



Newsletter Articles

Use one per month for this quarter.

How to make a gift without missing a thing

Often when we make a gift to a friend, relative, or our church, we have to give something up. When we shop, we must pay for our purchase. When we take someone to eat, we must pay the bill. Did you know you can make a big difference for the ministry of our church and for yourself, and not give anything away – at least not anything you would miss? You can include a gift in your will to benefit our church or your favorite ministry with a few simple words. The effect can be tremendous.

Everyone should have a will. Those with a will should update it regularly. If you don't have a will, make an appointment with your attorney to draft one. If you have one, call your attorney and ask if it needs updating. Drafting or revising an estate plan is surprisingly simple and almost everyone who does is glad they did.

Perhaps the best part of including a gift in your will is that you can live every day knowing you have secured a legacy that matches your life's goals. You will be remembered for the good you did and for the impact you made on the future.

To learn more about how to include the church in your will or estate plan, contact the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation at 800-259-6863, or visit them on the web at www.okumf.org.

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over for more



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One simple act. Many great results.

The next time you are in line at the post office, bank or movie theater consider this: only one in three people around you has a will. As you ponder the people in line with you, it does not matter how rich, poor, young or old they may be. The simple fact is that most people in this country do not have a legally binding will or estate plan.

Wills and the reasons why people write them, or fail to write them, are legendary. In one of the most famous cases, a judge ruled Howard Hughes died without a will and his \$2.5 billion estate was split among 22 relatives, even though one person claimed to have found Hughes' will on a church desk, and another said the will was found in a Nevada gas station.

Take time to talk with your family and your advisors about what is important to you and what passions, ideals and good works you want to continue beyond your lifetime. It is a great opportunity to let your family and cherished causes know just how important they are to you.

If you need help finding an attorney or want more information, the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation is an estate and legacy planning resource for the Oklahoma United Methodist Church. Visit their website at www.okumf.org and request your copy of *A Christian's Guide to Planning Your Will or Trust*. The guide and the online videos will help you move through the process of creating a will. Planning and providing for your loved ones can be an uplifting and positive experience. Please contact the Foundation if you have any questions or need additional information, 800-259-6863.

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Outlining the story of your life

Have you ever thought about what things you would quickly gather if there was a fire, tornado or other emergency? If yes, then you have already done many of the things that are important in making an estate plan. In reality, an estate plan is nothing more and nothing less than a listing of what you have (or expect to have) and what you want done. It is arranging for the things you have to go to the people or organizations you want to have them.

Once you have made the decision to have a will (or update the one you already have), call the Oklahoma United Methodist Foundation at 800-259-6863 and ask for a free *Christian's Guide to Planning Your Will or Trust*.

Writing your plan is easy, especially when compared with the cost and trouble of trying to determine your wishes when you are not here to explain them. Writing a will with the guide and your attorney is so easy that you will be glad you did, and so will those you care about.

Have you considered including a provision for a United Methodist cause in your will or estate plan. You can use this method to establish an endowment fund to benefit your local church or favorite United Methodist ministry, and the effect can be tremendous.

Perhaps the best part of including a gift in your will is knowing you have secured a legacy matching your life's goals. You will be remembered for the good you did and impact you made.

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