



Our History

In 1943, a small group of Episcopalians, living on what then were the outskirts of Charlotte, had a vision. They dreamed of a parish in their newly developing Myers Park and Eastover neighborhoods. These 98 families planted a seed which grew into the vibrant spiritual home that is Christ Church today.

Oak Circle

The old saying, “Blessed are those who plant trees under which others will sit” personifies these founding families, whose hard work and lifelong commitment positioned Christ Church to become the largest parish in North Carolina. Now we must again look to the future, planting a new seed in the form of the Oak Circle, honoring those parishioners who include Christ Church in their estate plans. Just as we appreciate the beauty of our very own oak tree, a welcoming symbol of strength and stability, the Oak Circle celebrates those in our Christ Church family who invest in the future needs of our parish.

Why Planned Giving?

A vigorous, annual Every Member Canvass, which provides a regular opportunity for members of Christ Church to consider and renew their commitment to the parish, is essential to the continuing vitality of the congregation. But the lasting legacy of a planned gift can be an equally important component of stewardship at Christ Church.

It is vital for future generations of our parishioners to keep mission at the forefront of all we do, to continue our church’s long-standing traditions of innovation and outreach. Planned giving can ensure that future Vestries have the financial ability to continue these traditions. Our Vestry has adopted guidelines that help ensure planned gifts to the parish will be committed to the Christ Church Foundation and other non-operational purposes.

You Are Invited!

For more than 65 years, Christ Church has taken a leading role in serving our members, our community, and our world. We invite you to join us as we again look forward, investing in the future with faith rooted in God.

Planned Giving is Simple

The simplest way to make a lasting difference is to remember Christ Church in your will. You can bequeath a specific amount or percentage of your estate. Your bequest can provide unrestricted support, benefit a specific program or invest in the Christ Church Foundation. We encourage you to work with your lawyer to prepare a simple, inexpensive codicil to your existing will, thus creating a bequest for Christ Church.

Other easy ways to include Christ Church or the Foundation in your estate plan include amending an existing life insurance policy, IRA, or other retirement plan to add our parish as an additional beneficiary. Simple steps like these require little time, yet can be very beneficial in reducing your estate tax liability while making an enormous difference in the future of Christ Church.

If you would like to make a major gift and would like to continue receiving income during your lifetime, you may wish to consider establishing a life income gift. There are wonderful options that pay income to you for a specified period of time, after which the assets are distributed to Christ Church or the Foundation, providing tax savings and possibly increasing your income while allowing you to make a meaningful gift to Christ Church.

Although we do not practice estate planning, we would be pleased to visit with you about basic bequest language, or to engage in a deeper conversation about various planned giving options.

Please contact the Director of Stewardship at Christ Church for details.