



**Your support and investment in the FIRST UNITED Methodist Church\* is important to its ongoing financial health.**

**Here is some information to make your gift giving easy while also taking advantage of current tax laws.**

**Please know that you can designate your gifts to the specific church ministry or project of your choice.**

***(Always consult an investment and tax professional for financial advice before initiating any of these ideas)***



**FIRST UNITED**  
METHODIST CHURCH



**Worship Days & Times**  
10:00 AM Sunday In-Person  
and on Facebook Live:  
f/FUMCStillwater



**Church Location**  
813 W. Myrtle Street  
Stillwater, MN 55082



**Contact Us**  
651-439-1880  
office@fumcstillwater.com  
fumcstillwater.com



**Office Hours**  
Monday-Thursday 9:00-3:00  
Friday 9:00-1:00

*Revision 6: 5/6/24*

*Wrapping All People in God's Love*



**FIRST UNITED**  
METHODIST CHURCH

**Support  
Opportunities**



# Wrapping All People in God's Love

## Cash Donations

We accept donations of cash & checks, and accept credit card donations through our website at [fumcstillwater.com](http://fumcstillwater.com). You can claim a tax deduction of \$300 (\$600 for a couple) if you use the standard deduction. If you itemize deductions, up to 100% of AGI may be deductible per current tax laws. (See: *IRS Pub 501 – Dependents, Standard Deduction, and Filing Information Topic No. 506 Charitable Contributions on IRS.gov*)

## Appreciated Stock & Other Securities

Gifts of appreciated, long-term held stocks, bonds or other securities would allow you to make a gift to the church while avoiding the tax on long term capital gains, and allow you to claim an income tax deduction for the full fair market value of the securities. For specific instructions see *“Direct IRA Distributions and Transfers of Stock”*, a document available from church Treasurer or church office.

## IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions

If you are taking required distributions from an IRA, you can make non-taxed qualified charitable distributions directly from your IRA. For more information, contact MN Methodist Foundation to see the document on *“Direct IRA Distributions*

*and Transfers of Stock” (from church) or IRS Publication 590b.*

## Donate Property

You can donate your house or other property (*land, house, boat, or even a horse!*) and receive the deduction for fair market value and avoid capital gains tax. The church can then keep the property or sell it and keep the proceeds.

## Establish an Endowment for the Church

An endowment is a permanently restricted, self-sustaining source of funding. Distributions from the earnings are paid out annually in accordance to the donor's wishes. What a wonderful way to honor a family member or remember important people in your life while assisting our church. These can be set up through the MN Methodist Foundation, who is responsible for investing your gift and administering the earnings.

## Establish a Donor-Advised Fund

This is similar to an endowment set up with the MN Methodist Foundation, but the individual or group assists in designating the distribution of the funds annually. At least 50% must go to FIRST UNITED Methodist Church related ministries. If the advisory group ceases to exist, the Foundation will distribute the funds to similar ministries or according to your instructions.

## Estate Planning

There are a number of ways you can continue your support of the church through your estate. Some things to consider:

- **Bequests** – You designate the church as the beneficiary of your assets by will or trust.
- **Beneficiary Designation** – You can designate the church as a beneficiary of a retirement, investment, bank account or your life insurance policy.
- **Endowments** – You can create endowments through your estate.

For other options, and more information on estate planning, contact the MN Methodist Foundation ([mnumf.org](http://mnumf.org)).

For more information about supporting the FIRST UNITED Methodist Church, contact church Treasurer, Finance Chair, or church office. 651-439-1880

*\* All information presented in this brochure pertains to FIRST UNITED Methodist Church of Stillwater MN. These ideas and explanations are not intended to provide financial or tax advice. Please consult with your investment and tax professional for financial advice and further information before initiating any of these ideas.*