

# CHARTER

THE LINWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
COLUMBUS, OHIO

## THE ENDOWMENT, GIFTS, & MEMORIALS PROGRAM

### THE PURPOSE

The Endowment, Gifts, & Memorials Program of The Linworth United Methodist Church, Columbus, Ohio, hereafter referred to in this document as "the Endowment Program," is established for the purpose of providing members and friends opportunities to make charitable gifts to The Linworth United Methodist Church that will become a permanent endowment of financial support and/or a living memorial. The Endowment Program is intended for purposes that are not a part of the church's established programs which are funded through the annual operating budget of the church and the regular giving of its members.

### ADMINISTRATION

The Endowment Program will be administered by the Permanent Endowment Fund Committee of The Linworth United Methodist Church, herein in this document referred to as the "Committee," under authority granted by the Charge Conference. The members of the Committee and its chairperson shall be elected by the Charge Conference and shall serve until their successors have been elected. The committee shall elect a Secretary and such other officers and sub-committees as it deems necessary.

The Committee shall cooperate with the Committee on Finance in assuring that the annual audit process (as stated in Paragraph 258.4c of The Book of Discipline-2000) is followed. The Committee shall make a full report no less frequently than once each year to the Administrative Board/Council.

### INVESTMENT OF ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The Endowment Program's investment objectives are:

1. Conservation of principal for the effective maintenance of purchasing power.
2. Regular income at a reasonable rate.
3. Growth of income and principal over and above that necessary to offset cost of living increases.
4. Investment of assets in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds which make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church as researched by the General Board on Pension and Healthcare Benefits.
5. Specific investment goals will be established and approved by a majority of The Committee and updated periodically as deemed necessary by The Committee.

All gifts received by the Endowment Program shall be invested through the establishment of one or more accounts with the investment approval of the Committee. The specific purpose of each account

authorized by the Committee shall be stated in order to fulfill the wishes of the donor and thereby segregate and maintain gifts for their stated purposes.

### **CHANGE IN INVESTMENT POLICY**

Any transfer of the Endowment Program assets for investment with another institution must be recommended by the Committee and approved by the Administrative Board of The Linworth United Methodist Church. Such institution, for the purpose of maintaining independence, shall not be represented by members of The Linworth United Methodist Church.

### **LIMITATION ON USE OF PRINCIPAL**

The objectives of the Endowment program are to conserve principal and make use of only the distributions determined by the Committee. Any part of the principal may be withdrawn only in extreme and overwhelming circumstances, bordering on the survival of The Linworth United Methodist Church. Any withdrawal of principal must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a Church Conference of The Linworth United Methodist Church at which a quorum is present.

### **DISTRIBUTIONS FROM THE ENDOWMENT PROGRAM**

Distributions from accounts in the Endowment Program shall be made by the Committee as directed by the donors at the time of their gift or as directed by will or other gift document if such direction is in conformity with the general purposes set forth herein. In the case of the undesignated gift accounts, the amount of all distributions shall be determined by the Committee which shall keep in mind the Endowment program investment objectives stated above in this document. The purposes and causes to which distributions from undesignated gift accounts are to be made shall be approved by the Administrative Board upon recommendation of the Committee.

### **GIFTS TO THE FUND**

Gifts to the Endowment Program shall be classified as "designated" or "undesignated" and then assigned to one of the following categories:

- A. Mission Funds (for missions in and beyond the local church community)
- B. Property Funds (for maintenance, care, improvements or additions to, or construction of physical facilities)
- C. General Endowment Funds (for special needs and ministries determined by the church leadership)

The Committee shall have the authority and responsibility to accept or reject any and all gifts to the Endowment program in keeping with the authority granted by the Charge Conference.

All provisions of the Endowment program as to investment of funds, administration of funds, and limitation of use of distributions shall be applicable to both designated and undesignated gifts, and all gifts made to the Fund shall be accepted subject to the terms and limitations set forth in this document.

### **LIABILITY OF TRUSTEES AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

In the absence of gross negligence or fraud, no member of the Board of The Linworth United Methodist Church or of the Committee of said church shall be personally liable for any action made or omission with respect to the Endowment Program.

**MERGER, CONSOLIDATION, OR DISSOLUTION OF THE LINWORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

If at any time The Linworth United Methodist Church is lawfully merged or consolidated with any other church, all the provisions hereof in respect to the Endowment Program shall be deemed to have been made in behalf of the merged or consolidated church which shall be authorized to administer the same in all respects and in accordance with the terms thereto. If The Linworth United Methodist Church should ever be discontinued or abandoned without any lawful successor thereto, "all gifts held in trust, assets of any endowment funds, and assets of any foundation of the church, shall be reviewed as part of the discontinuance or abandonment. All such assets shall pass as directed by the annual conference, unless otherwise directed by operations of law." (The Book of Discipline 2008, para. 2548.5)

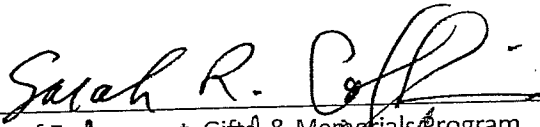
**AMENDMENTS**

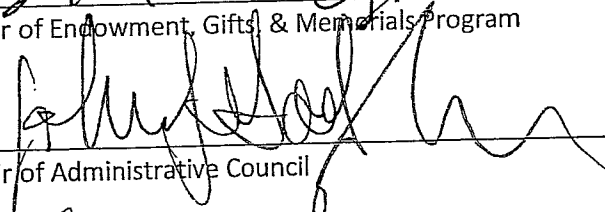
Technical corrections and amendments to the Endowment Program which do not alter the stated purpose of the Endowment Program may be recommended by the Endowment Committee for approval by the Administrative Board.

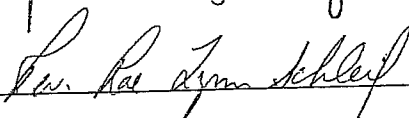
**SEVERABILITY**

If any provisions or any application of any provisions of the Endowment program shall be held or deemed to be or shall be illegal, inoperative, or unenforceable, the same shall not affect any other provisions or any application of any provisions herein contained or render the same invalid, inoperative, or unenforceable.

This Endowment Program Charter was amended this 19 day of November <sup>2012</sup> in a duly authorized charge conference of The Linworth United Methodist Church, Columbus, Ohio, by a vote of 10 For, 0 Against, and 0 Abstained.

  
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Chair of Endowment, Gifts, & Memorials Program

  
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Chair of Administrative Council

  
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Pastor