St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church of Sweet Air

Finance Committee Gift Policy

Amended and approved by Council June 12, 2023

Policy Purpose- This policy ensures that all gifts to, or for the use of, St. John’s Lutheran Church are structured to provide maximum benefits for both the donor and the church.

1. St. John’s Lutheran Church of Sweet Air will accept as outright gifts or toward a pledge: securities or mutual funds that are traded on any recognized stock exchange or that have prices quoted daily and are readily marketable.
2. Gifts of personal and real property must be evaluated and appraised to determine that the costs to the church are accommodated prudently.
3. St. John’s Lutheran Church of Sweet Air shall acknowledge gifts and donations in a timely manner that respects and honors the donor and will provide the donor with a receipt letter with IRS disclosure.
4. The value of securities is determined by averaging the high and low trading price on the day the securities are received by St. John’s Lutheran Church of Sweet Air in accordance with the specific market.
5. Gifts shall be received with the assumption that they can be sold, and regarding stocks, sold immediately per our investment advisor.
6. Gifts of closely held or unlisted securities must be examined prior to acceptance for valuation and marketability.  The church council must approve all such proposed gifts prior to acceptance.
7. St. John’s Lutheran Church of Sweet Air reserves the right to decline certain gifts which are not in the best interest of the church, violate the church’s ethical standards, or are inconsistent with the church’s mission.
8. No volunteer or staff member will execute an agreement, contract or other legal document with any donor that differs from stated church policy and procedures without prior approval of the Church Council.
9. Overall responsibility for ensuring compliance with the requirements of the policy rests with the Council. All non-cash or restricted conditional gifts shall be reviewed first by the Finance Committee.
10. If anyone is interested in making a gift to the church, please contact the church office.

This policy will be posted as a link on our webpage.