

# Almost everyone feels better with a plan.

Your careful planning makes a big difference to the people and organizations that you love most.



## How to Write a Bequest

### IDENTIFY THE BENEFICIARY

I give to [name of your faith community], a [AK, ID, OR, or WA] nonprofit corporation located at [physical address]:

### DESCRIBE THE GIFT

- the sum of \$\_\_\_\_\_
- all my rights, title and interest in the following described property:\_\_\_\_\_
- all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate

### SPECIFY WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE ANY RESTRICTIONS

- to be used in such a manner as the [decision-making body, such as Charge Conference, board of directors, or trustees] of said organization shall, in its sole discretion, determine.
- to establish a [Your name] Endowment Fund. All income earned on the endowment will be used for [the purpose of your choice].



A LEGACY OF THE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Estate Planning

Estate planning is what you want done with what you own after your lifetime. The good news is that you can plan ahead for clarity and generosity by taking simple steps now.







## Save time and money by taking these steps before you meet with your attorney.

### ITEMIZE YOUR ASSETS

Make a list of everything you own. Think about what type of property ownership applies. (Community property, joint tenants, trust property, etc.) Want to be guided through the process? Visit <http://faith.foundation> or request a free copy of our comprehensive “Planning Your Legacy” guide.

### IDENTIFY YOUR GOALS

Provide for certain family members?  
Leave a charitable legacy? Be remembered a specific way in your community?

### ASK AN EXPERT

[staff@faith.foundation](mailto:staff@faith.foundation) | 800-488-4179

### PROVIDE FOR YOUR FAMILY

Ask yourself practical questions, such as, “If I give my house to my adult son and my adult daughter, what will they do with it?” “Should I split everything into equal parts, or give specific assets to specific people?” And, “Should I leave a lump sum, or would a steady income stream be more helpful for my heirs?” If you struggle with this, you can call Faith Foundation at 800-488-4179 for advice, or save those questions for your attorney.

### REMEMBER YOUR FAITH COMMUNITY

A bequest is one of the easiest types of charitable gifts to make. It can also create tax advantages. If you make a charitable gift of an asset like a traditional IRA, which would carry a tax liability if given to an individual, then your heirs won't owe any tax on the portion given to charity. Or, you could make your faith community the beneficiary of the residual of your estate in case there's anything left over. Whatever you do, be specific. See the back of this brochure for sample language.

### WRITE IT DOWN

Be prepared to hand your attorney a tidy folder or packet that has all the information he or she will need to draft your will.

