



Legacy Planning: A Faithful Guide for Stewardship and Legacy

A Resource for Our Church Family

Why Legacy Planning Matters

Legacy planning is more than legal paperwork—it's an opportunity to reflect your values and practice faithful stewardship. By planning ahead, you can:

- Care for loved ones and provide for those who depend on you.
- Bring clarity and peace of mind to your family.
- Create a lasting impact by supporting your church, ministries, and causes that are close to your heart.

Key Elements of a Will or Estate Plan

1. **Will** – Outlines how your assets will be distributed and names guardians for minor children.
2. **Healthcare Directive** – States your wishes for medical care if you cannot speak for yourself.
3. **Power of Attorney** – Appoints someone to handle financial or legal matters on your behalf.
4. **Beneficiary Designations** – Ensures life insurance, retirement accounts, and other assets go to the right people or organizations.
5. **Charitable Bequests** – Allows you to leave a gift to HUMC or favorite ministries, continuing your witness beyond your lifetime.

Faith and Legacy

As you consider your legacy, remember that there are many ways to support the ministries and causes that are meaningful to you. In addition to including Harmony United Methodist Church in your will, you may also name HUMC as a beneficiary of a retirement account, life insurance policy, savings account, or other financial asset.

These simple steps can be a meaningful way to continue supporting the mission of HUMC for generations to come.

Getting Started

- **Pray** for wisdom and clarity.
- **List** your assets and important documents.
- **Consult** a qualified attorney or estate planner.
- **Review** your plan every few years or after major life changes.

A Gentle Invitation

If you'd like to explore how your legacy can support the mission of our church, we are here to help. For general questions, contact Kristi Padley, HUMC Stewardship Chair; for specific and legal questions, contact your attorney. We are here to help — no pressure, just guidance.

“Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your Lord.” – Matthew 25:23

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