

Nov. 20, 2019

Dear Ones:

The Vestry and Wardens want to share recent policy changes to the way Grace church may use the special gifts, memorial gifts and bequests that come to us with no specified donor intent. In August, 2019, the vestry approved important revisions to the Gift Acceptance, Disposition of Gifts and Bequests, and Endowment Fund of Grace Church policies. The effect of the changes provides for more involvement of the Rector and Vestry in deciding on uses of "Undesignated Gifts."

History: In 2009, the Vestry established ways for people to give significant gifts to the church. Central to the planning of a "Gifts" policy was the establishment of The Endowment Fund of Grace Episcopal Church, a perpetual fund which would eventually provide income. While Grace understood it would take some time to grow such an endowment, long range stability was a worthy goal. The original policy (and a 2016 revision) established two important rules about Gift Acceptance and the Disposition of Gifts and Bequests:

1. **Designated Gifts** - Where the donor designates a specific use of gifts or money (for example, to go to outreach projects, arts & music, children & youth, or to the Endowment fund), these gifts are used as set out by the donor, following approval by the Gifts Review Committee and then the Vestry.

2. **Undesignated Gifts** - In the original policy, if the donor simply gave a monetary gift (or property which could be converted to cash), **without** specifying a use, the money would go directly into the Endowment fund (held in trust by the Diocese of Olympia) and would remain there in perpetuity. There was an exception providing that the Rector could establish an "emergency" need to use Undesignated Gifts, as opposed to sending the money to the Endowment. The Endowment has grown very slowly.

2019 Policy: The Designated Gifts Policy Remains the Same

New: Undesignated Gifts will no longer be sent directly to the Endowment, but now will be reviewed by the Rector and Vestry and may be put to multiple specific uses. For example, some money may be placed in the Endowment fund, in which case Grace will use accrued income sometime in the future. Grace might also choose to allocate some gifts, or a portion thereof, to specific parish needs: (including, but not limited to) a new boiler, seed money for staff assistance, outreach projects, children/youth, music and arts.

We are deeply grateful to all who want to make a lasting gift to Grace Church, or to give a gift in memory of a loved one, or for some special purpose. We appreciate the opportunity to act on your behalf if you simply wish to "leave it up to Grace." But if you have dreams to sow, please specify your intentions for bequests in your will or

communicate wishes for memorial and special purpose gifts. The Rector and Wardens will be happy to discuss this you.*

With gratitude and many blessings,

Tom Tyner and Daphne Davies, Wardens,

*Full copies of all policies on Gifts review and the Endowment Fund are available upon request.