



Gifts from Your Estate... *Your Last Opportunity to Give a Christian Witness*

What is a “Last Will and Testament”? It is simply a written instrument legally executed by which a person makes disposition of his or her estate to take effect after death. But what is a “testament”? A testament is a covenant between God and us; we have the Old Testament and the New Testament. A testament is a statement of your beliefs, your faith, or your creed. Consider letting your “Last Will and Testament” give a Christian witness to your loved ones. There are two ways you can do this.

First, consider using a “Christian preamble,” which is simply a declaration of your faith. Here is a sample Christian preamble.

I want my loved ones to know that I place full confidence and trust in God through Jesus Christ, who promised: “I am the resurrection and life. Those who believe in me will live.” I thank God for my parents, siblings, and grandparents for their guidance and influence in my life. I praise God for giving me a loving, caring, faithful wife, who has been a blessing to me and shared my life and faith. I am thankful to God for the gift of children. I am thankful for the church, and the blessing it has been for my family and me to have been a part of the Body of Christ. I hope that my life has been an example for my loved ones of a moral and faithful Christian life. Where I have failed, I ask your forgiveness. I pray that God will continue to guard and protect my loved ones, knowing that God is always with you.

Second, consider living out your faith in God by including a bequest for your church in your estate. By using a Christian preamble and making provision for a gift from your estate to your church, you demonstrate your faith by word and action.

What better legacy to leave?

United Methodist Foundation of West Virginia, Inc.

P.O. Box 3811 Charleston, WV 25338-3811

1-800-788-3746 x45 (304) 342-2113 Fax: (304) 342-2632

Email: info@umfwv.org www.umfwv.org