

Footprints

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky. In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand.

Sometimes there were two sets of footprints. Other times there were one set of footprints.

This bothered me because I noticed that during the low periods of my life when I was suffering from anguish, sorrow, or defeat, I could see only one set of footprints.

So I said to the Lord, "You promised me, Lord, that if I followed You, You would walk with me always. But I noticed that during the most trying periods of my life there have only been one set of prints in the sand.

Why, when I have needed You most, You have not been there for me?"

The Lord replied, "The times when you have seen only one set of footprints is when I carried you."

Leave a legacy, you can make a difference in the lives that follow!

Would You Like More Information?

If you would like to receive more information about the St. Stephen Endowment Fund, please call the church office at the numbers listed below or you may forward this form to the church office and someone from the Enduring Gifts Program Committee will contact you.

Name

Address

City

State

ZIP

Telephone (include area code please)

E-mail address (if applicable)

Make checks payable to St. Stephen Endowment Fund

The St. Stephen Endowment Fund was established in 1998 by Harold and Mary Reier.

St. Stephen Evangelical Lutheran Church
2500 NE 14th Street Causeway
Pompano Beach, Florida 33062
Ph: 954.942.4473 ✉ Fax: 954.942.4474
www.ststephenlutheran.net

**The St. Stephen
Endowment
Fund**
The Gift That Keeps On Giving

 **St. Stephen**
Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Gift That Keeps On Giving

What Will You Leave Behind?

Everyone leaves footprints. Our prints are made by the impression of our lives on the sands of time. A person is remembered for character, accomplishments, generosity, faith, kindness, compassion, personal warmth, values and integrity. When we leave positive impressions, we make footprints for others to follow.

In baptism, Christ promises us his enduring love. As stewards of God's gifts, we too may have an enduring influence. The fruits of our lives can continue to work for the Lord. Your enduring gift is one means to make a print in the sand to help others recall your life and values.

How You May Give an Enduring Gift

You can give the gift that keeps on giving through the St. Stephen Endowment Fund. Donation envelopes are available in the narthex or the church office. Gifts may be given in honor of a special event or in perpetual remembrance (memory) of a loved one.

Wills, real estate, stocks, bonds, securities, CD's, insurance policies, IRA's pension plans, 401K's and trusts may all be directed to the St. Stephen Endowment Fund. All gifts from estates are deductible for Federal Estate tax purposes.

How Program Funds Are Managed?

Gifts are deposited into the St. Stephen Endowment Fund and distributed in accordance with Continuing Resolution C4.03 under the St. Stephen Enduring Gifts Program and the St. Stephen Endowment Fund of the St. Stephen Congregational Constitution. Disbursements are made to the General Fund and the Ministry/Project Fund(s) accordingly.

General Fund disbursements are currently made as follows:

- ✦ At least 25% to the ELCA for the church at large (our chosen tithe)
- ✦ Up to 25% for local mission work, community outreach and assistance to friends and families of St. Stephen for spiritual and/or economic need
- ✦ Up to 25% for grants to friends and members of St. Stephen to attend a Lutheran college or seminary, or to further their Christian education (scholarships, camp, workshops, etc.)
- ✦ Up to 25% for St. Stephen's use for capital improvements and special items other than normal budgeted use.

In addition to the General Fund, gifts may be given to support or endow a specific ministry or project as deemed desirable and feasible by the congregation in accordance with the Enduring Gifts Program. We are also working to endow our Missionary Fund in hopes to fully sponsor a missionary.

What is the Enduring Gifts Program?

The purpose of this program is to enhance the mission outreach of this congregation and to achieve ministries and projects above and beyond those supported through the annual operating budget of this congregation.

Who Decides Where the Money Will be Spent?

Members of the congregation submit grant requests to the Enduring Gifts Program Committee. The Committee reviews the requests to make sure they meet the church guidelines and passes them to council for approval.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Endowment Fund Committee is to provide for the receipt of enduring gifts, encourage continued giving to the St. Stephen Endowment Fund and to insure the appropriate management and perpetual integrity of the Fund.