

THE  
**McFARLIN**  
FOUNDATION









A warm hello, McFarlin!

John H. Schmidt was a gifted and successful entrepreneur. Known for selling kerosene as a young man, “Coal Oil Johnny” created and ran a diverse set of businesses, one of which continues to be passed down generation to generation. He drew plans for three successive houses and with the help of others built them for his family. And oh, how he delighted to hand-crank homemade ice cream with his grandkids!

I know a lot about this man because he was my grandfather—a creative, modest, hard-working man and a faithful church member. Every year when they harvested their 40-acre wheat field, Johnny would save and store enough bushels to seed the next crop and perpetuate the harvest.

He and his wife, Ella, believed in the future of their church’s mission for the community and with thoughtful planning, they left a generous legacy gift where today three generations of their grandchildren and many others

worship and serve. You could say they turned straw into gold—personal effort, the blessings of God and material gain into an enduring legacy. The apostle Paul used that metaphor of building with gold rather than straw to emphasize the eternal value of personal investment that has far-lasting impact and reward (1 Cor. 3:12-15).

This booklet introduces or re-introduces you to The McFarlin Foundation Endowment Fund opportunity. Investing in our Foundation is one of the best ways you can ensure that our church’s mission of Changing Lives That Change the World will thrive for generations to come.

I invite you to consider the delight of making decisions today that will help provide the world with the endurance of God’s love in Christ for generations to come.

*Pastor Rockford*  
Pastor Rockford

# Our Why & Hopes of a Foundation

Many in our church cherish the story of Mr. and Mrs. McFarlin giving all the funding needed to build a new Methodist Episcopal Church South in Norman out of gratitude for the love and care they received from the people called Methodist after the death of their son. They also established our first endowment which covered the salaries of the pastor and organist along with the cost of maintenance and upkeep.

Because of their initial generosity, we stand on and benefit from their legacy gift given at the beginning of our first century of serving Christ. As McFarlin enters our next century, we are turning efforts toward building on the momentum of the past 100 years to ensure the longevity and vitality of the church for future generations.

While all who call McFarlin their church home are incredibly generous with their annual pledges and offerings to sustain our mission of Changing Lives That Change the World, legacy giving to The McFarlin Foundation Endowment promises that McFarlin will be able to grow and sustain our mission and ministry

beyond our lifetimes, just as Mr. and Mrs. McFarlin did over a century ago.

Because of the generosity from so many, our McFarlin Endowment currently stands at just over \$5 million. This provides an annual payment of approximately \$200,000 to help support the growing needs of our programs, staff and building. We have a long-term goal of increasing our endowment to over \$84 million in order to fully fund the day-to-day staff, operations and maintenance of the church.

This will accomplish two visionary goals. One, there will be financial stability and confidence that 419 S. University Blvd. will continue to be a beacon of light in Norman and beyond for the next century. Two, without the stress and pressure of the recurring and rising cost of essential maintenance of our large and historic building, more of our annual giving can go directly to increasing program ministries for making disciples of Jesus Christ and bringing transformation to the world.









# Their Story is Now Our Story

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Over 100 years ago, Mr. and Mrs. McFarlin not only generously gave \$700,000 to build our sacred Sanctuary, but also set up a McFarlin family-funded endowment with a donation of \$200,000. They knew they could go above and beyond providing the initial funds to build this church, and that a growing church would need the financial security an endowment could give, freeing up the local church members' financial resources to go directly towards Changing Lives That Change the World.

As the boom of mainline denominations began to subside towards the late 20th century, Rev. Phil Fenn and Marion Bauman had similar foresight to begin a second endowment. This endowment was started with a generous \$1,000 gift, and with that momentum and inspiration it has now grown to over \$5 million, blessing this church with over \$200,000 towards our annual budget to sustain both our building and the ministries it hosts and deploys.

The generosity of the past is still alive and well today. Towards the end of 2022, Dr. Robert St. John passed away at 95 years of age. Robert, alongside his wife Phyllis, faithfully raised their family in McFarlin, supporting the church in countless ways over the course of his lifetime. Yet Robert wanted to leave a legacy that would extend past his life on this earth, intentionally preparing his legacy gift in a way that would continue giving back to the church that gave so much to him, supporting and energizing McFarlin for generations to come due to his gift.

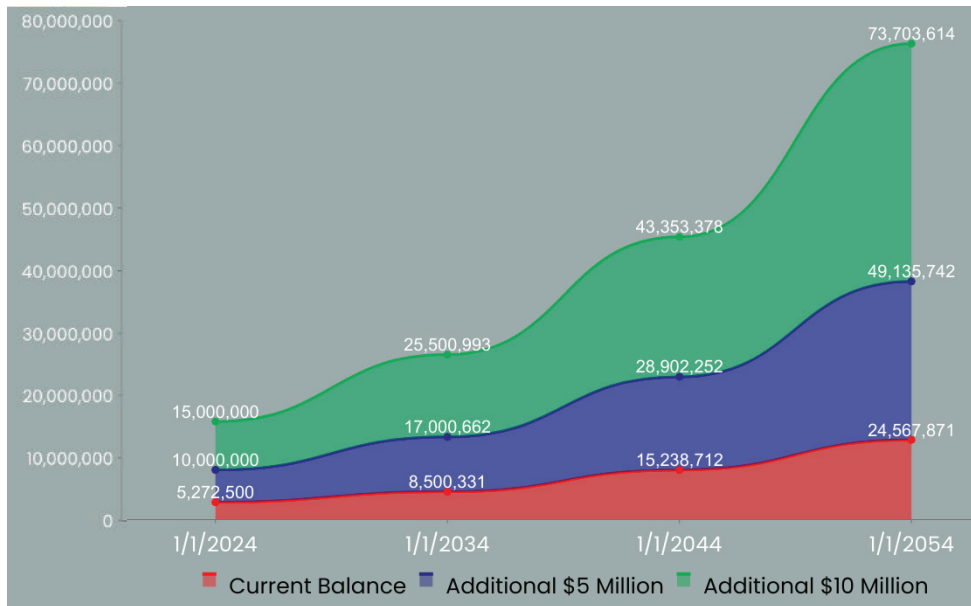
People like the McFarlins, Rev. Phil Fenn, Marion Bauman and Robert and Phyllis St. John are but a few of the many lifelong faithful members who have remembered McFarlin when thinking about their legacy. As we all stand on the shoulders of their legacy, who might one day stand on yours?



# Projections of Giving

## Annual Endowment Balance

While the goal of \$84 million or more in an endowment may sound lofty, it's one that can be reached with the joining together of all of our legacies over time. Your legacy gifts will grow increasingly due to the faithful additions of others and assisted by the faithful management of investments.



In this graph you will see where our current \$5 million balance as of January 2023 will naturally grow over time as is, and how much faster and larger it could grow.

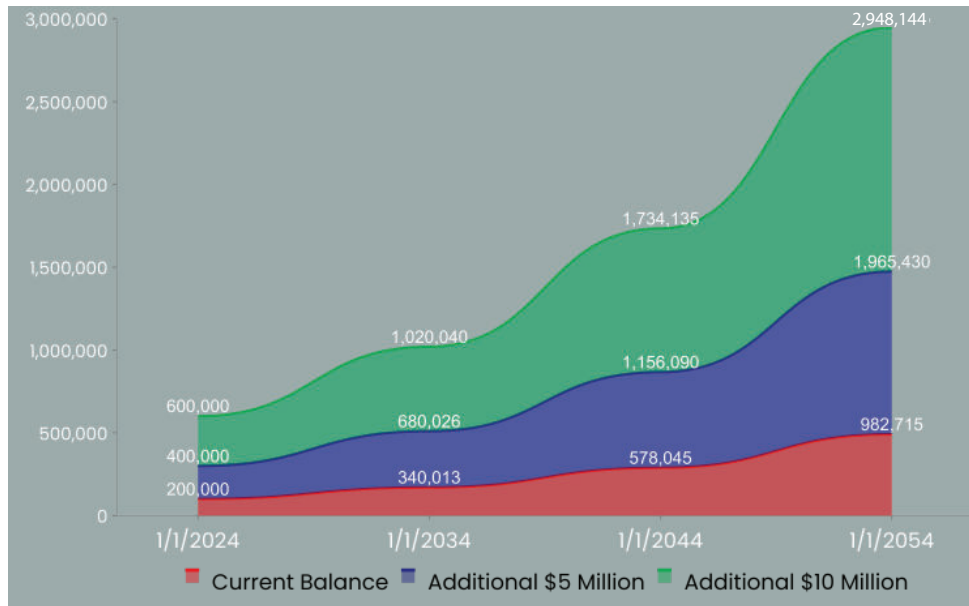
If we were to add \$5 million in one year, our projected growth in 30 years would be over \$49,000,000, almost \$25 million more than our current rate.

If \$10 million were added, in 30 years we would have a balance over \$73,000,000!



## Annual Endowment Distribution

Annually, our church receives a 4% distribution from the yearly balance of our endowment. This blessing supports our operations budget, particularly helping essential capital needs. As our endowment grows due to giving and compounding interest, we are able to free up our annual giving towards growing and essential ministries!



Currently, our \$5 million balance distributes \$200,000 to our annual budget. If our balance were to have \$5 million added to it, in 30 years we'd receive a blessing of almost \$2 million to support our budget and church.

Imagine an endowment with \$10 million added in, and 30 years of growth, blessing our church with an annual distribution of almost \$3,000,000!



# Our Future with a Foundation

Just as Jesus greatly increased the small lunch of one child so that thousands were fed, Holy Scripture is full of examples of God multiplying gifts to further establish the reign of God's grace.

Every dollar given to The McFarlin Foundation endures and is multiplied to continue the work of God and undergird vital ministry for generations to come. Yes, the \$84 million is a significant number. So, too, is the impact of McFarlin's mission and ministry to countless people.

Imagine a fully-funded operating budget so that annual stewardship gifts go directly to a variety of existing and new life-changing ministries. Imagine increasing our already robust Food Pantry Ministries

for families. What would be the impact of extra funding to children's, youth and music ministry for all ages? How many more buses could we fill with youth going down to south Texas during our Spring Break Mission Trip? Imagine the continued beauty and ministry function of our building with over \$1 million annual building upkeep and capital improvements as needed! Imagine what might be possible if all our annual giving went directly to Worship, Discipleship, Missions, Care, Evangelism and Witness ministries? How many more lives would be changed, and how might the world be changed in and through McFarlin?







# How & Why to Give

Supporting the McFarlin Foundation can be done in numerous ways. When you make a legacy gift, whether during this life or through end-of-life planning, you are investing in ministry that maintains its significance into eternity. Part of the sense of satisfaction that comes from making a planned gift lies in the knowledge that you can make a lasting impact, leaving a gift and a legacy for generations. For as Jesus reminds us, “where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” When you give to The McFarlin Foundation, your heart for God’s mission through McFarlin keeps on giving every year for all the generations to come.

All who call McFarlin their church home have their own reason for worshiping and serving here. For some, this

has been and will forever be your home. For others, it’s the mission and ministry that has brought you here to faithfully serve. For all of us, McFarlin is home because here in this building and sent out from here to live and serve we have both discovered and engaged in the tremendous love and grace of God in Jesus Christ with family, friends and all who find a home of faith with us.

There will always be people who need the people, place and Christ-centered ministry of McFarlin. Whatever has brought you here, we believe God is at work in you and among us all. We need your help to secure the future.



# The McFarlin Foundation

Is God calling you to invest in the future of McFarlin ministries?  
The McFarlin Foundation can help you make faithful decisions as you plan for your estate.  
Here are some ways to share your blessings both now and into the future.

	Type of Gift	Benefits	Beneficiary
Gifts That Take Effect After Your Lifetime	<i>Bequest</i>	Charitable deduction for taxable estates, allows you to make a large gift at no immediate cost to you	McFarlin UMC is the future beneficiary
	<i>Life Insurance</i>	Allows you to make a large gift at less cost to you	McFarlin UMC is the future beneficiary
	<i>Retirement Plans</i>	Avoid double taxation of retirement assets, The Foundation applies the full amount of plan assets to the church or ministry you choose	McFarlin UMC is the future beneficiary
	<i>Retained Life Estate</i>	Current income tax deduction, potential estate tax savings	You retain lifetime beneficial use of property McFarlin UMC receives future rights to property
Gifts That Pay You Income	<i>Charitable Gift Annuity</i>	Current income tax deduction, portion of payments may be tax free, fixed and predictable payments	One or two beneficiaries McFarlin UMC is future residual beneficiary
	<i>Charitable Remainder Trust</i>	Current income tax deduction, bypass capital gains tax, diversification of investments, payments for life and/or term of years	One or more income beneficiaries McFarlin UMC is future residual beneficiary
Gifts That Can Be Used Today	<i>Outright</i>	Current income tax deduction, bypass capital gains tax, enjoy the gift during your lifetime	McFarlin UMC is the immediate beneficiary







# Contact Us

If you have any questions about The McFarlin Foundation Endowment Fund or would like to set up a meeting to prepare your gift, you can always contact McFarlin's Business Administrator Stephen Mitchell at 405-321-3484, ext. 177 or [smitchell@mcfarlinumc.org](mailto:smitchell@mcfarlinumc.org).

Just by reading this booklet and dreaming about the continued great work God will do in and through McFarlin, you are part of McFarlin's future foundation. TOGETHER we can leave a legacy like Mr. and Mrs. McFarlin did before us so that through McFarlin God might continue Changing Lives That Change the World!







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