



Memorial and Honor Gifts POLICY FOR TRUST FUND GIFTS

Zion Lutheran welcomes special gifts, memorials, and bequests to the church and its recognized causes. Such gifts fulfill mutual needs: the donor finds a meaningful way to express gratitude, love and remembrance; and the gifts further the growth of the church, its ministries and stewardship opportunities.

Memorial and special gifts will be managed through the Zion Lutheran Trust Fund. Zion's Trust Committee is responsible for overseeing special gifts to the church, whether in monetary or physical form, in accordance with the following policies:

1. Special gifts must be considered from several perspectives including purpose, utility, permanence, and ongoing physical maintenance and funding of that upkeep. Gifts made to the church must be in harmony with the mission, vision, and values of the church.
2. In making a gift, the donor gives full ownership to the church and gives up any control over future use or disposition. In accepting a gift, the church will make every effort to honor the wishes of the donor, however, there is no guarantee that the gift will be used or maintained in perpetuity.
3. A Statement of Intent will be completed and signed by the donor(s) for all memorial and special gifts.
4. Cash gifts of less than \$200 will be added to the undesignated balance within the Trust Fund account and used at the discretion of the Trust Committee.
5. A gift of \$200 or more may be designated by the donor for a specific use. In making that designation, the donor is urged to prayerfully review the current Memorial Gift List. The Memorial Gift List is maintained by the Trust Committee with input from the pastor and Church Council.
6. Normally, gifts designated for a specific purpose shall be used within one year of the donation. If it is not practical for a gift to be used for its designated purpose within that timeframe, the gift will be moved to the undesignated balance in the Trust Fund.
7. Donations may be designated to the Trust Fund's Perpetual Fund, a segregated fund currently invested with Thrivent and ELCA Mission Investment. Zion's Trust Fund monies held within the Perpetual Fund are long-term growth investments, with only the interest/dividend amounts being disbursed for use. A donor may request their memorial or special gift to be invested as principal into the Perpetual Fund.
8. All memorial gifts will be recorded in the Memorial Book which is publicly displayed in a common area of the church. When deemed appropriate, gifts will also be memorialized and dedicated during a worship service.
9. The church will provide an acknowledgement of monetary gifts. Non-monetary gifts (physical items, in-kind donations) if accepted, will be acknowledged with a letter stating the gifted item, but will not include a statement regarding value. It will be the responsibility of the donor to determine the value of such a gift if they desire the tax benefit.
10. Following the Trust Committee's approval of this Policy, the placement of a plaque, photo, or any other type of personal recognition will not be allowed on gifts or to mark an item purchased with a memorial donation.