

Are you looking to leave a bequest to your favorite ministry?

We'd like to help make it as easy as possible for you. Here are some suggestions for how to proceed:

1. Make your estate plan at no cost, through our partnership with FreeWill (<https://partner.freewill.com/lutherangiving>). It takes about 20 minutes to create a legally valid will. You'll be prompted during the process to enter the details of your bequest.
2. If you'd prefer to work with a lawyer, here is some suggested language that will ensure your gift is carried out as you intended. If there is a specific program or purpose you'd like your bequest to support, we encourage you to speak with our development staff to determine what would be most impactful for your favorite ministry.

Most bequestors choose to either leave a fixed dollar amount, or a percentage of their residual estate.

Below is language you can use to make a bequest to support Lutheran Giving's partners. A bequest allows you to continue to use the property you will leave to one of our partner ministries during your life and make a lasting impact on their work after you are gone.

Specific Bequest

If you are considering making an outright bequest, and are not working with Lutheran Giving, we recommend the following language:

Bequest of a Specific Dollar Amount



I hereby give, devise and bequeath _____ and No/100 dollars (\$DOLLARS) to Name _____, a nonprofit organization located at Address _____, Federal Tax ID # _____, for Name's _____ general use and purpose.

Bequest of Specific Personal Property

I hereby give, devise and bequeath DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY to Name _____, a nonprofit organization located at Address _____, Federal Tax ID # _____, for Name's _____ general use and purpose.

Bequest of Specific Real Estate

I hereby give, devise and bequeath all of the right, title and interest in and to the real estate located at ADDRESS OR DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY _____ to Name _____, a nonprofit organization located at Address _____, Federal Tax ID # _____, for Name's _____ general use and purpose.

Percentage Bequest

If you are considering making a bequest of a percentage of your estate to one of our partner ministries, and are not working with Lutheran Giving, we recommend the following language:

I hereby give, devise and bequeath ____ percent (____%) of my total estate, determined as of the date of my death, to Name _____, a nonprofit organization located at Address _____, Federal Tax ID # _____, for Name's _____ general use and purpose.

Residual Bequest

I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Name _____, a nonprofit organization located at Address _____, Federal Tax ID # _____, ALL OR A ____% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate to be used for Name's _____ general use and purpose.

Contingent Bequest

If (primary beneficiary's name _____) does not survive me, then I hereby give, devise and bequeath to Name _____, a nonprofit organization located at Address _____, Federal Tax ID # _____, DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY _____ to be used for Name's _____ general use and purpose.

If you are considering a bequest but would like to ensure that your bequest will be used for a specific purpose, please reach out so that we can help you meet your charitable goals. We can also work with your attorney to craft language to accomplish your goals.

If you are making a restricted bequest without our assistance, we recommend that your attorney include the following provision to give your organization flexibility should it no longer be possible for them to use your gift as you originally intended:

If, in the judgment of the Board of Directors of _____ (Nonprofit Organization), it shall become impossible for _____ (Nonprofit Organization) to use this bequest to accomplish the specific purposes of this bequest, _____ (Nonprofit Organization) may use the income and principal of this gift for such purpose or purposes as their Board determines is most closely related to the restricted purpose of my bequest.

Contact Us

Please contact us if you have any questions about how to make a bequest to one of our partner ministries or to request any additional information that might be helpful to you and your attorney as you consider making a bequest to one of our partner ministries. If you have included a bequest for your home congregation or any of our partner organizations in your estate plan, please contact us to let us know. We would like to



thank you and recognize you for your gift by including you in our Willing Witness legacy society.

