 **LWML Gifts of Love Ministry**

**July Newsletter Article**

Helen was married for fifty-two years. Her husband Ralph was called home last year. This year, responding to her attorney, Helen finally made an appointment to meet with her attorney to review her will, which she had created twenty-five years ago with her husband. Before going to the attorney, Helen met with her LWML Gift Planning Counselor to consider her charitable gifting plan. She was shocked to find gifts she planned from her estate long ago were no longer appropriate. One gift was to a women’s shelter sponsored by her congregation that closed just last year. One was to support a specific missionary who had served in Asia for fifty years but had retired seven years ago. One gift was designated for a ministry that she had never heard about. She said to the Gift Planning Counselor, “I am not sure if I should put a plan in place again because it might get outdated.”

The counselor pointed out two things. The gift to the missionary had a definite expiration date to it. Every missionary’s service will come to an end at some time. A better gift would have designated the ministry that was placing the missionary. Beyond that, the counselor emphasized that a ministry gifting plan is based on the best plan for that current moment in time. It requires regular review, at least every five years, to make sure that it is keeping up with changes. Her fears could be addressed by simply committing to this regular review. Helen felt better.

Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you think through appropriate ministry gifts that are not as prone to having an expiration date. They can also regularly review your plan, making sure it is up to date. Contact…

**July Bulletin Sentences**

**July 3, 2022**

What if I sense a desire to make an estate gift but am unsure about the status of ministries in the future? The first step in responding to this concern is to have a serious conversation with a leader from the ministry or ministries that are on your mind. You can ask that leader about where they see the future for ministry in 20 years. That can be a wonderful conversation that could produce value way beyond the scope of the gift you are considering planning. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can assist you in facilitating this conversation. Contact…

**July 10, 2022**

What if I sense a desire to make an estate gift but am unsure about the status of ministries in the future? There are several gift planning tools you can use to construct some level of flexibility to the gift, so that it may be directed appropriately in the future. One of those is a personal endowment fund. You can name a ministry of your choice, and include language, that if that ministry no longer exists, the funds of the endowment be directed to another ministry with parallel purpose. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you think this through. Contact…

**July 17, 2022**

What if I sense a desire to make an estate gift but am unsure about the status of ministries in the future? There are several gift planning tools you can use to construct some level of flexibility to the gift, so that it may be directed appropriately in the future. One of those is a Donor Advised Fund. You can fund a Donor Advised Fund when the Lord calls you home. You name an advisor who will guide the distributions to ministries consistent with your ministry interests. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you think this through. Contact…

**July 24, 2022**

What if I sense a desire to make an estate gift but am unsure about the status of ministries in the future? It is possible that some of your apprehension may come from purposes at odds with God’s will. It is possible that you really could be giving a non-cash asset to your ministry now, instead of waiting until the Lord calls you home. Maybe you have never thought or prayed about this. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you think through your possibilities and assist you in making a gift now that will bless ministry today. Contact…

**July 31, 2022**

What if I sense a desire to make an estate gift but am unsure about the status of ministries in the future? Some of our anxiety about estate gifts stem from a perception that we need to control “our things” from the grave. It is important to remember that we are only planning for the gifting of God’s things, since all things are His. There is grace in that realization. There is peace there. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can have conversation with you about your gifting anxieties, finding the joy of giving. Contact…

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