

**Old Presbyterian Meeting House
Gift Acceptance Guidelines**

***Approved by the Session of the Old Presbyterian Meeting
House on February 23, 2009***

The Old Presbyterian Meeting House welcomes financial support from members of the congregation, the community and friends. The following policies and guidelines govern acceptance of present and future gifts made to benefit the Meeting House and to advance its missions.

The Session of the Meeting House has authorized the Meeting House to accept all appropriate gifts of real and personal property of all types and nature, including cash, securities, stocks, bonds, life insurance, retirement accounts, trusts, real estate, art, and personal property, unless acceptance might expose the Meeting House to potential legal liability or might not be in the best interests of the church. The gift may be made by outright gift, grant, transfer in trust, bequests in a will, assignment of life insurance or retirement accounts, or in any other manner approved by the Trustees. It is the policy and practice of the Meeting House to convert all non-cash gifts to cash as soon as possible; the cash proceeds will then be directed to the use designated by the donor as set forth in the donor's Declaration of Intent.

The most straightforward gifts from the standpoint of both the donor and the Meeting House are gifts of cash, stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. The Meeting House will normally also accept gifts that may require more complicated handling or documentation such as gifts of life insurance, retirement accounts, or interests in trusts. Because gifts of art and other personal property, and gifts of real property, involve special valuation and other potentially complex issues, they will need to be considered on a case by case basis.

Gifts may be tentatively accepted by the Senior Pastor or the Chair of the Planned Giving Committee. The final determination as to the acceptance or non-acceptance of a gift shall be made by the Trustees of the Meeting House, who shall have authority to decline a gift for any reason.

Representatives of the Meeting House are available to assist donors in structuring gifts that achieve the objectives of the donor and are consistent with the needs and policies of the Meeting House. Donors should always seek the advice of their attorney and tax and financial advisors when contemplating planned gifts.