

(Updated Jan 15, 2019)

Legacy Partners, Frequently Asked Questions:

Including Cherry Log Christian Church (CLCC) in our estate planning is an excellent way to continue our support of the church after our death. Many of us believe it is important to help assure the long-term viability of CLCC. We do that currently through gifts of our time and financial resources. We can continue that support after our passing by sharing a portion of our estates, insurance or IRA's to the church. The following are FAQ to help understand your options when considering this program.

1. Will my planned gift automatically go into the Legacy Fund?
 - a. No, the church wants a donor to have complete freedom of choice. Your end-of-life gift can be designated to go into the Legacy Fund, a permanent fund, or you can designate it to be used, 100% upon receipt, for a designated purpose like mortgage reduction. Making a clear designation is important to assure the gift is used as you intend.
2. What is a permanent fund?
 - a. A permanent fund, often called an endowment fund, builds the principal for the long-term benefit of the organization it supports. Only a fixed percentage of the fund is disbursed annually to be spent. In our case, the Legacy Fund is a permanent fund. Annually an amount, generally between 3.75%-4.5% is disbursed to the church to be spent in accordance with the Fund policy. This helps assure that the fund will grow over time to offset the impact of inflation.
3. Does the way I designate my bequest affect my status as a Legacy Partner?
 - a. No, all supporters who commit to planned end-of-life giving will be recognized as a Legacy Partner (unless anonymity is requested). This is true whether your gift is designated for an immediate designated purpose or for the Legacy Fund. Some wish to see all of their gift used for mortgage reduction. Reducing the mortgage provides a long-term benefit just as does annual distributions from the Legacy Fund.
4. Can I designate for a purpose other than mortgage reduction?
 - a. Yes, you have complete freedom of choice. The Legacy Partner program was established primarily to enable supporters who love the church to continue that support after death. Distributions from the Legacy Fund and reducing the mortgage both provide a long-lasting benefit and most donors choose one of those. However, you may designate as you wish.
5. How are Legacy Partners recognized?
 - a. The church maintains a list of Legacy donors in the Church Library/Conference Room. Each Partner also receives a Legacy Partner Pin. Partners are urged to display their pin as a way to encourage others to participate. Periodically Legacy Partners are invited to a lunch or dinner to show appreciation and receive helpful planning information.
6. How many Legacy Partners are there?
 - a. As of November, 2018, there are 54 Cherry Log Christian Church (CLCC) Legacy Partners. The program was introduced in 2010. CLCC has been recognized by our denomination, in 2017 at the General Assembly, for the rapid growth of our program. Over time this participation indicates our Legacy Fund should attain a meaningful level that will help assure the financial health of the church.
7. How is the annual income from the Fund spent?
 - a. The Legacy Policy specifies how the distribution is spent. 10% will go to the Disciple Mission Fund, 10% toward facility maintenance/improvements, 10% to local outreach, 30% for ministry and 40% toward mortgage reduction.
8. Why is the spending fixed by policy?
 - a. When people commit to an end-of-life gift to the Fund, most want to be sure the distribution from their share of the fund will be used appropriately for the benefit of the church. The current policy

uses the annual distribution to benefit the range of uses donors currently support. Being fixed by policy helps assure a donor their gift will continue to broadly support the mission of the church. The policy can be changed if the church's circumstance should change dramatically. The change process is difficult enough to assure broad membership support of the change.

9. How can I be sure my gift designation directs my bequest appropriately?
 - a. Clear designation is important. If you want your gift to go into the permanent Legacy Fund, your designation should be to "The Cherry Log Christian Church Legacy Fund". If you wish it to be spent upon receipt for a purpose, the designation should be to "The Cherry Log Christian Church for Mortgage Reduction(or desired purpose)".
10. Can I split my gift?
 - a. Yes, you can designate a portion to the Legacy Fund and a portion for a particular purpose, clearly stating the percentage (or amount) to be split and the intended purpose.
11. What if my designation is just to Cherry Log Christian Church?
 - a. In that case, according to policy, 100% will go into the permanent Legacy Fund.
12. Instead of designating the bequest to CLCC for a particular purpose to be spent on receipt, can I designate the gift for a particular use within the Legacy Fund.
 - a. This is possible but discouraged. A gift that is included in the Legacy Fund, if invested with other funds cannot be tracked. In order to track the gift to ensure it is used as designated requires opening additional investment accounts for those funds.
13. What are some ways I can provide an end-of-life planned gift?
 - a. The most commonly used methods are by making a bequest in your will or by designating the church as a beneficiary of life insurance, an IRA or an investment account. A bequest in a will can designate a specific amount or a percentage of the estate after other debts, taxes and bequests have been fulfilled. Changing a bequest requires revising the will. Designating the church as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or an IRA account like 401K, SEP is somewhat more flexible as you can change a beneficiary without requiring a will revision. Also, there are tax advantages. Your heirs will have to pay taxes on receiving an IRA benefit while the church will pay no taxes. There are other more complex ways to provide an end of life planned gift that offer a variety of tax and other benefits. Those require professional advice and are beyond the scope of this FAQ. The church urges that you consult your tax or financial advisor for any end of life planned gift.
14. What if I do not have a financial planner?
 - a. Randy Johnson is our area representative of the Church Foundation and an ordained pastor. Randy is a Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy and he is available to meet with any of our supporters, with no charge, to review and advise regarding your financial situation and end-of-life plans. Several of our members have taken Randy up on his offer and have been well satisfied. His contact number is 800-668-8016.
15. Is there a way to revise a will bequest without having to revise the will?
 - a. Yes, your will could make the bequest to "Cherry Log Christian Church, to be used for the purpose(s) set forth in a document on file with the church". You can then make your designation by submitting, to the church, a written instruction stating your designation, properly signed and witnessed (or notarized). If you subsequently wish to revise the designation, a revised written instruction may be submitted. Upon acceptance by the church, the church will honor the most recent written instruction on file.

Note: These FAQ are not legal opinions. Each person's situation is different. It is each individual's responsibility to obtain the advice/counsel of a certified planner or tax advisor to assure an answer that fits your situation.