



# St. Paul Lutheran Church

## Guidelines for

### PLACEMENT OF GIFTS IN THE SANCTUARY

This policy is to assure that gifts presented to St. Paul Lutheran with the intent of physical installation in the sanctuary are appropriate, meaningful and beneficial to worship. While it is the intent of St. Paul Lutheran to accept all gifts graciously, it is especially important to ensure that the sanctuary remain a place of worship first and everything in it is to be simply “to the Glory of God.”

To this end, the following points need to be considered:

- Physical installations should not distract
- The sanctuary is not a private memorial space
- The sanctuary should not be “over-filled”
- The objects in the sanctuary should not be emotionally charged
- Items should be conducive to promoting our attention on the present and towards the future; not turning us to the past

When a gift for the sanctuary is presented for consideration, an ad hoc team will be convened for thorough and thoughtful deliberation and discernment.

The team shall consist of member(s) of the following teams/committees:

- Altar Guild
- Congregational Council
- Worship, Art and Music (WAM)
- Banner
- Pastor\*

*\*The Pastor shall be included on this team, especially as an advisor and source of information.*

The team shall meet and form a recommendation as to the acceptance of the gift/item for display in the sanctuary. The recommendation shall be forwarded to the Congregational Council for their review. If the Council approves the recommendation, the gift/item can go forward and arrangements can be made for display and/or installation. If the item is deemed to not be a good fit for the sanctuary, the team may make a recommendation for alternative placement.

An inventory of needed or desired items for the sanctuary (or other areas of the church) should be maintained for consideration. This inventory will be kept in the church office and reviewed and updated as needed.

Responsible Team	SPPRT
Guidelines Created	March 2018
Approved by Church Council	April 17, 2018
Review on	
Revised	-