



**Have you ever wondered what you  
will leave behind  
when God calls you home to heaven?**

**Discover How You Can**

*Share* Your Faith

*Bless* Your Family

*Uncover* God's Plan

*Impact* Ministry



***As Lutheran Women in Mission, we know that all our blessings come from God. We love to serve Him by sharing our earthly time and talents. God also wants us to do a good job of planning how to distribute our earthly blessings when He calls us home to heaven. But how can we put a good plan in place? How will our faith be remembered?***

## **Where do we begin?**

LWML's official ministry, Gifts of Love, is here to assist and guide you in transferring your blessings. At no cost to you, Linda Gage, our LWML Gift Planning Counselor, helps our members to make use of planned giving which can provide benefits to you and your heirs as well as support God's ongoing work in the world. She can assist you in maximizing your assets, making a lasting impact on ministry, encouraging giving in your children, giving gifts over time, supplying additional income, providing tax benefits and more. No matter what your age or financial circumstance, she can help.



**Your LWML Gift Planning Counselor is a fellow Lutheran sister in Christ who shares your love for the Lord and understands your desire to help spread the Gospel.**

Linda Gage, LWML's Gift Planning Counselor is an experienced professional who can assist you with transferring your blessings to family, heirs, and ministry. When you ask for Linda's assistance you can expect:

- A prayerful approach to our work together.
- Convenient meeting time and place.
- No charge for Gift Planning Counselor services.
- Guidance and options to organize and implement your Christian estate/gift plan.
- Complete confidentiality.

Linda will share a variety of choices available to you in developing your plan, such as charitable trusts, gift annuities, donor advised funds and endowments. She will also give a general overview of other planning techniques like wills and living trusts, and help guide you through sensitive end of life planning and decisions.

Having a completed Christian estate/gift plan gives you peace of mind knowing that your wishes for the gifts God has entrusted to you will be fulfilled.





*You can make gifts to loved ones, support your favorite ministries, and finalize sensitive life decisions through planned giving.*

## The Five P's of Planned Giving

### Prayer

Ask for God's guidance in putting together a plan that will transfer your blessings entrusted to you to the people you love and the ministries you care about in a way that will be a blessing and bear fruit that will last.

### People

Determine who will be included in your plans – family, heirs, friends, and others. Consider any special needs they may have that will be important to your planning.

### Property

Record all the assets that God has entrusted to your care to determine the size of your estate, how the assets will transfer, and how laws affect your plan.

### Plans

Talk about the plan that God has placed in your heart for your family and the Lord's work. We call this plan a Lifetime Plan for Giving™.

### Planners

List others who already assist you. You will continue to work with them to complete your plan, such as an attorney, CPA, and other advisors.

## The Process

Through our planned giving process, we help you to establish a complete Christian estate/gift plan. We call this plan your Lifetime Plan for Giving™. There are four steps to guide and educate you through the process of developing and implementing your Lifetime Plan for Giving™.

**1. Discovery** - A simple survey documenting your estate preferences including stewardship goals, family relationships, financial blessings and desired tax advantages begins the process.

**2. Design** - Using the information from the survey, several gift plan designs are created for your consideration by our Gift Planning Counselor. These designs reflect your estate planning goals and offer several options for you. They are in an easy to read one-page format.

**3. Summary** - When you choose a plan, our Gift Planning Counselor drafts an organized estate plan summary for delivery to your attorney and other professional advisors.

**4. Implementation** - The final step is implementing your Christian estate/gift plan. Your attorney will review, advise, and prepare the necessary legal documents. The counselor-provided summary will assist considerably in this process and in many cases can reduce legal costs.



## Include a statement of faith in your will or trust.

A Christian Preamble is a way for you to begin your will or trust with a simple, personal statement of faith. It is a lasting opportunity to proclaim your love of the Lord to family and friends. When planning a will or trust, many people focus only on distributing their money, property and possessions. A Christian Preamble allows you to share your true wealth: your belief in Jesus Christ and His gift of everlasting life.

### A Christian Preamble is:

- A source of comfort to mourning family and friends. They are reassured that their loved one died in faith, sure of God's promise of eternal life.
- A powerful message of love and encouragement, urging others to trust in Jesus Christ and strengthen their own faith.
- A public record of Christian love (when used with a will). Because a will is filed in probate court, a Christian Preamble becomes a public record.

You can write your own Christian Preamble. Perhaps you want to include favorite Bible verses. You can offer your final prayers for loved ones, mentioning them by name and encouraging them to grow in faith. Sample Christian Preambles are available through our Gift Planning Counselor.



Contact Linda Gage today to learn more!



**Linda Gage**

*Gift Planning Counselor*

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The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is the official women's auxiliary of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. For more than 75 years, the LWML has focused on affirming each woman's relationship with Christ, encouraging and equipping women to live out their Christian lives in active mission ministries and to support global missions.



*Returning God's Blessings*

Gifts of Love is an official ministry of the LWML providing free gift planning services to LWML members and their family. As your LWML Gift Planning Counselor, I joyfully serve as a guide to help you transfer your God-given blessings to the people you love, and the ministries you care about, by putting a prayerfully-considered Charitable Gift Plan in place.