

Legacy: Honoring Christ, Carrying on the Faith

A few years ago, an online publication posted a challenge to write a six-word story, perhaps inspired by Ernest Hemingway's six-word classic: "For sale: baby shoes, never worn".

Pastor and author, John Ortberg, once imagined six-word stories of biblical characters with these gems:

- Moses: Burning Bush. Stone tablets. Charlton Heston.
- Adam: Eyes opened, but can't find home.
- Jonah: No. Storm. Overboard. Whale. Regurgitated. Yes.
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: King was hot. Furnace was not.
- Esther: Eye candy. Mordecai handy. Israel dandy.
- Noah: Hated the rain, loved the rainbow.

The book *Not Quite What I Was Planning* produced tales of nostalgic romance that was never to be ("Found true love, married someone else") to heartbreaking regrets ("After Harvard, had baby with crackhead") to funny quips ("The psychic said I'd be richer") to tear-jerking tales ("Cursed with cancer. Blessed with friends"), the last one written by a nine year old boy with thyroid cancer.

What is your six-word story of your life?

For Christians, I wonder whether our six-word story might include the kind of legacy that you will leave behind.

- Family. Friends. Faith. God is good.
- Faith. Hope. Love. Legacy of Jesus.
- Life is relationships. God is faithful.
- Striving to impact lives through Christ.

As Christians, how do we sing a beautiful song with our lives by finishing well "the race God has set before us" (Heb. 12:1)?

My hope is that you would begin to consider what your faith-inspired, Christ-centered legacy might be. What will be your six-word story that you will leave in your wake?

My prayer is that Christians would consider it a supreme joy and immense privilege to "leave a legacy" to their church family: a story which beautifully sings of your trust in Jesus, your love of God, and your desire to pass along the legacy of faith to the next generations.

Whether you are young or old, I hope you will consider contributing to Trinity's endowment fund and/or putting into your will a generous gift for your church family.

There are so many memories we create together as a church family: Christmas concerts, Easter moments of "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!", Thanksgiving dinners, witnessing children and students warm up to the embrace of Jesus, small groups which strengthened you for the journey of life, moments in our sanctuary where the Lord seemed to speak directly to you, and so many more!

I hope that your six-word story will include the word "legacy" whereby your faith in the Lord will carry on through your generosity so that new generations will worship Jesus Christ in this place we call home – Trinity Wellsprings Church.

Soli Deo Gloria!
To God alone be the glory!
Rev. Dr. Jason Carter
Senior Pastor



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Trinity Wellsprings Church Endowment Fund *You Can Build A Brighter Future Today*





LEAVING A LEGACY OF LOVE

Trinity Wellsprings Church Endowment Fund

We leave a legacy every day, in how we serve the Lord, relate to people, and especially how we nurture and guide children and grandchildren. The Endowment Fund of Trinity Wellsprings Church offers another way for us to leave a legacy for the future.

Trinity’s Endowment Fund supports Trinity’s mission to be and make fully alive missional disciples of Jesus Christ who overflow into our community and world. The Fund provides stewardship for special lifetime, trust, estate and/or memorial gifts, over and above regular tithes and offerings. We seek to be ready when God calls us to expand our work for His Kingdom.

Mission Ready

Trinity works with mission partners in our community and overseas. We devote at least 10 percent of our annual budget to missions. If a compelling need arises to help people in our community or to support missionaries overseas, we want to be able to answer the call to serve.

Ministry Ready

When there’s a new opportunity to bring people to Jesus, we may not have funds in the annual budget for new ministries. When there is a serious need to minister to our community, we want to be able to respond to those needs.

Disaster Ready

Trinity has been blessed and has avoided disastrous losses. We have funds reserved for repairs, but if we suffer severe damage we may need Endowment funds to rebuild facilities.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How can I make a gift to the Endowment Fund?

A. You can make a gift to the Endowment Fund by designating that the gift is for the Endowment Fund. It is Trinity’s hope that lifetime gifts to the Endowment Fund be over and above one’s usual tithes and offerings. You can give cash, a check, marketable securities, a paid-up life insurance policy, or designate The Endowment Fund of Trinity Wellsprings Church of Satellite Beach, Florida as a beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement asset, insurance policy, donor advised fund, or charitable gift account. For more information about types of gifts, you can contact Trinity’s treasurer, Seth Holman at sholman@trinitywellsprings.com or Trinity’s endowment partner, The Texas Presbyterian Foundation, at www.tpf.org or at 800-955-3155.

Q. What’s the difference between making a gift to Trinity without a designation for the Endowment Fund, and a gift with a designation for the Endowment Fund?

A. Our governing body, the elders elected by covenant partners to serve on Session, approve an annual budget each year to keep our facilities operating, to pay staff salaries, and to support our mission partners. That budget is built based on pledges made by the congregation, and other expected revenue, such as undesignated gifts. Session plans a balanced budget, to spend responsibly the undesignated funds that we receive. The Endowment Fund is used for purposes that go beyond the day-to-day expenses that are supported by the annual budget. The Endowment Fund is dedicated to building Trinity’s long term ministries. The Endowment Fund is prudently invested with the Texas Presbyterian Foundation and is ultimately distributed to promote Trinity activities that benefit not only current members, but also future generations of members who will carry forward the continuing work of building Jesus’ Kingdom.



Q. What kind of projects could my gift help to support?

A. The potential uses for the Endowment Fund are unlimited. It’s impossible to know in advance the faith building needs and ideas that might arise. Possibilities include:

- Reconstruct a building for expanding worship services or youth ministries.
- Fund emergency disaster relief missions in or beyond our community.
- Provide seed funding for new ministry challenges and opportunities.
- Provide funding for education scholarships, special trainings, retreats, and workshops.

Q. Are there tax benefits for making gifts to Trinity?

A. Yes, generally there are tax benefits for giving to Trinity. Bequests and gifts to Trinity are exempt from estate and gift taxes. Capital gains taxes on appreciated stock are often avoided by giving the stock to charity. If you’re over 70.5 years of age, a direct distribution of up to \$100,000 from your Individual Retirement Account is exempt from income tax. Texas Presbyterian Foundation, our nonprofit, faith-based investment partner, offers donor advised funds that facilitate a current income tax deduction for immediate or future gifts to charity, charitable gift annuities in which the donor reserves a lifetime income stream, and endowment funds that facilitate a current tax deduction while reserving the funds for future gifts to charity. You can contact TPF for information about these giving opportunities, and you should consult your financial professional to review exactly how these options would affect you.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.
1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)