**Messiah Lutheran Endowment Fund Policy**

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to insure the long-term financial stability of the church with the ultimate goal of growing the fund so that the interest earned could actually finance part or all of the operations of the church. Messiah’s Endowment Fund is a restricted fund. That means that the current policy would allow the Finance/Stewardship Committee with the approval of the Church Council to spend only the interest earned on the fund. The Endowment fund principal may not be used to fund the day to day operations of the church. The principal can only be used in an extreme financial emergency with the approval of the Church Council. Our goal is to raise a total of $300,000 which is roughly three times the annual operating budget of the church.

Donations to the Endowment Fund are always welcome. Endowment donations often come in the form of Legacy Gifts or bequests following the death of family member or loved one. There is no minimum amount that can be donated to the Endowment Fund. If you are interested in making a gift to the Endowment Fund, you are encouraged to speak with Messiah’s Treasurer or a member of the Finance/Stewardship Committee. They will be happy to help.