



# Bethany International

Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field.”

MATTHEW 9:37-38



**Taking the church to where it is not**  
and helping others do the same

BE A PART OF ANSWERING CHRIST'S PRAYER



## OUR MISSION IS TO BRING THE CHURCH TO WHERE IT IS NOT.

To accomplish this God-inspired mission, financial resources are needed. Thankfully, many Christians partner with Bethany International by giving gifts from their income.

However, for many individuals, the largest portion of their net worth lies in real estate and retirement accounts, and only a small amount is held in cash. For those desiring to partner with Bethany in substantial ways, estate planning may be the key.

There are many ways to give; this brochure will highlight only a few of them. The Bethany Advancement Office is available to discuss additional ways to support the mission.



# CONSIDER AN ESTATE GIFT

## *To Bethany International*

A Christ-centered financial plan helps you wisely steward what the Lord has entrusted to you. Biblical generosity produces “*the fruit that increases to your credit*” (Philippians 4:17 ESV), so you can effectively accomplish what God leads you to do on earth while laying up treasures in heaven.

A planned bequest enables you to make a significant gift that impacts people coming to Christ while at the same time enables you to care for the security of your family. Often such a gift results in you being more generous than you thought was possible.

So what is a bequest? A common way is through one’s will which is an important yet often overlooked aspect of wise stewardship. Also, it can come through such avenues as a trust or life insurance policy.

Throughout Bethany International’s history, bequests have played a significant role in our financial well-being. Since 1945 many friends of Bethany have chosen to make bequest as a powerful way to change the destiny of those without Christ.







## A Will

Making a will allows you, as a godly steward, to make decisions for the benefit of your family and to follow the Lord's leading with all He has entrusted to you. A will can leave a lasting legacy for those you love and want to inspire.

What's the biggest gift most people ever make? It happens in a moment. We take our last breath on earth, and then all our earthly possessions are given away according to the plan we made. For the person who follows Jesus, that final gift can be anticipated with confidence. The one who plans wisely will hear the Lord's joyful voice, *"His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord'"* (Matthew 25:21, NKJV).

National statistics indicate that approximately one-half of the adult population has done no estate planning. In many cases, a simple will suffices. It provides guidance on where the estate funds should go, it cares for spouses, children and other family members, and it names individuals, of the donor's choice, to handle the final distributions.

One can easily include language in a will, directing the personal representative to distribute funds to Bethany International. We suggest listing a percentage of the estate rather than a set dollar amount.

If you have a will in place, but would like to add a gift to Bethany, a "codicil" is used to amend the will and include the gift.

## A Revocable Living Trust

Some people will benefit from having a Revocable Living Trust (RLT) instead of a will. It offers several advantages: 1) An RLT is private, whereas wills become public documents. 2) An RLT allows the estate, in many cases, to avoid probate court and its related costs. Similarly to





a will, a RLT can easily accommodate the desire to include Bethany in the final distribution of a percentage of the estate. A Revocable Living Trust is an arrangement you make for the management and distribution of your assets, creating a financial plan that can provide for your needs today while also designating future gifts. A Trust is a legal arrangement, and the designated trustee becomes responsible for holding and investing your assets, collecting income, paying normal expenses, and distributing net income.

The term “revocable” means that you can change the provisions in the trust. The term “living” refers to the management of your assets while you are still alive. This relieves you of any concerns should you become ill or no longer want this responsibility.

## Gifts from Retirement Accounts and Appreciated Stock

A significant portion of one’s estate often lies in retirement accounts such as IRA’s and 401(k)’s. These provide significant tax savings during the accumulation phase, but every dollar withdrawn during retirement is subject to federal and state income taxes. If these funds are left to distribution, taxes are imposed. One way to reduce the tax burden on the children is use retirement accounts for the portion of the estate which goes to charity, and to leave the children assets which do not generally come to them with a tax bill attached, such as real estate, life insurance, savings accounts, etc.

Including a gift to Bethany International from a retirement account does not require any changes to wills or trusts. Gifts of appreciated stock allow the donor to receive a tax deductible contribution for the full sale of the stock plus not pay any capital gains.

## Charitable Gift Annuity

A Charitable Gift Annuity is an agreement between a donor and a ministry whereby the donor transfers cash or appreciated assets to the ministry in exchange for quarterly or annual payments for the rest of the donor’s life. When the donor passes away, the remainder of the fund is released to the ministry.



Here's an example of one way to use Charitable Gift Annuities. A donor with a modest estate wishes to leave a legacy gift to Bethany in the amount of \$20,000, and would even like to give the gift during their lifetime but they need the income to help with their personal expenses. Whereas the \$20,000 might earn 1% in a bank account, the Gift Annuity pays at a substantially higher rate (depending on the age of the donor), from 4% to 9% for retired individuals. A substantial portion of the payments made from the Gift Annuity to the donor are tax-free, which makes the return even greater!

## Charitable Remainder Trust

Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRT) are a special type of trust which allow the donor to transfer assets to the trust without paying capital gains taxes on the appreciation. The donor can elect to receive payments for life, and can even include children as successor beneficiaries for a period of years.

Here's a brief example. Assume a couple has 100 acres of farmland that cost \$200 per acre, but is now worth \$5,000 per acre. If the land was sold, capital gains taxes would be due on the appreciation. If we assume capital gains tax rates of 25%, the sale proceeds would be reduced by \$120,000.

If a CRT was used, the land would be transferred the trust, where it would be sold without any capital gain taxes applied. This would mean the full sale price (less expenses related to the sale) would be available. Using an estimate of 5%, the donors would receive \$25,000 a year for life. When they go home to be with the Lord, the remainder would transfer to Bethany.

Without a CRT, the sale price less capital gains taxes would be \$380,000. If these funds were invested in a bank CD, the interest income each year might total \$3–\$4,000.

## Donor Advised Fund

Donor Advised Funds (DAF's) are growing in popularity by those with charitable hearts. Placing funds in a DAF produces an immediate income tax deduction, avoids capital gains tax on appreciated assets, removes these assets from any estate taxes, and gives the donor great flexibility in distributing ministry gifts.



Our desire at Bethany is to hear what the Lord is prompting you to do with your estate and help you achieve these goals. Please contact:

DR. RANDY DIRKS, VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADVANCEMENT  
(952) 996-1388, Email: [randy.dirks@bethfel.org](mailto:randy.dirks@bethfel.org)

## PURPOSE OF YOUR BEQUEST

In order for the Board of Trustees to use funds where the need is greatest, Bethany International prefers a bequest that is unrestricted in its application. If you desire, you can select a particular area of interest for your gift. We encourage you to discuss this designation with Bethany personnel to assess its feasibility.

## YOUR LAWYER'S ROLE

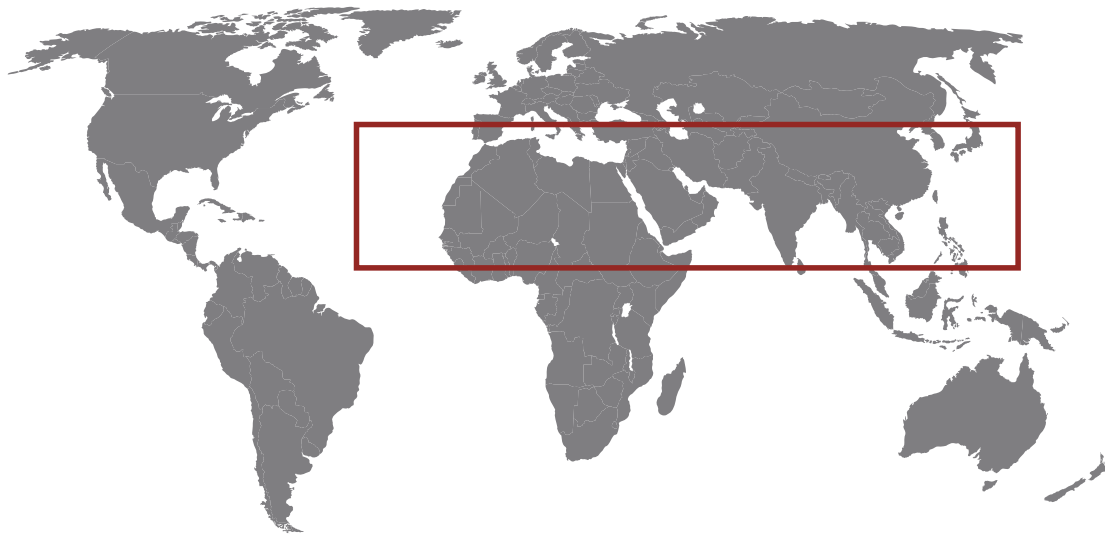
Your will or trust is perhaps the most important document you have. As a result, it is essential to have a lawyer prepare or revise such an instrument. The typical cost for this is small in comparison to the savings in taxes and probate expenses.

## PROPER WORDING FOR A BEQUEST TO BETHANY INTERNATIONAL

Please designate that your bequest shall be to "Bethany Fellowship, Inc. (dba Bethany International) a Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation located at 6820 Auto Club Rd., Bloomington, MN 55438."

Bethany International's Tax identification Number is: 41-6110005. Bethany International is qualified as a tax-exempt organization under section 501©(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.





## BETHANY'S VISION

*Taking the church to where it is not and helping others do the same*

### **An Audacious Mission Goal: Engage500**

In 2013, Bethany embraced the mission goal of engaging 231 new unreached people groups along with the 269 with whom we currently work. These people have few if any Christian workers and limited or no access to the Gospel. Pursuing our mission and this goal is shaping Bethany for decades to come.

### **Building a Global Mission Force**

The first strategy is to train and send thousands of Kingdom workers worldwide to impact the least reached people groups for Christ.

Bethany Global University, started in 1948, has over 3,000 alumni. Students do missions while they train in places such as Kenya, France, Indonesia, Thailand and China.

A global network of 300 mission training schools in many countries effectively equips and sends cross-cultural missionaries. From these schools more than 10,000 workers have been fielded. Helping mission fields become mission forces! Thousands of churches among unreached people groups have been planted in 67 countries.



PUBLISH4ALL



Bethany and its international partners work in more than 1,012 people groups in 92 countries around the globe, 269 of which are unreached people groups.

## Building Gateway Platforms for Access

We are developing 15-20 Gateway Access Platforms (GAP sites) to serve as strategically placed regional “basecamps” for launching workers from many nations to many nations. These GAP sites build shared vision, recognize diverse gifting, and encourage collaborative action.

## Building Partnership and Collaboration

Bethany is well known as an effective partner worldwide. We seek to accelerate the spread of the gospel to the entire world. Workers deployed by Bethany bring great value to international partners and facilitate collaboration in strategic regions.

We are developing new business initiatives that foster sustainable enterprise, and have direct kingdom impact. Publish4All is one example as ministry partners in 57 countries are now printing their own books through the print-on-demand equipment developed and supported by Bethany.





Bethany Fellowship Missionary Training Center began in 1948.

## The Birth of Bethany International

Bethany was founded by five families in 1945. Ted Hegre, who served as their pastor, shared with this small fellowship the vision of sending and fully supporting 100 missionaries. These families sensed God leading them to sell their homes and pool their resources to acquire a common residence, a large, 30-room home in Minneapolis called “Bethany House.” The purpose of this community life was to reduce unnecessary work and expense so more time and money would be available to fulfill the vision God gave them—living the sanctified Christian life and completing the unfulfilled task of world missions.

LIVING WITH ETERNITY’S VALUES IN VIEW

## An Invitation to Join the Bethany Legacy Society

Bethany International has been blessed with the support of many wonderful friends. Through their generosity the services, programs and facilities of Bethany International have been expanded. Planned gifts made possible through wills, trusts and other forms of planned giving have made an eternal difference as people have come to Christ!

When you designate Bethany International as the beneficiary of your estate, regardless of the gift amount, you will be included in the Bethany Legacy Society. This special group of friends makes possible the transformation of lives worldwide.

To become a member of the Bethany Legacy Society, please tear off, complete and return the attached Membership invitation. We deeply appreciate your partnership with Bethany International as we bring the Gospel to the unreached peoples of the world.



For additional information concerning topics discussed in this brochure, please contact:

Dr. Randy Dirks, Vice President for Advancement  
(952) 996-1388  
Email: [randy.dirks@bethfel.org](mailto:randy.dirks@bethfel.org)

# THE BETHANY LEGACY SOCIETY

## *Membership Invitation*

Please check all that apply:

\_\_\_ Yes, I have named Bethany International as a beneficiary in my will, trust retirement account, or other savings or investment instrument, or have entered into a charitable gift annuity or other deferred giving agreement with Bethany International.

\_\_\_ Yes, I accept the invitation to become a member of the Bethany Legacy Society.

Bethany International sees the value in honoring members of its Legacy Society. By doing this we can thank individuals for their generosity and commitment. As this happens others are encouraged to join this very special group. Will you give us permission to publically honor your generous support?

\_\_\_ Yes, you may publically recognize my name as a member of the Bethany Legacy Society in the annual report of Bethany International, on a special Legacy Society membership display, or any other dignified listing.

\_\_\_ Sorry, I do not wish to be publically recognized.

Write your name below as you would like it listed. Please print.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name(s)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Address*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*State*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Zip Code*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Telephone*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*





*Bethany International's mission is to delight God's heart and  
extend His Kingdom by training and sending servant  
leaders to disciple the world's least reached people.*