

Schaefer honors parents with endowment



Clay Schaefer

Clay Schaefer has been connected to Saint Meinrad Archabbey since childhood. He attended St. Paul Elementary School in nearby Tell City, IN, and served as an altar boy at St. Paul Catholic Church. At the end of each school year, there was a picnic at Saint Meinrad's Monte Cassino Shrine, where the altar boys played games in the orchard field.

"Going back many years, I still remember my dad driving to Saint Meinrad when the Archabbey had meat and cheese processing facilities. We often had some of that eaten before we got home," says Schaefer.

After graduation from Tell City High School, Schaefer went on to study accounting at Western Kentucky University. In 1970, he moved to Dallas, TX, to work for Deloitte as a certified public accountant. His career also included working in the international operations of oil- and gas-related companies.

He spent 48 years living in Texas before moving back to Tell City in 2018 to be closer to his siblings. Over the years, Saint Meinrad and the Catholic Church have become places of peace and comfort.

He would sometimes stay a night at the Saint Meinrad Guest House when visiting home so he could attend Mass or a prayer service in the Archabbey Church.

In 1989, Schaefer established a scholarship fund in honor of his mother and father, Raymond and Genevieve Schaefer. The fund helps pay for educational expenses for students attending Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology.

"Having an endowment named for my parents is a way to show my appreciation for being blessed with parents who raised and sacrificed for us, and guided us in the right direction," says Schaefer.

Schaefer comes from a close-knit family. He had three brothers and one sister growing up. His mother was a nurse and the peacekeeper in the family. She volunteered as a nurse in the U.S. Army for two years during World War II, serving in the Middle East, North Africa

Continued on next page





**Rt. Rev. Kurt Stasiak, OSB
Archabbot of Saint Meinrad**

Dear Friends,

During my years in the monastery, I have learned that every benefactor to Saint Meinrad has a story.

For some, their inspiration for sharing their gifts with us is a reflection of their family upbringing. Growing up, they witnessed their parents helping a neighbor, giving to those in need or sharing their bounty with others.

Other benefactors are “paying it forward” in gratitude for a gift they were given or a favor they received in a time of need.

And others connect deeply to our mission and wish to be a part of our prayer and work, whether it’s educating Church leaders, welcoming guests or learning more about our spirituality.

Whatever your reason for making a gift, please know that our gratitude for these gifts is unceasing. We pray daily for all of you who partner with us. Together we can continue our mission of “Seeking God and Serving the Church.”

+ Kurt Stasiak, OSB

and Italy. Both of his parents also volunteered for various organizations in Tell City.

Schaefer believes his desire to serve others was instilled by his parents. When he lived in Dallas, he volunteered for Catholic Charities as an English teacher for refugees, mostly from Nepal, Myanmar and Somalia. He also volunteered at the Ladies of Charity Thrift Store, helping provide lunches for homeless people.

Since retiring in 2012, he has completed two family history books that are housed in the national Library of Congress and he continues to research his family’s genealogy. He is also looking into volunteer opportunities around Tell City.

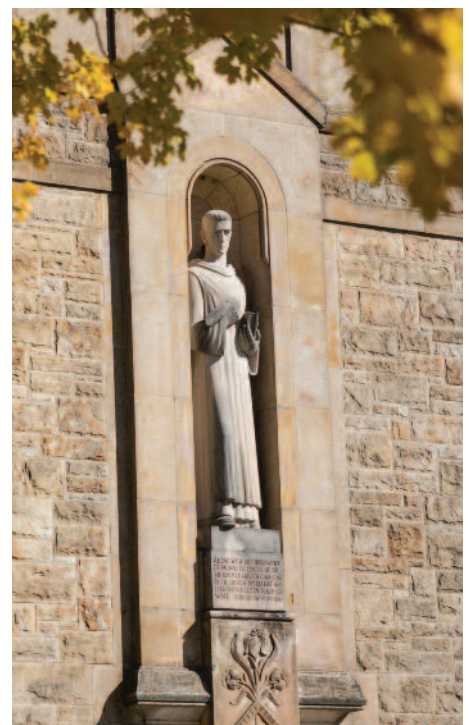
Setting up a scholarship endowment at Saint Meinrad is another way Schaefer models the generosity he witnessed from his mother and father.

An endowment is an investment fund created by a donor for a nonprofit organization. As the fund grows, the interest earned is used for the purpose identified in advance by the donor (for

scholarships, in Schaefer’s case), while the principal remains intact.

Endowments offer tax benefits for the donor and they ensure that the donor’s philanthropy continues in perpetuity.

“God has been good to me and the Roman Catholic Church has given me peace and guidance in my life,” says Schaefer. “Setting up a scholarship is a way to help Saint Meinrad provide an environment for priests and lay persons to continue providing peace and guidance for generations.” ♦



“Establishing an endowment ensures that your support of Saint Meinrad continues in perpetuity. It also demonstrates to family members and others your commitment to Saint Meinrad and its work for the Catholic Church.”

Duane Schaefer, Vice President for Development

The Gift That Keeps On Giving

Saint Meinrad is blessed with many friends, benefactors and supporters. Some of them see the benefit of giving a gift that continues to give for years and years. They have established an endowment to support Saint Meinrad in its mission.

There are many reasons why benefactors choose to make endowment gifts to Saint Meinrad. So, why consider establishing an endowment? It really depends on your objectives; however, here are five we hear from our friends.

1. **Personal Satisfaction.**

Making a real difference by doing something important and lasting is highly satisfying. Many donors tell us that having their family name on a fund fulfills one of their highest personal ambitions while honoring loved ones.

2. **Strengthening Saint Meinrad.**

We will always need to raise funds to sustain our facilities, programs and personnel. However, the annual endowment payout eases some of the financial pressure. Having a strong endowment allows Saint Meinrad to have a financially stable future.

3. **The Name Lives On.**

A donor's name can be attached to an endowment

fund, and because the funds are permanent, this legacy will carry that name in perpetuity and perhaps influence future generations in the family.

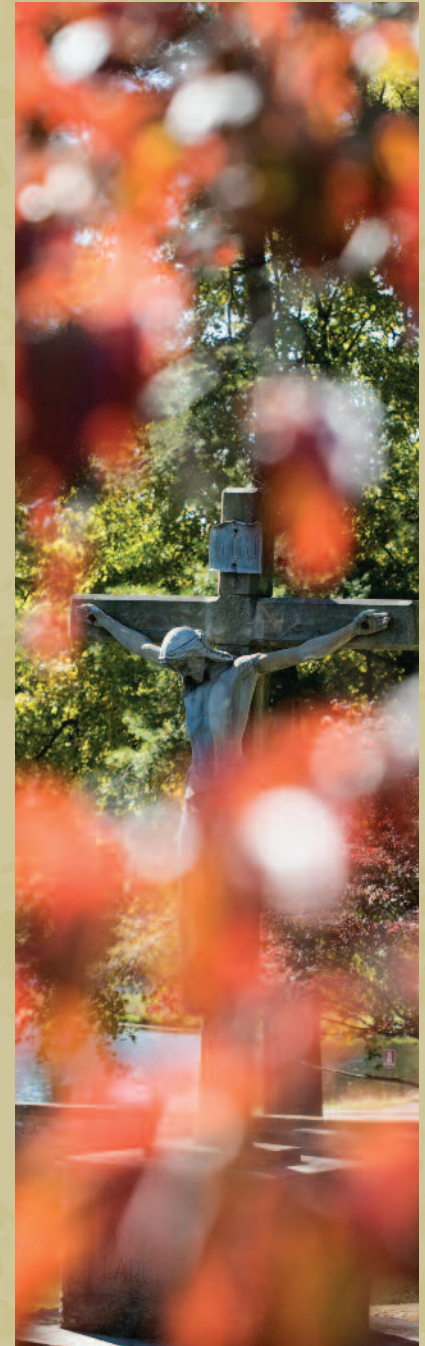
4. **Continue Annual Gifts.**

Some friends recognize that their regular gifts each year will be missed once they can no longer be made. To continue the pattern, they create an estate gift that is 25 times the amount they currently give each year to Saint Meinrad. For example, Marie and Thomas, who give \$1,000 annually, can endow these contributions by making a one-time gift of \$25,000.

5. **Permanence.**

Many friends see a connection between their retirement funds and our endowment funds. Both are protected and managed separately, so the principal retains its purpose. Our endowments are managed like a retirement account, providing needed income in a predictable way.

To learn more about Saint Meinrad's endowments, contact Duane Schaefer, Vice President for Development. Duane can assist you with additional needs for information and answer any of your questions regarding our endowments. Call (800) 682-0988 or email him at dschaefer@saintmeinrad.edu. ♦



Neither the author, the publisher, nor this organization is engaged in rendering legal or tax advisory service. For advice or assistance in specific cases, the services of an attorney or other professional advisor should be obtained. The purpose of this publication is to provide accurate and authoritative information of a general character only. Watch for tax revisions. State laws govern wills, trusts and charitable gifts made in a contractual agreement. Advice from legal counsel should be sought when considering these types of gifts. © Saint Meinrad Archabbey, 2019.

Help us carry on God's work.



By choosing a Saint Meinrad Charitable Gift Annuity, you can support our mission of educating priests, permanent deacons and lay ministers for the Church and receive income for life. Tax benefits also are available through a gift annuity.



Saint Meinrad

For further information, contact Duane Schaefer at:
Development Office
Saint Meinrad Archabbey and
Seminary & School of Theology
200 Hill Drive, St. Meinrad, IN 47577-1301
(800) 682-0988
(812) 357-6501
(812) 357-6759 (fax)
development@saintmeinrad.edu
www.saintmeinrad.edu
www.saintmeinrad.org

