

St. Margaret's

Keeping the Flame Alive

For more than 125 years, St. Margaret's has been a beacon of light and love in our neighborhood and beyond. We are proud of our legacy - breaking barriers with women and LGBTQ leadership, both clergy and lay. Our commitment to civil rights for all is woven into the fabric of who we are, as is our ministry to the marginalized in our community.



St. Margaret's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We Have Been Enriched by Those Who Have Gone Before Us

Over the years, St. Margaret's has been blessed to receive generous gifts and bequests from the parishioners who have gone before us.

These gifts have secured our historic physical space and ensured the continuation of our ministries.

Launching a Planned Giving Program

St. Margaret's established an endowment in 2021 to guarantee and perpetuate the church's mission for generations to come. Our planned giving program is dedicated to building the endowment, and planned gifts will be dedicated to one of the two endowment funds, unless directed otherwise.

Bequests to "The Endowment Fund of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church" will be placed in the Permanent Endowment. These funds are held in perpetuity and the corpus is protected by law. Bequests to "St. Margaret's Episcopal Church" will automatically be placed in the General Endowment Fund. These funds are managed as if they were in the permanent endowment fund, but the corpus is not subject to the laws that govern a permanent endowment. Therefore, in the event of an emergency, there are provisions in our endowment policy that enable the Vestry to authorize additional distributions from these funds following special votes of the Parish.

Those who choose to make a planned gift will be welcomed as members of the 1894 Society and recognized in an annual celebration.



What Is Planned Giving?

Planned giving is not only for the wealthy. Anyone can make a considered and informed choice about the ultimate disposition of personal resources.

Planned giving is a way for donors to provide for surviving family members as well as remember St. Margaret's and other communities close to their heart. Often planned gifts enable donors to make larger charitable donations than thought possible and also reduce taxes.

Planned gifts can be either outright gifts (i.e., gifts of appreciated securities, real property, personal property, etc.) or deferred gifts (i.e. bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable trusts).

Bequest in a Will or Trust

The easiest way to make a planned gift is through a will -- yet more than 50% of Americans do not have one.

If you die without a will, the state will divide your assets among your spouse and children (regardless of their age); appoint an administrator that may cost the estate large fees; and appoint guardians for your dependents. The state makes no provision for charitable contributions, and tax burdens can be high.

By making a will, you:

- Appoint your own administrator;
- Name the guardian of your dependents;
- Control applicable taxes;
- Create a family or charitable trust if you wish; and
- Share your resources with your family, church, and other institutions as you choose.

A bequest can take the form of a set amount of money, a percentage of an estate, or a specific asset. St. Margaret's Stewardship Committee is willing and able to provide sample language for wills upon request.



Gifts of Real Estate, Appreciated Property, and Tangible Personal Property

Real estate or securities are another potential source of your gift to St. Margaret's. Using a Charitable Life Estate Contract, for example, you can deed your home, vacation home, farm, ranch, or condominium to St. Margaret's and retain the right to live on the property and/or receive income from the property for as long as you live. You receive an income tax deduction when the property is deeded to the church and normally avoid any capital gains taxes when making the transfer.

Your inheritance and estate taxes may be reduced at the time of your death.

Gifts of tangible personal property, such as jewelry, coins, works of art, automobiles, etc. may also be given to the church.

St. Margaret's clergy and Stewardship Committee are more than happy to talk through options and offer guidance for making such gifts of stock or real estate.

Gifts of Life Insurance and Retirement Accounts

Life Insurance is another way to make a meaningful gift to St. Margaret's.

You can purchase a new life insurance policy and make the church the owner and beneficiary of the policy. You also can make St. Margaret's the owner and beneficiary of an existing policy. The current value of the policy is tax deductible, as are future premium payments. You can make St. Margaret's a contingent beneficiary, or you can name the church the recipient of the policy's proceeds if

the designated beneficiaries predecease the insured.

Retirement accounts can pass tax-free to St. Margaret's upon your death.

Consult your attorney or financial advisor to choose the best gift option for you.

Stewards of God's Bounty



All that we are, all that we have, comes from God.

Jesus often talked about our relationship to the things we possess. In Luke 12:13-21, Jesus is asked about dividing a family inheritance. He replies with a story. A rich man decides to build new barns to hold his bumper crop, then to eat, drink, and be merry.

But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be? So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

We are stewards of God's bounty. Caretakers. For a brief period, we are given time, energy, and resources.

Planned giving is one expression of the wise use of the personal resources God has entrusted to us.

**To continue this conversation,
please contact St. Margaret's Rector
or email us at:
The1894society@stmargaretsdc.org**



**St. Margaret's is a warm place to renew faith in God,
care for one another, and thrive in a diverse,
LGBTQ-affirming, and inclusive community.**

There's Always a Place at the Table.

St M's

**Join us Sundays for
Holy Eucharist at 10:30 a.m.**

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