

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

CR12.05.J20. MEMORIAL BEQUEST FUNDS AND ASSETS

WHEREAS, faithful members may continue giving to the work of the Church through directed gifts, bequests in wills, assignment of life insurance, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder and other trusts, assignment of certificates of deposit, and transfers of property such as cash, stocks, bonds, and real estate; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this congregation to encourage, receive, and administer these gifts in a manner consistent with the loyalty and devotion to our Lord as expressed by the donors through their bequests; and

WHEREAS, the Special Gifts Committee (C13.05.) has recommended the establishment of various memorial funds and procedures for determining the appropriate usage of bequests and gifts received by this congregation consistent with the benefactor's wishes and bequest; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 the Congregation Council and the Congregation, respectively, approved changes to bylaw Section VII, Special Gifts to this Congregation; and

WHEREAS, the Congregation Council is charged with the responsible stewardship of this congregation's fiscal affairs (C12.05.a.) and investments (C12.05.f.);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Latrobe, PA (hereafter church) shall maintain the following Memorial Bequest Funds (hereafter referred to as funds or assets), with the use of such funds governed by the bylaw Section VII, Special Gifts to this Congregation, and as stated below.

Application for these established Memorial Bequest Funds & Assets related to Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Funds should be made per the attached form and submitted to the Special Gifts Committee. The Paul R. Daw Memorial Scholarship (most recent CR12.05.M.) has a separate Application form.

I. MEMORIAL BEQUESTFUNDS WHOSE PRINCIPAL SHALL BE SAFEGAURDED (also referred to as ENDOWED FUNDS)

1. Breeton Memorial Fund – Established in 1969 from funds bequeathed to this congregation by Ethel Breeton in memory of her sister Florence Breeton and herself. Most of this bequest was used to help finance Trinity Beautiful (construction of the sanctuary). A portion of this bequest was invested to perpetuate the memorial with investment earnings added to the annual earnings of the Trinity Ministry Endowment Fund with earning supporting ongoing ministry of the church.
2. Samuel Bronson Memorial Fund – Established in August 1992 by a gift to this congregation from the estate of Samuel Bronson. The bequest included the provision that investment earnings are to be used exclusively for parish assistance with investment earnings added to the annual earnings of the Trinity Undesignated Endowment Fund.
3. Butler Memorial Fund – Established in 1994 by a bequest to this congregation from the estate of James R. Butler. The Congregation Council established this fund as a memorial to James R. and M. Evabelle Butler. Per the family's wishes, with investment earnings added to the annual earnings of the Trinity Outreach Endowment Funds with investment earnings ultimately added to the Pastors' Discretionary Fund.
4. Church Vocation Fund (CVF) – In November 1962, this congregation received an instrument of donation from an anonymous donor consisting of shares of Bethlehem Steel Company stock. The conditions stipulated that the dividends were to be used to provide interest-free revolving loans to members of this congregation who are preparing for Church vocations. In October 1983, the Congregation Council sold the stock because dividends were declining and invested the proceeds in a money market fund. The investment continues to provide interest-free revolving loans for Church vocation students from its earnings within the Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Endowment Fund

5. Cole-Smith Memorial Fund (Theron Smith Memorial Fund) – Established in 1993 as a bequest to this congregation from the estate of Alma Cole Smith in memory of her husband Theron C. Smith. Investment earnings, according to the will of Alma Cole Smith, were “to be used by Trinity Lutheran Church in such manner as its appropriate board shall determine.” The Congregation Council moved to use the investment earnings from this memorial fund to help defray the All Saints Parish House renovation mortgage payments. After the mortgage is retired, the Congregation Council shall establish another use “by Trinity Lutheran Church in such manner as its appropriate board shall determine.” Council decided to use this income to help make mortgage payments for life of the previous mortgage which has now been paid. Fund income is added to the earnings of the Trinity Capital Facilities Endowment Fund and are used as considered by Council.
6. Timothy Deglau Memorial Fund – Established in September 1989 from funds given this congregation in memory of Timothy Deglau. Investment earnings are added to the annual earnings of the Trinity Undesignated Endowment Fund and to be used only for specific requests made to the family or for a specific area when so designated by the family.
7. Thelma Dodds Memorial Fund – Established in March 1982 from funds bequeathed to this congregation by Thelma Dodds. Investment earnings are to be used for missionary support, the church library, worship broadcasts, and benevolence. After 15 years, the Congregation Council could re-designate the use of the investment earnings, but has continued the use stipulations set forth in Thelma Dodds’ will with investment earnings added to the annual earnings of the Trinity Outreach Endowment Funds.
8. Melissa Fowler Benevolent Fund – Established in March 1975 as a memorial to Melissa Fowler. In 1977, the congregation used much of this bequest for necessary repairs to the Parish House (renamed the All Saints Parish House in 1992), which included strengthening the parapet walls, providing new windows and exterior doors for the entire building, and painting of the building exterior. In April 1985, after monies borrowed for the Fellowship Hall renewal were repaid, the Congregation Council moved to set aside monies to perpetuate this memorial honoring Melissa Fowler. Investment earnings are added to the annual earnings of the Trinity Undesignated Endowment Fund and used for parish assistance.
9. Gertrude Gordon Memorial Fund – Established in 2001 in memory of Gertrude Gordon by William and Donna Jeffrey, and in memory of Kenneth Walters by his wife Sara and family. The memorial included the provision that half (50%) of the investment earnings are to be used for grants to support member campers at Lutheran camps (e.g., camps Agape, Lutherlyn and Sequanota) and half (50%) of the investment earnings are to support this congregation’s confirmands at confirccamp.
10. Kathryn Grush Memorial Fund – Established in April 1988 by Millard Grush as a memorial to his wife Kathryn. The memorial included the provision that investment earnings are added to the earnings of the Trinity Ministry Endowment Fund and are to be used for non-budgeted choir items.
11. Mary Martha Himler Memorial Fund – Money in this fund was derived from the sale of the Himler Farm in Fairfield Township, which was bequeathed to this congregation by Mary Martha Himler in 1983. Investment earnings are added to the earnings of the Trinity Ministry Endowment Fund. In August 1984, the Congregation Council approved a Mary Martha Himler Memorial Scholarship funded by twenty-five percent (25%) of the annual investment earning of the Mary Martha Himler Memorial Fund. For accounting purposes the fund was so divided. The purpose of this fund and its funding and administration will follow the guidelines of bylaw Section VII, Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Fund.
12. Robert & Mary Jane Hunter – Was established in 2007 with a bequest from the estate of Robert and Mary Jane Hunter. Interest is added to the earnings of the Trinity Outreach Endowment Fund and is to be used for the needs of our senior citizens, homebound members, or other special requests that do not fit elsewhere.
13. Paul Hugus Memorial Fund – Established in 1986 from funds bequeathed to this congregation by Paul Hugus. Investment earnings added to the earnings of the Trinity Capital Facilities Endowment Fund and are to be used for repair, maintenance, or improvements of church property [i.e., consistent with the investment earnings usage of the Capital Improvements Endowment Fund (B05.05.01.d.)].

14. Elsie Kohlhaas Luttner Memorial Fund – Established in 1997 by Robert Luttner in memory of his wife Elsie. The memorial included the provision that investment earnings are added to the earnings of the Trinity Ministry Endowment Fund and are to be used to underwrite fellowship events of the Trinity Senior Citizens Group.
15. McDowell Memorial Fund – Established in 1988 by Robert and Linda McDowell in memory of their sons Robert and Michael. The memorial included the provision that investment earnings are added to the earnings of the Trinity Ministry Endowment Fund and are to be used for this congregation's youth ministry. Unused investment earnings from any year shall revert to the principal.
16. John Titus Memorial Fund – Established in 1987 as a memorial to John Titus. The memorial included the provision that investment earnings are added to the earnings of the Trinity Ministry Endowment Fund and are to be used for Christian Education with preference given to the Sunday Church School.
17. Parsonage Fund – Established after the sale of the parsonage in 1991, with investment earnings added to the annual earnings of the Trinity Undesignated Endowment Fund and applied towards the pastors' housing allowances.
18. Trinity Endowment Fund – Was established in May 1980 to give members an opportunity to contribute monies for the ministry at Trinity. Investment earnings are added to the annual earnings of the Trinity Undesignated Endowment Fund and used to help underwrite the budget.
19. Yost Family Memorial Fund – Established from funds bequeathed to this congregation by Martha Yost, the last surviving member of her family. In December 1984, the Congregation Council moved that the investment earnings are added to the earnings of the Trinity Outreach Endowment Fund and should be used for outreach in the community, synod, and churchwide body (ELCA); senior citizen and shut-in needs; discretionary funds for pastoral distribution; and special requests that do not fit elsewhere. In 1990, the Congregation Council also decided to transfer \$150 each month from the investment earning of the Yost Family Fund to an Equipment Fund, which is used for the repair or purchase of church office equipment.
20. Paul R. Daw Memorial Scholarship Fund—Paul R Daw was a faithful and active member of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church who worshipped regularly, taught Sunday School, served on committees of the Congregation Council and was devoted to the youth of our community serving as both a Cub Scout and Boy Scout leader. This Memorial Scholarship was established by William C. and Anna Mae Martin as a memorial to his honor (most recent CR12.05.M.).

II. MEMORIAL FUNDS WHOSE PRINCIPAL (ASSETS) MAY BE USED IN FULL (also referred to as OTHER ASSETS)

1. Ballantyne Memorial Fund for Extended Ministries – Some of the funds bequeathed to this congregation in 2000 by William Ballantyne were used to complete the 2001 organ renovation, provide tables for Fellowship Hall, and renovate Trinity Hall for the Headstart program. Additional funds from this bequest were earmarked for use in the replacement of aging lighting and to provide window well grates. The Congregation Council invested the balance of the bequest with fund assets to provide the funding source for the Ballantyne Memorial Fund for Extended Ministries (most recent CR12.05.G.).
2. Howard & Mary Bittner Ministry Fund – Established with principle and interest to be used for education or other Unified expenses purposes
3. Pastor Ronald M. Brant Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Endowment Fund – Established in December 1983 with a gift from the estate of Pastor Ronald M. Brant. An additional contribution was made in March 1984. Assets from the Ronald Brant Memorial Fund are used in accordance with the Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Endowment Fund.
4. Mary Martha Himler Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Endowment Fund – Money in this fund was derived in August 1984 when the Congregation Council approved a Mary Martha Himler Memorial Scholarship. Assets from this Fund are used in accordance with the Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Endowment Fund. The Mary Martha Himler Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Endowment Fund was established in thanksgiving for the life and gifts of Mary

Martha Himler. The purpose of this fund is to encourage attendance of our members at Thiel College and at Lutheran seminaries.

5. Immel Ministry Fund – Established in 2012 with no directives for the principal or interest. Principal may be used at Council’s directive.
6. Robert King Fund – Was established in 2018 from the Robert King estate who had a strong interest in Trinity’s Capital Facilities with Funds income added to the earnings of the Trinity Capital Facilities Endowment Fund with principal & interest to be used for local ministries.
7. Pastor Karl E. & Margaret H. Kniseley Memorial Fund and Assets – Prior to concluding his pastorate (1947 through 1954) with this congregation, Pastor Karl E. Kniseley, Sr. and his wife, Margaret H. Kniseley, deeded “Trinity Acres”, a parcel of land located in Derry Township, to this congregation as an expression of their loyalty and devotion to the ministry of Jesus Christ. In 1992, the Congregation Council sold a parcel of Trinity Acres at the request of a contingent property owner. The congregation voted to use the majority of the proceeds from this property sale for the Reiner Garten (II.2.). The remaining proceeds from this property sale and the future income derived from Trinity Acres (i.e., natural gas and other mineral right royalties, proceeds from the harvest of natural resources, and land sales or rentals) was approved by this congregation at its 2002 Annual Business Meeting for funding the Pastor Karl E. & Margaret H. Kniseley Memorial in thanksgiving for the life and ministry of the Reverend Karl E. Kniseley, Sr. and his beloved wife Margaret. The Pastor Karl E. & Margaret H. Kniseley Memorial Fund will support the development of future pastors and other Church professionals. Assets from this bequest will be used in accordance with bylaw Section VII, Educational Opportunities for Christian Advancement Fund. As royalty payments to the church are expected to continue from year-to-year, both principal and investment or interest earning shall be available for funding of Pastor Karl E. & Margaret H. Kniseley Memorial Fund awards. However, the Congregation Council, to maintain the integrity of future awards, shall have the right to establish a cap on the monies to be used in any one year to fund Pastor Karl E. & Margaret H. Kniseley Memorial Fund awards.
8. Reiner Garten Fund – Established in 1990 by this congregation honoring the Reverend John L. Reiner, a devoted servant to the ministry of Jesus Christ and senior pastor of this church from 1955 through 1980. Donations were used for the completion of a park, the Reiner Garten (German spelling to honor Pastor Reiner’s heritage), on church property to the northeast of the sanctuary. Monies remaining are used to enhance and beautify the church grounds.

III. OTHER MEMORIAL ASSETS

1. The estate of Marget Kelly bequeathed a certificate of deposit (which has since matured and was cashed) to the church, the proceeds of which are for use by the Trinity Senior Citizens Group.
2. Six Cemetery Lots – Donated by members of this congregation. One lot is being held for a member. The rest may be used as the pastors deem appropriate, based upon need.