

## When should I consider making a gift to the Church?

Whenever plans are being made to meet with an estate planner or an attorney to prepare end of life documents such as a will, health care power of attorney, durable power of attorney, living will or trust, we can seek the Lord's guidance. Recalling Christ's example of preparing his disciples for his death, we can more assuredly prepare for our own death. By Gifting others with our legacy of prior planning, we will feel gifted ourselves.

By writing provisions into our wills which bequest a portion of our accumulated assets, we are continuing the partnership we so valued during our lifetimes.

## How will the Church use my gift?

As with all annual and special gifts, bequests can be designated or non-designated, and provide an opportunity to continue our witness for those ministries of the church we deemed important while we lived. There are several special endowment funds in the church foundation that gifts can be directed to, or your gift can be used to help eliminate the church mortgage and underwrite all the ministries of the church.

## UPC Legacy Circle

We would like you to be a part of the **Legacy Circle** of United Presbyterian Church, those faithful disciples who have made, or plan to make, a last gift to God through the mission and ministry of UPC.

A member of the Giving Committee, or Pastor, would be glad to speak with you about how you can make Gifting to God through UPC part of your legacy of faith.

### Start the conversation

- YES I have included United Presbyterian Church in my estate plans.
- YES I'd like to consider including United Presbyterian Church in my estate plans.

Members of the United Presbyterian Church staff or Giving Committee are prepared to meet confidentially with any who are considering Gifting the church. Please provide the following information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Those wishing to know more details about Gifting possibilities should contact the church office, at 309-693-2002 or turn in this form to the office or in the offering plate on Sunday morning.



# United Presbyterian Church

of Peoria, Illinois

Sharing the love and grace of God with all

## Estate and Planned Gifting

**"Where Your Treasure is, there your heart will be also" Matthew 6:21**

*Gifting* is the concept of turning our musts, our shoulds, our responsibilities, and our obligations into no-strings gifts for our families, church, and community. From God's very gift of the life we each live, flows a natural desire to gift others with the abundance we have known.

Through *Gifting*, we leave a legacy of trust and expectation that those whom we valued most in life will understand the depth of their impact upon us and be comforted in our absence.

*Gifting* is the concept that allows us to live confidently and prepare for our own deaths with assurance and peace.

## Following Christ's Example

There is Christ's own example of Gifting to embrace. Didn't Jesus plan for his death? Loving and caring for his disciples, didn't he choose to prepare them for the events of his death and resurrection, thus strengthening them for the tasks that would follow?

In a number of ways Christ told his disciples he was going to die. By assuring his followers that God would continue to provide for them through the presence of the Holy Spirit, he equipped the people of his church with a legacy of guidance and encouragement for each other; and in giving the gift of the sacrament of communion at the Last Supper, Christ left us a way to honor his sacrifice and death.

By example then, we are led to prepare for our own deaths, remembering that all that we have, all that we are, all that we will ever be has been loaned to us by God with the expectation that we partner with God towards God's goals. Jesus spoke boldly of money and possessions. He recognized that both good and evil could come from having them, and as his followers came together, Jesus offered clear guidance:

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind...love your neighbor as yourself.*  
Matthew 22: 37-39



## Giving for the Future

**Giving is a prayer of thanks and a promise for the future.**

For generations, members of United Presbyterian Church have offered thanks for the community of fellowship and faithful service they have found in this congregation. By remembering the church in their wills, and other forms of planned giving, they have helped to sustain the mission and ministries of UPC for generations to come.

Planned giving is a way that each of us can make a final gift, a return to God of some portion of all that God has given to us. The practice of planned giving encourages us to look beyond our monthly budget and our annual pledge to consider the gifts we will make to the church when our need for worldly assets is done. For many of us, our final gifts will be the most significant gifts we will ever make. We hope that you consider this church as your legacy – a blessing in your life, and one that you will gratefully pass along.



## How do I leave a gift for the Church?

Just as we plan for the welfare of our families and communities in life, we plan for the health of our church community through our pledges and other gifts. Many times we struggle to do all this, but the yearning to tithe nags at us, and we continue to reach.

Gifting United Presbyterian Church can be accomplished through provisions when we have our will drawn, or codicils added to an existing will.

### Ways to Gift United Presbyterian Church

#### Bequests

Made through a provision in a will as it is drawn, or added as a codicil to an existing will, bequests can be for a stated amount (or an estate percentage), and can be undesignated or designated.

#### Properties

Residences, land, commercial use property, or other real property may be gifted directly or through a bequest.

#### Insurance

The church may be named beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or the policy may be gifted directly to the church.

#### Securities

This most common form of non-cash charitable gift includes both stocks and bonds, which may be given by legal transfer.

#### Charitable Remainder Trust

This form of planned giving provides an annual income for the donor with the remainder specified to the church.