



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
FOUNDATION

*Focusing on the
Future Together*



Created to support the work of individuals, congregations, and organizations across all courts of the church by raising, investing, and granting funds to further God's mission.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS



TYPES OF GIFTS

The Foundation accepts all forms of gifts: cash, cheque, credit card, bank transfer, stocks and other publicly listed securities. These gifts may be given as one-time or recurring gifts and may be part of a property sale, life insurance policy, or bequest. The Foundation issues tax receipts for all eligible gifts.



CUSTOMIZED APPROACH

The Foundation works with individual donors or organizations to determine the best approach for developing their long-term funds. Some donors provide annual instructions on how they wish the available funds to be used. Others set up their fund so that an organization or cause can receive income year after year.



ESTABLISHED FUNDS

Donors can direct their gifts to any existing long-term funds. There are already more than 450 funds that disburse grants, with more created every year. Mission Focus Funds offer support for a broad range of purposes. Other funds are more specific.



GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

Prospective recipients can apply for a grant each Spring and Fall. Applications are assessed by the Joint Grants Committee, which has members from both the Executive of the General Council of United Church and the Foundation.

GRANT RECIPIENTS



INDIVIDUAL DONORS

“Many of my gifts have been made anonymously, and while they gave me great joy, it wasn’t something that I talked about. But the thing is it doesn’t take great wealth to be a disciplined giver to charity. All it takes is a giving heart and a willingness to budget.”

– The late Pat Logan, friend of the Foundation

Individual donors are individuals and families faithfully investing in God’s future work through the church.

Do you have a dream and a passion for specific work of the church that you would like to support during your life and perhaps beyond?

The United Church created the Foundation to help you fulfil dreams both now and in the future.

The staff at the Foundation are here to help. Contact them to find out more by calling 1 866 340-8223.

Faith in God’s mission and in the importance of all of our gifts: that’s at the heart of the United Church. Since the beginning of our church, individuals and their families have created long-term family funds. These funds might start with gifts spanning a number of years or with a single bequest. Funds and endowments large and small can be put into place to reflect donors’ wishes.

Where do you find Joy?

A long time donor and friend of the Foundation says: “Biblical teaching has influenced my giving. Proverbs 3:27-8 says, ‘Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbour come back tomorrow when you now have it with you’ and that is the way it is with me.”

“I feel confident the church will always be, but probably in different forms than we know it today. And I’d like to make sure it has the resources to do that. I live comfortably on my pension and savings but when I come into unexpected wealth I give most of it away. I have never experienced so much joy in terms of stewardship!”

Our donor and friend established an endowment fund at the Foundation that supports a number of organizations including his congregation and the Mission & Service of the United Church.





CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

“Working with the Foundation was easy and helped guide us to investing in future generations and ministries in light of the apostle Paul’s promise: “You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us.” (2 Corinthians 9:11)

– The Rev. Dr. Marvin Anderson

There are many new ways for congregations and organizations to make a meaningful difference

It could start with an unexpected bequest or the sale of a property.

It continues with a dream of what those funds can accomplish for the work of the church if wisely invested, carefully managed, and focused over time.

It leads to the creation of a fund customized for your group’s needs.

If your congregation or church organization finds itself gifted with the opportunity to seek the best and highest purpose for its longer-term assets, consider speaking with the Foundation about setting up a fund or a long-term investment plan.

Faith in the spirit of transformation. Congregations, presbyteries, and other church organizations are seeking to transform assets received from bequests or the sale of properties to carry out God’s work. They are finding the Foundation can help them realize their visions with investment opportunities and medium to long-term funds.

The Donway Covenant found themselves with a surprise surplus of funds and decided to meet with the United Church of Canada Foundation to discuss their options for investing. After several great conversations, they chose to invest these funds with the help of the Foundation. They started out slowly and now, even though their investments have had some ups and downs, trustee Bill Anderson says their investments are “a bit remarkable.”

Whitehorse United Church is another congregation looking into investment and fund options after receiving a bequest. Their trustee, Fred Smith, says: “Our church was fortunate to receive a generous bequest. We decided to invest through the Foundation. Despite the ups and downs of the market, our investment continues to provide a disbursement.” This income helps Whitehorse United continue to serve Christ’s mission in their community.

Lynedoch United Church was facing the difficult decision to close the doors of their 160 year old church. The congregation invited David Armour to discuss the history of their church and explore ways to sustain its rich heritage through the Foundation. “We learned that even though we weren’t going to be meeting in our church anymore, the congregation and spirit of Lynedoch United could live on in a new sustainable way within the UCC Foundation,” said Wendy Johnson, a congregation member whose father was a former treasurer at Lynedoch. “Oh my, what a wonderful resurrection opportunity!”

With smiling faces and a renewed sense of purpose, the congregation chose to establish the Lynedoch United Church Fund, a fund that is reflective of their ministry supporting Mission & Service, New Ministries, Peace and Justice, and Green initiatives, far beyond the here and now.



GRANT RECIPIENTS

“Our grant making activities are a great example of our stewardship of the investments donors have made with the United Church of Canada Foundation.”

– Paul Johnson, Joint Grants Committee Member

Grant recipients are groups and individuals determined to help build the future of the church

Recent grants have helped to launch projects that are:

- *innovative programs for seniors*
- *working with poverty and children at risk*
- *ministries pertaining to peace and justice*
- *faith, mission, and leadership*
- *camping*
- *theological education, and*
- *new innovative efforts that are meeting current needs.*

Faith in innovation. The Foundation supports innovative ministry responses to some of the most complex problems facing society and the church today, The Foundation staff can help you identify what grants your project could be eligible to apply for.

New project brings fun and dignity back to school clothes shopping

Back-to-School can be a stressor especially when parents can't afford clothes. But in Thunder Bay, a unique shop shows how sharing resources makes a huge difference. The Cool Clothes for Cool Kids project of St. Paul's United Church and St. James Public School started after the former principal at St. James, Marla Poulin, raised a need with her congregation: many school families cannot afford kids' clothes. Further, the school community includes some kids in transient situations as it's close to shelters serving both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women.

They were adamant that people shouldn't have to rummage through boxes to acquire the things they need, so a boutique was set up with mirrors and curated clothing. Now, kids can regularly "shop" at the Cool Clothes for Cool Kids boutique and choose their own clothing. Clothing is free. "Mothers who arrive at the shelter with limited clothing and supplies are relieved to find that they can clothe their children when they register them for school," says Poulin.

The boutique is open to all the children, it's something fun to do that doesn't come with a stigma. The children have greeted this project with enthusiasm; they help each other choose their own clothes, giving them confidence. "The students have embraced this project with pride" says Mary Anderson, Chair of the Stewardship and Outreach Committee at St. Paul's. "They don't think that they have been given some hand-me-downs."

The Cool Clothes for Cool Kids project is supported by a \$3,500 grant from The Wesley C. Smith Fund and The Watkins Fund for Poverty and at-Risk Youth and Children.

Contact the Foundation to find out how grants can help build your dream ministries and projects.



"I have, on a number of occasions, phoned donors to thank them. You hear the voices of the deeply committed who are truly making a sacrificial contribution, and are surprised that someone would phone to say thank you, because this was not something they did out of pride, but out of a deeply held belief and conviction." – Peter Harder, Past Chair, The United Church of Canada Foundation

The United Church
of Canada Foundation
2016-2017

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