



GUIDE TO A CHRISTIAN WILL

LIKE GOOD STEWARDS OF THE MANIFOLD
GRACE OF GOD, SERVE ONE ANOTHER WITH
WHATEVER GIFT EACH OF YOU HAS RECEIVED.

1 PETER 4:10

A will is the cornerstone of a well-organized estate plan and can proclaim your Christian faith, demonstrating your response as a faithful steward to future generations. Making a charitable bequest is a wonderful opportunity to give witness to your faith and values.

First Presbyterian Church
www.fpcpc.com

HOW TO BEGIN

For many people making a will seems overwhelming and procrastination takes over. Yet, making decisions about your estate can relieve the stress from loved ones trying to respect your wishes. Each will is unique and must be structured to fit the needs and estate plans of each individual and the laws of the individual's state of residence. For this reason, we recommend you consult a lawyer to assist you in drafting your will and estate plan.

ASSETS

First, list everything you own – money, property, life insurance, pension, investments – and how your property is owned, either individually or jointly. A Personal Record Book will help organize the information for your heirs. An Estate Planning Worksheet is often a helpful tool.

BENEFICIARIES

Next, identify and list the people, organizations and causes that mean the most to you. This is the time to reflect on the blessings you have received during your lifetime and consider your responsibilities as a steward. Try to determine how you would like to divide your assets among those on this list.

EXECUTORS

Once you have reviewed your assets and listed your beneficiaries, it is important to name the person(s) who will see that your wishes are carried out. The executor, subject to state law, may be a friend, relative or representative from a bank or trust company. An alternative to your first choice should always be named.

YOUR CHARITABLE BEQUEST

There are three important considerations in planning your charitable bequest to achieve your goals:

1. Will your gift be restricted in use?
2. What is the amount of your gift?
3. How will your gift be distributed?



RESTRICTED OR UNRESTRICTED GIFT

We invite you to consider naming First Presbyterian Presbyterian Church as a recipient of your gift. An unrestricted bequest permits First Presbyterian to use your gift where the need is greatest. This would allow the church to respond to changing mission needs as they arise.

With a restricted bequest, you name the specific cause(s) you wish to support. There are a number of options in the Endowment Funds (see back page). Ordinarily, a bequest is made with the broadest possible terms consistent with your interests. This guards against the conditions of your gift becoming obsolete.



2. AMOUNT OF BEQUEST

Once you review your estate plan, you can reasonably determine the amount of your charitable bequest. You can choose a particular dollar amount or a percentage. First Presbyterian Church has been the recipient of both options. Another option is to make a charitable bequest of the remainder of your estate which is determined after other bequests have been made to your heirs.

3. STRUCTURE OF YOUR GIFT

The last major consideration involves the distribution of the gift to the charitable beneficiary(ies) you selected. Your bequest can be setup in several ways:

DIRECT BEQUEST

A gift given directly to First Presbyterian Church is the most efficient way to meet your charitable goals. The gift may be restricted or unrestricted.

MEMORIAL OR ENDOWMENT FUND

A bequest can be used to support a memorial fund, also known as endowment fund, which is created, and the income and/or principal is distributed.

The First Presbyterian Church Endowment provides a means of accepting gifts as a permanent investment, the future income from which will support mission projects and church operations. Several "Funds" comprise the Endowment, as described on the back page.

- The General Fund is used in support of First Presbyterian's mission projects.
- Tomlinson/Fox/Lincoln Scholarship supports collegiate and graduate students.
- Minister's Discretionary Fund is available for discretionary grants disbursed by the Pastor.

YOU CAN MAKE CHANGES

Wills can be changed at anytime for whatever reason you choose. Births, deaths, changes in marital status, or the choice of a new executor are some of the things that might influence your will. Your will can be changed by an amendment, called a codicil.

FORMALIZING YOUR WILL

Once you have considered how you would like your assets distributed and to whom, you are ready to formalize your will. Employing an attorney will ensure that your intentions are clear and concise. This prevents the possibility of misunderstandings and delays in probating your will and ensures your will complies with the specific requirements of your state.

ONLINE RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.FPCPC.COM.



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