

*It's that time of year...time to submit requests
for money from our Touching Tomorrow Endowment Fund!*

What is the purpose of the “Touching Tomorrow” Endowment fund?

The Endowment Fund distributes money, in the form of grants, for mission and outreach beyond the normal church budget and usually, beyond the church walls. The aim of such grants is to “Touch Tomorrow,” allowing for present and future ministry.

Who oversees the Touching Tomorrow Fund?

A Touching Tomorrow Committee oversees the Fund. This committee meets annually to decide expenditures based on the financial performance of the account and the specific requests. These purchases are not approved by council, but council approves the members of the committee. The committee currently consists of Jim Cascarino, Jim Gill (Chair), Terry Ludwig, Michelle Bucks, and Christine Techky. If you'd like to help, please see Jim Gill or Pastor Caitlin.

Where does the money come from in the Touching Tomorrow Fund?

The original money came from a large bequest to the church. Currently the fund has roughly \$420,000 in principal investments, which includes the original gift, but also later gifts and interest added to principal. Each year grants come from the interest and dividends on the account. These have varied over time. The hope is that in the future, more people will consider giving money, either in honor of loved ones, or as part of their estate planning, to the Touching Tomorrow Fund.

How can I contribute to the Touching Tomorrow Fund?

Gifts of any size are greatly appreciated, and you may benefit from significant tax advantages. By using a combination of certain financial and insurance products, you can even leave a bigger inheritance to your loved ones while preserving your desired gift to the fund. For more information on this strategy, you may consult your estate attorney or talk with Jim Gill, Zion's representative from Thrivent Financial.

What kind of things has the Touching Tomorrow Fund supported?

Between 2006 and 2018, the Fund distributed over \$135,000 to various projects, including:
Seed money for launching Zion's Preschool; continued scholarships for preschool families in need
Donation to Lutheran Social Services of Northern California to help victims displaced by wildfires
Support for a handful of local charities, including helping to fund a forklift for Lebanon County Christian Ministries
Subsidized the cost of Zion's Day Camp, making it an affordable option for families in our community
Support for Halcyon Activity Center, a local drop-in center for adults with mental disabilities
Assistance for local families in need, including a Zion's family with unexpected medical bills
Funds for the Lower Susquehanna's food packing event at synod assembly
Support of Brittney's Hope in Vietnam
Contribution to Developmental and Disability Services in Lebanon County

What kind of money is available for grants this year?

While the fund's investments are conservative, fluctuations in the stock market means we will not know the exact amount of the distribution until closer to December 1. Last year we were able to distribute over \$14,700; we hope this year for another generous distribution.

How can you make a request for a project?

Simple: Fill out the front of this paper by Dec 1, 2019! The most successful applications tend to benefit educational ministries (scholarships, youth group, leadership training), local ministries (innovative congregational ministries, seed money, or emergency appeals), extended ministries (national, international, disaster-related), and charities with specific needs.

If you have any questions about applying for these monies, the purpose of our Touching Tomorrow Endowment Fund, or how to contribute to the endowment, please see any member of the Committee or Pastor Caitlin.

ZION'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
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TOUCHING TOMORROW ENDOWMENT FUND REQUEST FORM

Name of Person Completing Application: _____

Your Address: _____

Best phone number to reach you _____

Your Email Address: _____

Name and Contact Information of the Individual or Organization who will benefit from your request

Details of Purpose/Explanation of Request: _____

If granted, may we publicize the fulfillment of the request?

Yes, you may publicize

No, please do not publicize

DEADLINE/DISTRIBUTION INFORMATION

Deadline for Receipt of All Requests is December 1, 2019

Distribution of Funds for Successful Requests will be by December 31, 2019

Date to be Informed if Request is Not Successful is by December 18, 2019

For Zion's Use Only	
Request Granted:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Date:	_____
Initials:	_____