 **LWML Gifts of Love Ministry**

**January Newsletter Article**

Sharon was having coffee with her good friend, Karen, a week after Christmas. Sharon was sharing how much fun she had giving gifts to her family over Christmas. Karen shook her head, indicating she was very displeased with the same experience in her family. When pressed by Sharon for the reason for that reaction, Karen said, “They are all so entitled. They just expect things and don’t really appreciate the gift.”

Teaching each other to appreciate “the gift” is why God designed families. It begins with appreciating the gift of Jesus to be our Savior. That faith then spreads out into thankfulness and appreciation for all the items shared and the time and energy expended. Teaching an understanding of gifting is crucial to a Christian family.

Planning your Christian estate is a crucial element of teaching gifting. As you put the pieces of your plan together, you can celebrate with family how the gifts you have planned for them will bless them someday. You can encourage them in advance to receive the gifts with thanksgiving and begin to think about how they will also become good givers. You can share with family the reasons why you are planning gifts to support ministry, making it possible for ministries to share Jesus even after the Lord has called you home to heaven. You can invite family to celebrate those ministry gifts as well.

Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can assist you in putting your plan together and preparing you for family celebration of the gifts of God. Contact…

**January Bulletin Sentences**

**January 1, 2023**

Happy New Year! A new year gives fresh opportunity to respond to all of God’s gifts, applying them to every circumstance and relationship in the hope of sharing Jesus. All of life is about using God’s gifts for doing God’s things. That is true for our estate plans as well. Our estates are full of God’s gifts. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you consider this perspective. Contact…

**January 8, 2023**

Our estates are full of God’s gifts. Our response to that truth is faithful management of His gifts for His work. As we plan for gifts to family we look to stay away from the arena of entitlement, dispensing what is owed, and look instead to gifting our families with God’s gifts, expecting God to cause life in Jesus to abound. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you keep your estate plans in the arena of gifting. Contact…

**January 15, 2023**

Our estates are full of God’s gifts. Sometimes, God’s people sense a tension brought on by considering directing gifts to support ministry when the Lord calls them home, fearing ministry gifts might rob family of what is due to them. That is really a false tension, as all our gifting from our estates is aimed at blessing people with God’s gracious gifts, according to His plan and design. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can begin talking and praying with you to understand the personal plan that makes sense for estate gifts from your life. Contact…

**January 22, 2023**

Our estates are full of God’s gifts. Often, families are strained and torn by family members expressing a sense of entitlement to the gifts present in their parents’ estates. This is hard to resolve when children are later in adult years themselves. The time to begin teaching about it is when the children are younger. However, your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can work with you to create your own way of communicating to family that the things they will receive from your estate will be gifts. Contact…

**January 29, 2023**

Our estates are full of God’s gifts. One of the greatest joys of life God gives us is to give away His gifts and to be able to see the joyful response of those receiving. Through it all, we aim to share Jesus, with the families we love and the ministries we support. Putting a plan together to bless both family and ministry is an honor. Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor can help you get started. Contact…

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