintenance Funds vs Capital Improvement Funds vs Building Fund.

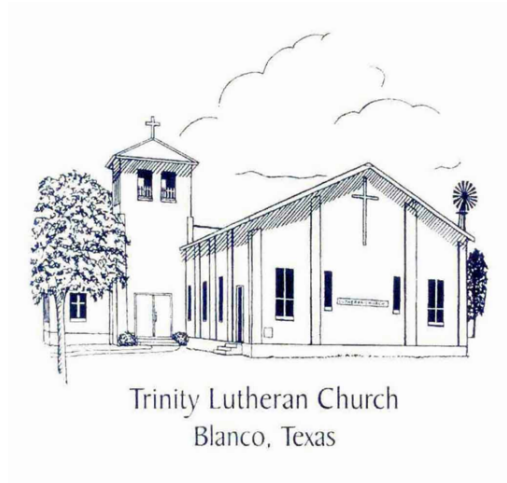
Maintenance of existing structures and facilities shall normally be funded through church Maintenance funds set forth in the yearly church budget. Improvements to existing structures or facilities shall normally be funded through Capital Improvement funds set forth in the yearly church budget. The Building Fund, accounted for separately from the yearly church budget, shall never be comingled with other funds and will be used exclusively to fund new construction or do major renovations of existing structures or facilities.

Investment of the Building Fund. Proceeds from the Fund will normally be reinvested in order to manage Fund growth so as to optimize returns while minimizing risk as approved by the Church Council.

Responsibility. The Church Council shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining the Building Fund. The Council may delegate this responsibility to a specialized committee or individual as determined by the Council though the Council shall retain responsibility and accountability for the fund.

Trinity Lutheran Church

Memorial Fund



Trinity Lutheran Church

Memorial Fund



Purpose. The purpose of the Memorial Fund shall be to provide a means by which donors may give to the church to memorialize one or more individuals, events, causes, etc., in keeping with the values and goals of the Church.

Source and Accountability of Funds. Any funds given to the church and designated specifically for the Memorial Fund shall be considered restricted funds. Donations shall be deposited in the Fund and accounted for separately from any other church funds. There shall be no co-mingling of monies in the Memorial Fund with any other fund.

Use of the Memorial Fund. Assets in the Memorial Fund may be used for any purpose recommended by the Memorial Fund Committee and approved by the Church Council.

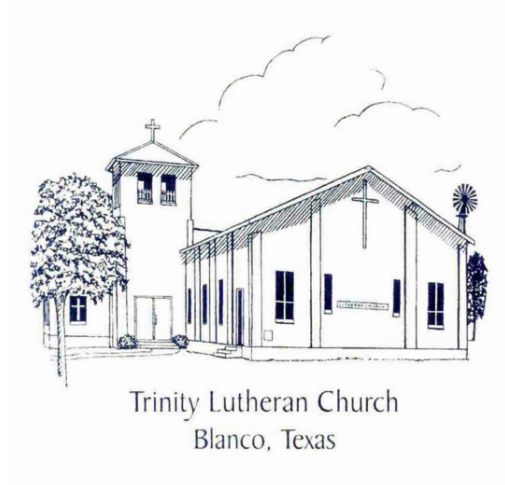
The Memorial Fund Committee. The Memorial Fund Committee shall consist of three or more church members in good standing who are eligible to vote in Congregational Meetings. Committee Membership shall be appointed by the Church Council and reviewed and approved annually.

Investment of the Memorial Fund. Although monies in the Memorial Fund will normally be held in assets that are 100% liquid, the fund may be invested in such a manner as to produce a moderate rate of growth while minimizing risk. Any such investments shall be approved by the Church Council with input from the Memorial Fund Committee.

Responsibility. The Church Council shall have the final authority and responsibility for decisions concerning the Memorial Fund. However, the Council shall take no action without the advice of the Memorial Fund Committee.

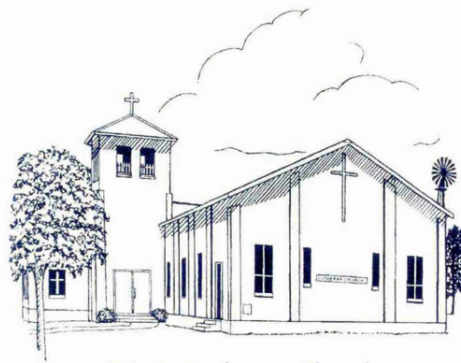
Trinity Lutheran Church

Other Resources and References



Trinity Lutheran Church

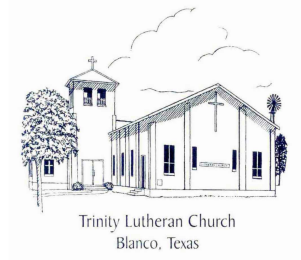
Planned Giving: Innovative Charitable Options



Trinity Lutheran Church
Blanco, Texas

Trinity Lutheran Church

Planned Giving *Innovative Charitable Options*



When you take stock of your financial assets you may be surprised at how much you've accumulated. Once you added your home equity, retirement, bank and investment accounts together, it may be a number that surprises you, pleasantly! Making a gift to **TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO** at your passing will allow you to leave an eternal legacy and even reduce your taxes!

Our desire is for you to discover the joy of giving to those who need your help far into the future.

Retirement Accounts, Life Insurance & Annuities

Do you know who you've named as your **primary beneficiary on your IRA or 401k?**

How about your **contingent (secondary) beneficiary?** You should double check!

Retirement accounts are tax-deferred; you don't pay the taxes until you withdraw the money.

Annuities work in a similar fashion.

Life Insurance is income tax free.

All of these may also be subject to estate taxes if your estate is large enough at your death.

None of these assets flow through your Will or Living Trust, they go directly to your beneficiary.

Please consider naming us, as your primary or contingent (secondary) beneficiary on your retirement accounts, life insurance (even the group life insurance you get at work) and any annuities you may have. By naming **TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO**, as your beneficiary, you control and spend it through your lifetime. You can even name several beneficiaries by stating a percentage amount. Because these accounts each have separate beneficiary forms, you will need to use the form provided by that institution, many of which allow you to make these adjustments on-line, or through your HR Department.

When you pass away, we'll receive the amount you've specified completely TAX FREE!

Here's how:

Primary Beneficiary: TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO, (__%)

or

Contingent Beneficiary: TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO, (__%)

Life-Time Gifts from IRAs

If you are 72 or older, you **MUST** take IRA distributions (except for 2020). And you can give up to \$100,000 per year to **TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO**. It is called a **Qualified Charitable Distribution or QCD**. Please contact **TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO** for more details on this popular technique!

Wills and Living Trusts

Whether you use an attorney or a computer-generated service like Legal Zoom to prepare your Will or Living Trust, but naming **TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO**, your gift of any amount or percentage helps support our mission far into the future.

Charitable gifts must be made from your estate or living trust with specific language. Here is the suggested bequest language:

“I give and bequeath to TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH BLANCO [\$ ____ or ____ %].”

Gifts of Stock

You can also give us stock directly. Your financial advisor can help you this, and you can avoid paying unnecessary taxes too.

Bank and Investment Accounts

You can also transfer your bank, credit union and regular (Non-IRA) accounts to us. You can do this by putting a **POD** (Payable on Death) or **TOD** (Transfer on Death) designation on those accounts to **TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO**. Ask your financial institution for the assistance with this. They will be happy to help, and we'll be happy for the help!

Gift of Real Estate

With a gift of real estate to **TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO**, you can further our mission and lower taxes too!

You can even donate your house to us now, live there the rest of your life and receive a large income tax deduction.

Before you begin the process of donating real estate, please contact us to make sure we will be able to accept your generous gift.

Gift Annuities and Charitable Trusts

A Charitable Gift Annuity is a way to make a donation to **TRINTY LUTHERAN CHURCH, BLANCO** at your death, receive a lifetime of income and get an income tax deduction.

There are also special trusts called a Charitable Remainder Trust which works much like a Gift Annuity but is more suitable for larger gifts.

There are other creative options available. Please let us know if you have any questions.

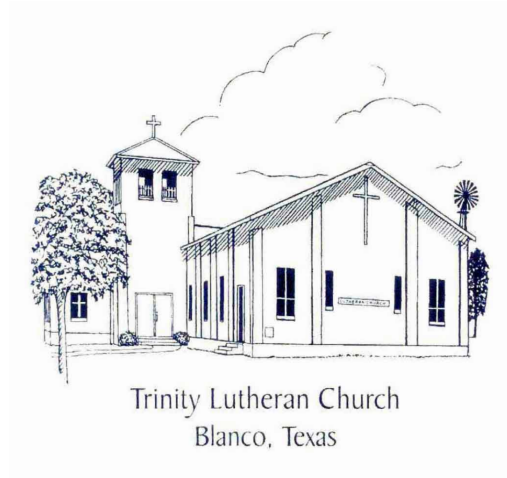
Our Tax ID Number is _____

Thanks for any help you can give us!

This information is not intended to be used as legal or tax advice. Contact your own appropriate advisors to discuss the benefits and effects of any particular charitable & tax strategy.

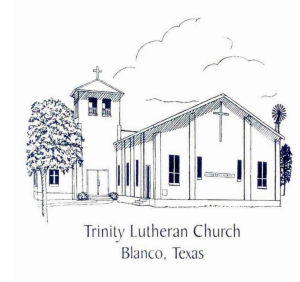
Trinity Lutheran Church

Church Council Approvals and Modifications



Trinity Lutheran Church

Church Council Approvals and Modifications



September 14, 2022

Council gave final approval for the Institutional Stewardship Program to include the Program Narrative, the Benevolence Policy, the Gift Acceptance Policy, the Tithing Covenant, and the Legacy Giving Covenant, plus operational details for the Endowment Fund, the Building Fund, and the Memorial Fund