

The Congregational Fund

Consider a gift that impact lives of members into the

making will the FUMC years future.

Your gift the Congregational Fund gives the ability into the and to ence the that your and loved will live in.

through FUMC you to reach future influ- world family ones

How are gifts to the Congregation Fund different from regular gifts to the church? Regular gifts are used in support of ministries within a one-year period, while gifts to the Fund provide ministry support over a long period of time into the future.

How can my gift actually benefit others in the future? The Congregational Fund of FUMC, Florence manages its assets in such a way that it uses only a portion of the investment returns. That means **all monies given to the Fund are in perpetuity**, and your contribution can live on in endless duration to benefit the church and the needs of others.

Are there specific advantages to leaving money to the Fund versus the church? Both result in the same tax advantage to the donor, but gifts to the church are used for short-term ministry needs, while gifts to the foundation continue to give through the investment returns they produce. The Fund provides the mechanism and the security to accomplish the church's mission work over the long run.

Does the Fund provide tax benefits? Yes, generally gifts to the Fund are tax-deductible. You should consult your accountant for details.

May gifts be designated? Yes, the Fund's By-Laws designate three Program Areas: Missions, Facilities and Undesignated.

How large a gift is required? Gifts may be made in any size. All gifts will become a part of the permanent Congregational Fund of First United Methodist Church, Florence.

Who is encouraged to donate to the fund? Everyone!

Are only deferred gifts accepted? No, current gifts are accepted as well as deferred gifts through a variety of planned giving options.

How can I give to the Foundation?

- **Cash Gifts**

Gifts of cash, stocks and bonds or items that can readily be turned into cash given to the Congregational Fund of FUMC, Florence are accepted anytime. Real estate will be considered.

Planned giving may take many forms including:

- **Will Appointment or Estate Bequest**

Examples of this type of gift include a bequest for specific dollar amount to the Congregational Fund of FUMC, Florence; a bequest of specific assets, such as securities, residential or commercial property; a bequest as a percentage of your estate.

- **Residuary Bequest**

A request of all the residue of your estate to the Congregational Fund of FUMC, Florence after specific bequest to others, debts, taxes and estate expenses have been paid, or a bequest of a certain percentage of the residue of the estate.

- **IRA or Other Retirement Accounts**

Naming the Congregational Fund of FUMC, Florence as beneficiary of your IRA and similar accounts may have advantages in those instances where the undistributed portion will be taxed both in your estate and in your income tax return.

- **Lifetime Trusts and Gift Annuities**

These include certain income producing trusts established during your life as well as gift annuities.

- **Bequest to Charitable Remainder Trust**

One or more named beneficiaries receive income from a trust established under your will. Upon the death of the last surviving beneficiary, all or part of the principal passes to the Congregational Fund of FUMC Florence.

- **Insurance**

A gift of a life insurance policy with the Congregational Fund of FUMC, Florence named as both owner and beneficiary. Your payments of the annual premium qualify as a charitable gift.

Who manages the Fund, invests the money, and decides how the money is spent?

The Fund is governed by a nine member board, made up of FUMC members with staggered three year terms. Ex-officio directors include the Chairman of the Administrative Board, Finance, Trustees and Missions Committees.

The next 30 years:

During the last 30 years, many of our church families have bequeathed property and/or monies from their estates to ensure the ability to expand and make major repairs and renovations to the church facilities. Through the Congregational Fund, you can continue to make a difference for all the years to come.!

Who do I need to contact?

The Senior Minister at Florence FUMC
256.764.5072

Providing for the
Future of
Florence First
United Methodist
Church.

Today's *Gift* for
Tomorrow's World

Giving Through
The
Congregational
Fund

415 N Seminary St.
Florence, AL 35630

