 **LWML Gifts of Love Ministry**

**July Newsletter Article**

In most communities, firework displays have been cancelled due to COVID. That might leave you scratching your head, wondering what you are going to do this year to celebrate the 4th of July. It could be that you have always staked out the same spot each year. Maybe friends and family have joined you there. What will you do now that life has changed? Does this mean that Independence Day has lost its purpose?

Loss of purpose is scary. We often live a big part of our lives without any “purpose” associated with what will happen to the financial gifts found in our estates after the Lord has called us home. That can be scary too! Sometimes, we don’t know how to begin addressing that purpose and organizing ourselves so that we can put together a purposeful plan, using legal documents prepared by our attorneys to direct gifts to Godly design. You are not alone. Nearly half of all Americans have yet to complete this work.

“Fred” and “Mary” had procrastinated throughout their marriage, never wanting to spend the time and navigate the legal complexities of getting everything in order. Finally, they partnered with an LWML Gift Planning Counselor to begin organizing their plans, understanding the entire scope of gifts the Lord had given them to manage. Through a few weeks of planning and lots of prayer, they completed their plan. At the end they shared, “It feels so good to have this in place!” Godly purpose feels good, for it resonates with God’s design for our creation.

You may not be able to reinject purpose into the 4th of July this year without fireworks. But you can apply purpose to your estate plans. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help.

**July Bulletin Sentences**

July 5, 2020

Does life matter? Am I making a difference? Recent events have caused most of us to reconnect with our understanding of how “short” our present lives are. Yet instead of saying, “I only have one life to live, I better do the best I can,” as followers of Jesus we respond, “I have been called into an amazing inheritance in God’s Kingdom in Jesus. I want to impact as many people possible with that gift.” Crafting a statement that puts your faith into words can be an important tool for family conversations today, or a final statement you place in your will. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor is ready to assist you in writing this statement. Contact…

July 12, 2020

Does life matter? King Solomon in Ecclesiastes said, “…sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil.” Will your life efforts, summarized by your financial assets, be such folly? Or would you like to create a meaningful plan for inheritance gifts to family and gifts to ministry as well? Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you make those gifts with purpose. Contact…

July 19, 2020

Does life matter? If the Lord is leading you with a sense of desire to leave an estate gift to support “ministry”, who should receive that gift? Should it be aimed toward your congregation, or some other missionary or educational support? Would it help you to have someone ask you some questions to lead you to confident purpose? Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you. Contact…

July 26, 2020

Does life matter? The value of life is not based on assets accumulated or popularity with the most people. Value of days is utterly connected with constant witness to Jesus. Do you ever let your humbleness convince you that you really can’t do much? Even a “modest” gift from an estate may be part of God’s plan to supply crucial future ministry needs, all with an aim at sharing Jesus with a world that desperately needs the life He alone can give. Each one works with whatever gifts God provides. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you focus that work through your estate. Contact…

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