

WINTER 2017: TURN IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION YOUR LIFE & YOUR GOALS MAKE YOUR GIVING GO FURTHER

PERSONAL PLANNING NEWSLETTER



Begin Your PHILANTHROPIC JOURNEY

Take a Turn in the **Right Direction**

Experts say we will soon "drive" self-driving cars that can take us where we want to go while allowing us to sit back and sleep, play chess, read or do anything else that helps us relax.

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P lanning is an important step in your journey

R emember to provide for the people and United Methodist causes you care about

N)ever has there been a better time than now

D)on't leave your legacy to chance

1) Receive your free estate planning guide

2 Contact us and begin exploring customized planning options created just for you

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While that may be the future, most people are not ready to turn over control and trust selfdriving cars. Can a self-driving car get you where you want to go? Will it stay on the road? How will it handle something unexpected?

When it comes to our future and the safety and care of loved ones, many of us would not relinquish control to a car that was on auto-pilot. What if it did not work as intended? Yet, when it comes to our finances, healthcare and our estate plan, many of us have freely chosen to give up control to a system that is random and ill-equipped to make the kind of decisions we can best make ourselves. Under state law, if you are incapacitated or pass away without a plan someone else will make important decisions that could affect you and your loved ones. For example, if you die without a will or trust, a court will determine how your assets are distributed and that may happen in a way that does not reflect your wishes.

Don't leave your legacy to chance. It's easier than you might think to write a will and provide for the people and United Methodist causes that mean the most to you. We can help you gather the information necessary to create your plan using our estate planning guide.

Contact us to request your free guide. Also, let us know if you plan to include your United Methodist church and/or favorite ministry in your estate plans so we can make sure your gift goes to help the causes that mean the most to you.

Get in the Driver's Seat!

75% of Americans use Facebook **60%** of Americans have cellphones

of Americans have smartphones

icans phones Only **50%** of Americans have a will. One of the most important things you can do with

your time is to put together a plan to provide for family and to support the United Methodist causes you care about.



Legacy

Your Life & Your Goals

While the world may not be quite ready for a self-driving car, it is nice to imagine a car that could give you peace of mind by avoiding traffic jams, save you time by getting you to your destination sooner and which could save you money by reducing fuel consumption.

While we can't give you a car, we can help give you peace of mind and help you save time and money.

Most of your wealth is probably invested in your home, a bank or other investment accounts. These assets can all be transferred to your loved ones or benefit a United Methodist cause without you ever writing a will. By making a simple change, these assets can go automatically to the beneficiaries you select.

- Life Insurance Complete a beneficiary designation form, designating a person or charitable beneficiary for your life insurance policy.
- **IRA** Complete a beneficiary designation form to benefit the people and causes most important to you. Many administrators now make these forms available online.
- Investment, Checking and Retirement Accounts List your loved ones or your favorite United Methodist causes as payable on death beneficiaries on a form provided by your account administrator.
- **Real Estate** Give your property to loved ones and your favorite causes by deed while reserving a life estate. Contact us for a free illustration of the benefits of this plan.

When a beneficiary designation is completed properly, assets simply pass automatically at your death. Call or email us for all the ways you can make modest changes to your plans and benefit the people and United Methodist causes important to you.



THE ROAD TO

GIFT PLANNING





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The Georgia United Methodist Foundation is a nonprofit organization that helps United Methodist churches, ministries and individuals within Georgia sow seeds of faith for future generations. The GUMF offers investments, loans, and endowment services, as well as grants and scholarships. We also offer free planned giving strategies, wills clinics, and personal consultations. For more information, call 770-449-6726 or 877-220-5664, email **info@gumf.org** or visit **www.gumf.org**.

STAY CONNECTED!



Make Your Giving Go Further

Technology has made all of our lives easier. Just by using a smartphone, you can talk to people all over the world, check the weather forecast or reserve a seat on a plane. The true power of the smartphone is how it combines a myriad of tools in a single sleek device.

As you support the mission of your United Methodist church and/or favorite ministry, you might be interested in ways to increase your impact. By combining different giving tools together, you can multiply the difference you make.

You may already be making annual gifts to a United Methodist cause. We know they appreciate your support! Here are some ways your annual gifts may be combined with other opportunities to make your support for a United Methodist cause go even further:

- You can add a gift in your will to endow your annual gifts and ensure that your legacy of support for their work continues.
- Another way to help beyond your regular annual giving is with a charitable life estate. You can convey your home to your church and/or favorite ministry, remain living there and receive tax benefits.

When you think about all of the tools available to you, you can do more than you might have thought possible. By adding an estate or life income gift to your annual giving, you can benefit from lifetime payments and tax savings.

Call 770-449-6726 or 877-220-5664 or email info@gumf.org

to learn how we can help you combine your giving in a way that benefits you and supports a United Methodist cause.

