



# *at a glance* NAMED ENDOWMENTS



## WHAT IS A NAMED ENDOWMENT?

A named endowment is a fund a donor establishes with the ELCA Foundation to provide perpetual support to ELCA ministries, congregations and organizations. Establishing an endowment fund in your name or the name of a loved one is a great way to establish a legacy and ensure support to ministries you specify for years to come.

### Here's how it works:

A named endowment fund is established through the ELCA Foundation through your work with a regional gift planner. It can be funded with an immediate gift or a multiyear gift commitment, or through your estate plan. Many families choose to establish a named endowment through a current gift, planning to grow the endowment with additional gifts, memorials and estate gifts.

A named endowment can be named after yourself, a family member or someone influential in your life whom you want to honor through your perpetual support of ministry. Up to 10 charitable beneficiaries may be listed in a named endowment fund, including qualified 501(c)(3) organizations unrelated to the ELCA. This makes the fund a great tool for providing perpetual support to the ministry, congregation or local organizations you care about most. All named endowment funds are invested in the ELCA Endowment Fund Pooled Trust, ensuring that your funds will be managed according to the ELCA's socially responsible investing guidelines.

## HOW A NAMED ENDOWMENT WORKS



### Establish your endowment agreement,

free of charge, with a regional gift planner.



### Determine funding

for the endowment through current gifts and/or estate plans.



### Invite others

to grow your endowment!



### Celebrate your perpetual gifts,

which will sustain important ministries for generations.

## WHY SHOULD I USE A NAMED ENDOWMENT?

### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- You can leave a legacy in your name or in memory of a loved one.
- The endowment will provide ongoing, annual support for the ministries you specify, into perpetuity.
- Your original gift will remain intact and be responsibly invested alongside other ELCA endowments.
- Lifetime gifts to an endowment are tax-deductible.
- Named endowments are a comprehensive tool that can support up to 10 organizations (including non-ELCA-related organizations) in perpetuity.
- Anyone can contribute to your legacy by supporting the ministries benefiting from your named endowment fund.

### RULES TO KEEP IN MIND:

- At least 70% of the distribution value must benefit ELCA-related ministries, congregations and/or organizations.
- The \$25,000 minimum must be met within five years of establishing your endowment.
- Named endowments can be established during your lifetime, to be funded through your estate gifts.
- Named endowments can be funded with cash, securities, real estate, QCD distributions or marketable commodities such as grain, among other gift types.\*

\* Subject to the approval of the ELCA Foundation Gift Acceptance Committee.

## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Find your regional gift planner at [ELCA.org/foundation](https://www.elca.org/foundation) or call 800-638-3522.

The examples and information provided are for illustrative and educational purposes only and should not be considered tax or legal advice. Please consult with your tax or legal adviser about proceeding with your gift plan.