



Sowing seeds of faith for future generations

Legacy

The Final Tithe

Over the next 50 years, it is estimated that between \$41 and \$136 trillion will pass from older Americans to younger generations. However, nearly 60% of Americans do not have a will. And only 8% of American wills contain any charitable giving whatsoever. The result is that only about 3% of all Christians, including United Methodists, leave anything to charity, with even less to continue God's work. To paraphrase our Lord, where are the other 97% to give thanks and glory to God? [Luke 17:11-19, NIV]

When God richly provides, as Christians, we have an opportunity to give a final tithe to ministries we cherish. Tithing is the practice of giving one-tenth of one's income or possessions to God. The final tithe is a way to continue blessing present and future generations even after you have completed your time on earth.

Would you consider establishing a Georgia United Methodist Foundation Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) or gift to the church in your will to establish a permanent endowment for future generations? Using a CGA or your will to fund a permanent endowment with the Georgia United Methodist Foundation to benefit the ministries that you cherish is a gift that keeps on giving. If we as United Methodists would leave a tenth of our estates to God, imagine the impact we could have for God's kingdom? We could leave a legacy of generosity for all generations.

Jesus said, "*Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*" [Matt. 6:19-21, NIV, emphasis added.]

What will your legacy be? When you enter into God's eternal kingdom, will your last act on earth be a witness that you had a heart for God?

At the Georgia United Methodist Foundation, we are prepared to assist you in leaving a legacy that will stir God's heart. As you stand before your Heavenly Father, our prayer is that you will hear these words: "*Well done, good and faithful servant! ... Come and share your master's happiness!*" [Matt. 25:21, NIV]