

## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

### \* Joy

Arrange to benefit the areas of the Lord's work that are closest to your heart, including ELS congregations, missions, schools, agencies and other ministries.

### \* Tax Savings

You receive an income tax charitable deduction in the year of your gift to your donor advised fund, regardless of when grants are made.

### \* Recommend gifts when you are ready.

Contribute to your donor advised fund this year, and decide later which ELS ministry(ies) you want to support.

### \* Encourage family stewardship:

Help your children and other loved ones experience the joy of giving by involving them in giving to the fund and the decision making process for the grant recommendations.



For more information please contact your ELS Giving Counselor

#### Estate Planning Office

6 Browns Court  
Mankato, Minnesota  
56001

Office: 507-344-7311

Cell: 507-469-9656

*Doing the will of God from your heart.  
Eph. 6:6*

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This information is not intended as legal advice. For legal and tax advice, we encourage you to consult an attorney or tax professional.

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*Giving from the heart!*

## Donor Advised Funds



*A gift that creates a lasting legacy.*



**Evangelical Lutheran Synod Foundation**

*Created to serve you!*



# GIVING THROUGH A DONOR ADVISED FUND

*A gift that creates a  
lasting legacy*

## Questions?

**Q:** How often can I make a donation from my Donor Advised Fund?

**A:** You can make them as often as you like. Or you can set up auto-matic distribution for multiple years.

**Q:** What happens to the balance of funds that are not disbursed?

**A:** Donor Advised funds are invested with the ELS Foundation with a preservation of capital, income as well as moderate growth strategy. Funds that remain in the foundation for over a year will be credited with growth (or possible loss). Then average balance is calculated on a three-year average and the growth is credited to the funds and made available for distribution after auditors' review, usually in April of each year. We will mail statements to the lead fund adviser each year, usually by June 1.

**Q:** What happens if I, or my named successors, can no longer make recommendations?

**A:** After a period of three years in which no recommendations are received then the designated ministries in the DAF agreement will receive all remaining funds. If no designations are made, all funds will flow to the ELS Foundation to support the general missions and ministries of the ELS.

## WHAT IS A DONOR ADVISED FUND?

A donor advised fund (DAF) is a charitable giving vehicle wherein an individual, family, or corporation makes an irrevocable, tax-deductible contribution of cash, securities, or other property to the ELS Foundation. At any time thereafter the donor can recommend grant distributions to qualified ELS and WELS ministries. The fund can be established with current gifts, deferred gifts (such as charitable gift annuities or charitable remainder trusts), and testamentary gifts (such as wills, revocable trusts, or beneficiary designations for life insurance policies or retirement accounts). The ELS Foundation Donor Advised Fund program provides an alternative to the private family foundation. You can accomplish many of the same goals, but with far less administrative work and expense.

## WHAT ARE THE FEATURES?

- **Gift size:** The minimum initial gift is \$10,000. Donors can add funds in \$100 increments at any time.
- **Individual:** You may name your donor advised fund. You, or the persons you designate, may recommend gifts to organizations listed in the ELS Synod Report or WELS Yearbook. It can be anonymous too.
- **Grant recommendations:** The minimum amount that may be recommended is \$250 per year. Each fund will distribute at least this amount annually.
- **Lasting Legacy:** You may designate others to continue recommending distributions after your lifetime to support your home congregation or other favorite ELS/WELS ministries. Make it a family event in support of the Gospel.