

LEGACY GIVING #LegacyPASJ

Leave a Legacy

Plan for what matters most
while leaving a legacy...

Provide for your
family and
Support
Kingdom
Ministry

An initiative of the
BAPTIST RESOURCE NETWORK
OF PENNSYLVANIA/SOUTH JERSEY

A photograph of an elderly couple walking away from the camera on a paved path. The man is wearing a light-colored jacket and has his arm around the woman's shoulder. The woman has long brown hair and is wearing a dark jacket. In the background, other people and a dog are visible, and the scene is surrounded by green trees and foliage.

Dear Partners,

We believe God has created every individual with the desire to leave lasting impact on the world. And we believe healthy churches and healthy church leaders can change the world.

But our world is broken.

At the Baptist Resource Network of Pennsylvania/South Jersey, we are aware of the 14 million people in our region who do not yet have a saving faith in Jesus Christ. We see brokenness all around us -- broken marriages and families, violence, addictions, and apathy toward our neighbors. But Scripture tells us, others will know we are Christians *by our love* (John 13:35).

In our region, we envision all 300+ of our Southern Baptist churches as strong community partners in times of need. We envision families, neighborhoods, and churches full of vitality and health. We envision more and more people calling upon the name of Jesus.

While we are actively doing everything we can to help churches be healthy, we need your help to make our efforts go further. Your generosity feeds opportunities to provide hope and healing to hurting pastors and congregations, coaching to encourage church leaders in their efforts, grants to help churches meet the needs in their communities, and resources to help train the next generation of Kingdom-minded leaders.

In short, your generosity invites ... propels ... *accelerates* Kingdom movement. Thank you!

LEGACY GIVING #LegacyPASJ

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BAPTIST RESOURCE NETWORK of PA/SJ

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Please note: The following is provided to you as information only and is not formal legal or tax advice. Please consult the legal/tax professional of your choice for formal advice for your specific situation.

A man and a woman are shown from the chest up, celebrating enthusiastically. The man, on the left, has a short beard and is smiling with his arms raised. The woman, on the right, has her hair in a bun and is shouting with her mouth wide open and hands clapping. Both are wearing t-shirts with the Baptist Resource Network logo, which features a stylized 'R' inside a circle. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a church interior with wooden chairs.

ABOUT THE BAPTIST RESOURCE NETWORK

what we do and why it matters

MISSION STRATEGY



The BRN exists to resource and service churches all over Pennsylvania and South Jersey. It is our desire to take care of pastors and to come alongside churches and help them take the next step God is calling them to take. We do this through a four-step mission strategy:

ASSESS: *Discover Your Current Reality*

An honest and detailed look at your overall ministry, defining where you've been, determining where you are, and discovering where you can go.

ASSIST: *Determine Your Next Step*

Interpreting what you have discovered, prioritizing a next step, and developing fresh strategies to meet the needs and vision of that next step.

ACTIVATE: *Implement Your Next Step*

Encouraging individuals, ministries, and churches to implement strategies and goals developed by the assistance of the BRN and the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

ADVANCE: *Help Others with Their Current Reality*

Enabling churches who exhibit dynamic biblical behavior and movement (moving and leading out) to contribute to the growth and advancement of the Kingdom within the BRN and beyond.

ACCELERATING KINGDOM MOVEMENT

WHY DO WE HELP CHURCHES?

In short, it's because we believe it takes healthy churches to confront the vast lostness in our region.

14 million people in PA/SJ don't have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ



According to the U.S. Census Bureau, over 13 million people live in 67 Pennsylvania counties, filled with 4,250 cities, towns, and villages/boroughs, and special districts. And in South Jersey, another nearly 3 million people live in 9 counties with 29 cities, 106 townships, and 79 boroughs.

Given a conservative 85% rate of lostness among these populations, statistics show

an estimated 14 million people in our geographic region who do not have a saving faith in Jesus Christ. Moreover, vital records from the states' departments of health show that every 4.2 minutes, someone in our geographic region dies without knowing Christ and will be separated from Him eternally.

The need is urgent!

We can imagine a time when there will be a Southern Baptist church on the frontlines in every PA/SJ town, but right now, there are just over 300 Southern Baptist churches throughout the two states. That equals to *one Southern Baptist church for every 50,000 people!* In the southern U.S., there is one Southern Baptist church for every 900 people!



The task is big, and we cannot do it alone.

Your gifts to the #LovePASJ (Love Pennsylvania and South Jersey) Legacy Fund and the Church-Planting Fund accelerate Kingdom movement among our churches, accelerating the spread of the Gospel near and far. The Baptist Resource Network is committed to helping each church on whatever next step is necessary to help them have healthy leaders and members who impact their communities and multiply disciples, leaders, ministries and churches!

OUR VISION:

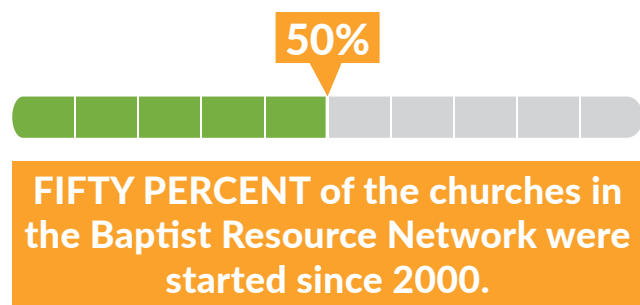
That every church
in Pennsylvania and
South Jersey is a
healthy, multiplying
church.

HOW DO WE HELP CHURCHES?

The BRN comes alongside churches through training, coaching, and support in several areas.

Our mission is to help churches multiply at every level. We want disciples who make new disciples, ministries that birth new ministries, leaders who replicate new leaders, and churches that plant new churches. We believe that this mission flows directly from the Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20.

"18 Jesus came near and said to them, 'All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age'" (CSB).

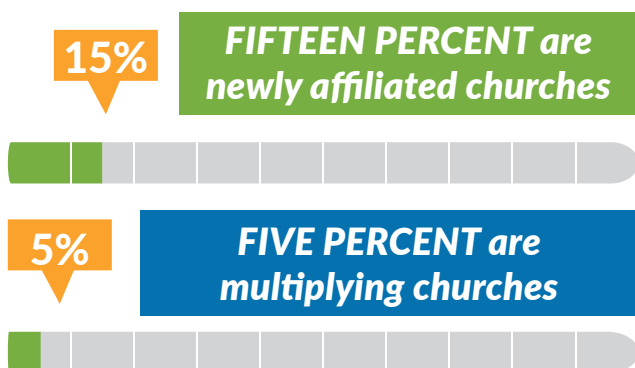


Remaining steadfast on this task, we help churches in four vital areas: church health, church planting, compassion ministry, and collegiate ministry.

Church Health

According to the latest release in Lifeway Research's 2022 *Greatest Needs of Pastors* study, "almost 2 in 3 pastors say they are facing stress in ministry (63%). Nearly half also point to discouragement (48%) and distraction (48%) as ministry mental challenges."¹

Moreover, since the 1960s, church health experts have been warning that 80 to 85% of all churches are either plateaued (staying at their same level of membership) or



declining.² Accordingly, the Baptist Resource Network employs several team members dedicated to helping churches learn to thrive again. Each consultant understands the role of the pastor and seeks to help churches be proactive in their responses to church challenges. We also work with growing churches to help them multiply their impact through partnerships with other BRN churches.

¹ *Stress Tops Mental Challenges Pastors Face*, <https://research.lifeway.com/2022/04/26/stress-tops-mental-challenges-pastors-face>

² *The State of the American Church: Plateaued or Declining*, <https://malphursgroup.com/state-of-the-american-church-plateaued-declining>

Church Planting

Through assistance of the North American Mission Board (NAMB), 50% of the churches in the Baptist Resource Network were started since 2000. We believe healthy churches reproduce healthy churches. We would love to see a multitude of churches loving their neighbors all over our landscape! Accordingly, we join NAMB in coaching, celebrating, and equipping church planters and their families for this high calling.

Compassion Ministry

Even as Jesus displayed compassion, the Baptist Resource Network seeks to help churches display compassion to their communities by creating opportunities, connecting the body of Christ to the broken, and cultivating transformation. The goal is authentic regenerative relationships through ministries, such as disaster and crisis relief, efforts to confront food insecurity and poverty, educational assistance like GED and English as a Second Language support and ministry to community schools, and trauma care in life's challenging mental, spiritual and physical health issues. There are many gateways through which churches can connect with their community, show compassion, and ultimately introduce individuals to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Collegiate Ministry

Pennsylvania/South Jersey has approximately 750,000 students on about 225 campuses, one of the largest student populations in the nation. If we are to reach our region, it is vital that reaching our student population be an essential part of our strategy. We currently have about 15 vocational campus ministers serving across our region on 13 campuses, accompanied by a number of short-term workers, plus a number of churches that are reaching out to the campuses within their context. We need more campus ministers, more churches to intentionally engage campuses within their spheres of influence, and more church plants that have a ministry to students in their DNA.

"May we be ready in season and out of season to encourage and share God's Word."

(2 Timothy 4:2)

MISSION IMPACT

A NOTABLE GOAL:

To engage the 21,000 members in BRN churches to love their neighbors in such a way that the statistic of 14 million lost people in PA/SJ is completely abolished!

HOW DO WE HELP PASTORS?

We care about the health of our pastors and their families.

Ministry can be exceptionally lonely, so the Baptist Resource Network offers an extended support network, prayer encouragement, retreats, and other events to help refresh our partnering churches' leaders, pastor's wives, and families.

We come alongside lead pastors in four ways:

RECREATION:

The BRN offers free Pastor Blessing events and gatherings, such as a day at the golf range or other special outings, for pastors, pastor couples and/or pastor families. These events provide pure fun and camaraderie with fellow ministry leaders.

RESPITE:

Ministry can be quite tiring. The BRN offers pastors and their families free use of its Guest House in Harrisburg, where they can enjoy a quiet time away from the demands of ministry. This well appointed home is situated close to several restaurants and recreation.

RESTRENGTHENING:

Through a vital partnership with Full Strength Network (FSN), the BRN offers free monthly counseling or coaching for the pastor and his wife and family. FSN provides a wellbeing membership for pastors and church staff to live and lead at full strength. BRN ministry leaders have the permission, privacy and provision to access professional experts and confidential resources.

REASSURANCE:

GuideStone Financial Services serves churches and organizations with products and services that promote financial health and spiritual wellness. The BRN partners with GuideStone to provide free protection benefits and retirement contributions for qualified candidates. The BRN also offers Legacy and Estate Planning for churches, individuals and families.



PASTORAL WELLNESS



RECREATION

Free Pastor Blessing events/gatherings

RESPIRE

Free use of BRN's Guest House

RESTRENGTHENING

Free counseling and coaching

REASSURANCE

*Free GuideStone benefits and
Legacy and Estate Planning*



The **SIMPLE** Solution for **MINISTRY** Funds

Makes complex investment decisions simple and provides ministries the freedom to focus on what matters most.

What is The Ministry Fund?

The Ministry Fund is a professionally managed and morally screened investment fund designed specifically for long-term ministry dollars. It is strategically structured to provide reliable income for ministry, grow the investment to offset inflation, and remain true to Christian principles.



INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY

Seeking the best management options, The Ministry Fund offers access to institutional fund managers and asset classes.



CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

Holding to Christian values, The Ministry Fund seeks to avoid investing in companies that profit from activities counter to God's Word.



LONG-TERM RECORD

Investing for over 35 years, The Ministry Fund has provided consistent investment management over multiple market cycles.



RELIABLE INCOME

Knowing the importance of consistent funding, The Ministry Fund is designed to provide reliable income on a quarterly basis.

Get Started Today!

PHONE: 470.851.2366 • **EMAIL:** contact@theministryfund.org • **WEB:** theministryfund.org



LET'S JOIN HANDS TO MAKE AN IMPACT

Everyone wants to have a life with meaning. Part of that meaningful life is to live on in the memory of family and friends. Generous giving with eternal impact can indeed create a legacy for family and Kingdom ministry that gives added meaning to your life.

We urge you to pray and ask the Lord for guidance about financially giving through your resources and estate to benefit the ministry of the Baptist Resource Network and its churches.

ABOUT THE FUNDS

MAY YOUR LEGACY LIVE ON



The Baptist Resource Network has developed giving opportunities to further the efforts of the BRN in the areas of Legacy Planning and Church Planting for years to come. These funding opportunities have been made possible through a partnership with Ministry Trust LLC.

Let's look at how this works.

How did the Fund begin?

This fund began in 2021 with the assistance of Ministry Trust (theministryfund.org) and through the generous giving of many.

What does our partnership with Ministry Trust include?

- One-on-one private consultation
- Customized gift projections
- Tax saving strategies
- Personal income projections
- Estate stewardship consultation
- Giving Opportunities: Cash Gifts, Non-Cash Gifts, Planned Gifts, & Estate Gifts

BRN GOALS:

Goal 1: \$10 million
reached in endowments for the
#LegacyPASJ Fund.

Goal 2: \$5 million
reached in endowments for the
BRN Church Planting Fund.

The #LEGACYPASJ FUND

allows for the creation, funding, and support of ministries like the following:

- Church Health,
- Church Revitalization,
- Church Resourcing Grants,
- Compassion Ministry,
- Disaster and Crisis Relief,
- Evangelism,
- Leadership Internships and Apprenticeships
- Next Generation Ministry,
- Pastoral Wellness, and
- Other Ministries

The BRN CHURCH PLANTING FUND*

allows for an investment in church planting, such as:

- Church Planting Internships,
- Church Planting Residencies,
- Church Planting Start-up Funds,
- Partnership with an existing BRN church to fund a new plant,
- Church planting training, and
- Much more

**Much of the successful planting that occurs in Pennsylvania or New Jersey is through indigenous persons originally from these regions.*

YOUR PRAYERS AND FINANCIAL GIFTS TRULY MATTER!

THE POWER OF OUR ENDOWMENT

Just a 5% annual return on endowments can provide the following:

#LEGACYPASJ FUND

GIFT AMOUNT	5% ANNUAL RETURN	WHAT THIS AMOUNT COULD PROVIDE*	
\$1,000	\$50	an evangelism kit for a church; or	a meal with a pastor to let him know he is loved, valued and needed in the Kingdom
\$2,500	\$125	an overnight respite care for pastor and his wife; or	funds to help a church provide food for a family in need for one week
\$5,000	\$250	counseling and coaching for one pastor and his spouse; or	children's summer outreach/ discipleship training or an ESL training
\$10,000	\$500	an emergency grant to a pastor or church in crisis; or	a no cost retreat for a church's leadership team
\$15,000	\$750	crisis response training for churches; or	life and disability insurance and a small retirement gift for a pastor
\$20,000	\$1,000	an annual ministry grant of \$1,000; or	a week of lodging for a mission team to serve the Kingdom in Pennsylvania
\$25,000	\$1,250	funds to assist a church in starting a refugee ministry; or	funds to help a church establish a discipleship process
\$50,000	\$2,500	funding for student ministry internships through the local church; or	a community demographic report to each BRN church
\$75,000	\$3,750	start-up funds for a new compassion ministry center; or	funds to begin a church revitalization process
\$100,000	\$5,000	training for churches to plant new churches; or	subsidizing a spring break evangelism mission trip for college students
\$250,000	\$12,500	evangelism training each year for all BRN churches; or	funds for all above items <i>and more!</i>



GIFT AMOUNT	5% ANNUAL RETURN	WHAT THIS AMOUNT COULD PROVIDE*	
\$500,000	\$25,000	life and disability insurance for all BRN lead pastors	funds for all above items and more!
\$1,000,000	\$50,000	counseling and coaching for all BRN lead pastors and their wives	funds for all above items and more!
CHURCH PLANTING FUND			
\$5,000	\$250	resources to bless and care for a church planter and his family; or	counseling and coaching for a church planter and his wife
\$10,000	\$500	one-on-one assessment and training for a church planter; or	training to a church plant core group
\$25,000	\$1,250	a ministry grant for community engagement and outreach; or	legal document preparation and organizational formation assistance
\$50,000	\$2,500	church planting internship opportunities for persons interested in planting	start-up funds for a new church plant
\$100,000	\$5,000	an apprenticeship for a future church planter	ongoing training for churches preparing to take a next step in church planting
\$250,000	\$12,500	funding for a church planter for one year	health insurance for a planter for one year
\$500,000	\$25,000	all the above for a church plant annually	all the above to help restart a church annually
\$1,000,000	\$50,000	all the above for two church plants annually	all the above to help restart two churches annually

** Funds may be used at the discretion of the BRN and may not be applied towards actual gifts mentioned in this table*

How can I participate?

The Baptist Resource Network graciously accepts financial gifts as well as non-cash gifts, as follows. But more than any other asset, our desire is for partners to pray for the BRN and its many churches.

1-PRAYER:

There are many ways to pray for the Baptist Resource Network and its churches:

- » Please praise God for His provision through the BRN's faithful donors and partnering churches.
- » Pray the BRN fulfills God's will and gives God glory through the services and care we provide.
- » Pray the 14 million people lost in Pennsylvania/South Jersey find saving faith in Jesus.
- » Pray BRN churches would grow in having gospel conversations with unbelievers and that a culture of evangelism would pervade their communities.
- » Pray the Lord enables BRN staff and

church leaders to focus on what God wants them to accomplish.

- » Pray the Lord would provide all the necessary resources of finances, persons, and materials needed to accomplish the churches' mission.

2-CASH GIFTS:

The Cooperative Program, given primarily through churches, is the main ministry and missions funding mechanism for the Baptist Resource Network and the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). But individuals and families are always given the opportunity to support ministries in Pennsylvania/South Jersey through generous cash gifts.

3-NON-CASH GIFTS:

You may give non-cash gifts, defined as an asset gift of value, which allows you to have significant tax benefits while assisting the mission of the BRN, such as:

- » Stocks
- » IRA's and Required Minimum Distributions (RMD)
- » Timber
- » Real Estate & Other Property

4-PLANNED GIVING:

Or you can include the BRN in your Planned Giving, which is defined as a legacy gift to the BRN, or recurring gift, made during an individual's lifetime or as part of their financial plan upon their death.

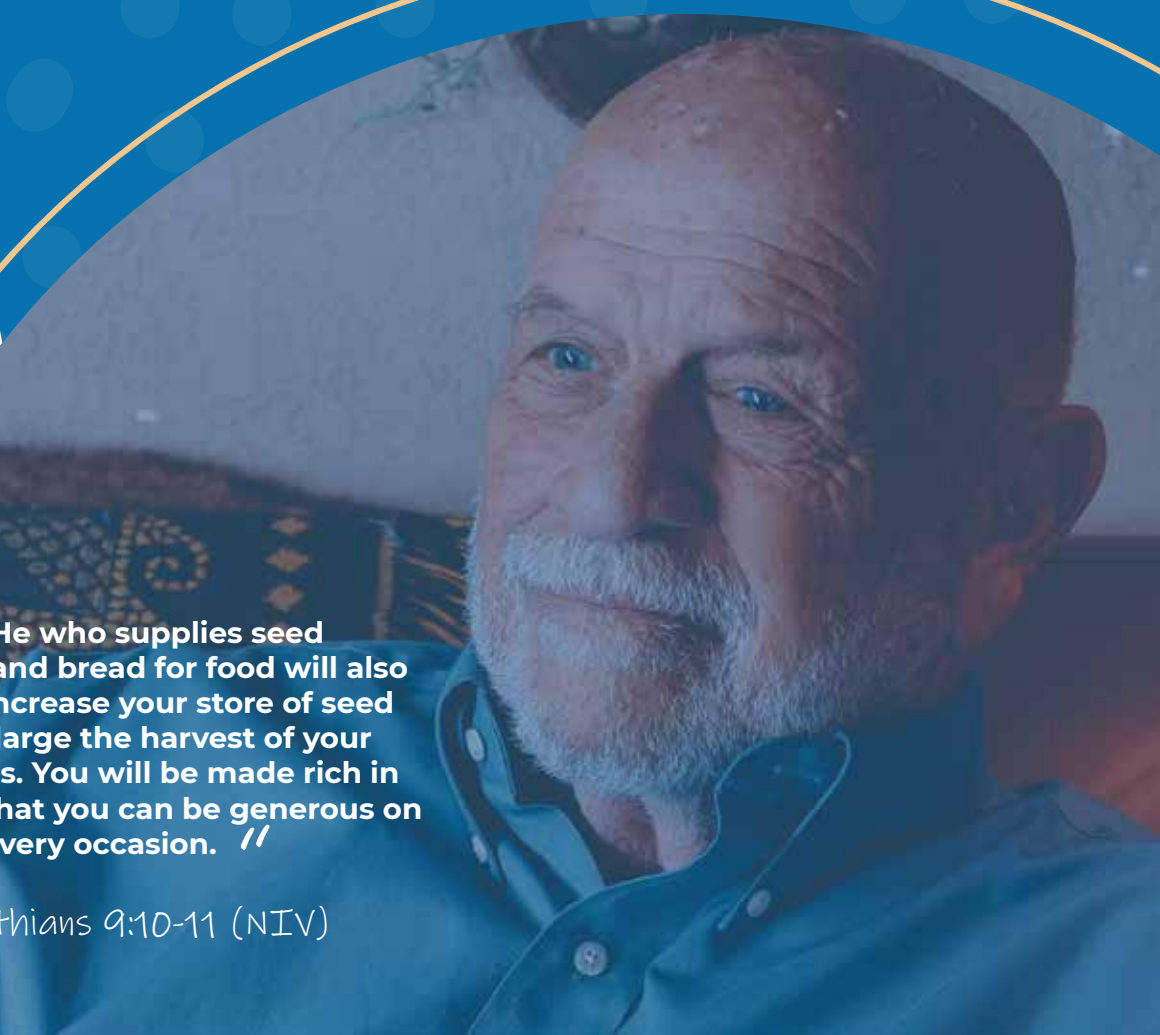

These include:

- » Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT)
- » Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)
- » Donor Advised Fund (DAF)

5-ESTATE PLANNING:

In addition, you may choose to focus on Estate Planning, which is the planning and arranging during a person's life for the management and dispersal of an individual's assets to assist with funding BRN initiatives upon death or incapacitation. These include:

- » Wills or Revocable Living Trust (RLT)
- » Retirement Account
- » Life Insurance



// **Now He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion. //**

2 Corinthians 9:10-11 (NIV)

What arrangements can I plan?

You can make an eternal difference through planned gift arrangements of outright gifts such as cash, property, stocks and bonds, mutual funds and real estate. Below are some examples:

ANNUITY TRUSTS

A charitable remainder annuity trust is a way to make a gift that allows you to retain income from your property for life. Your funds are held separately and invested to earn a fixed and regular income for you.

Trust income can be a welcome supplement to a retirement plan. Management of assets can be achieved for yourself and surviving loved ones. At your death (or at the death of your surviving spouse or other loved one, if you designate), whatever remains in the trust is distributed to charitable beneficiaries.

The payments you receive each year will be

at least 5 percent of the amount placed in the trust. The exact amount is determined when the plan is created.

A tax deduction is allowed at the time you create your trust. Its size depends on your age, payment percentage, and other factors.

WILLS: BENEFITTING YOUR LOVED ONES & OTHERS

In addition to being one of the simplest ways to distribute your estate, your will can also be a creative vehicle through which to make thoughtful gifts.

After providing for the needs of your loved ones, you may choose one of several ways to touch

other individuals' lives.

By having your attorney revise your will or add a simple amendment, you can make a charitable bequest of a dollar amount, specific property, a percentage of your estate, or what is left after others have been taken care of. You may also wish to name one or more charitable recipients in case others you have named do not survive you.

REVOCABLE LIVING TRUSTS

Another type of estate planning tool is a revocable living trust (RLT). An RLT acts as an alternative to a simple will and allows you to pass your estate to your family and ministries you care

about while avoiding the probate process. Using this tool, an attorney can deed everything you own into the trust, and you are named trustee. This allows you to retain control of your assets while you are living and avoid probate upon your death as all assets are owned by the trust. Other benefits include the fact that your affairs remain private as an RLT never becomes a public record (unlike a will), and that it can result in considerable cost savings for the family if the estate in question is very large, complex, or involves property in multiple states. Just as with a will, you can easily add a charitable bequest to an RLT to leave a thoughtful gift to one or more ministries.

RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

Whether in a company pension plan or other private fund such as an Individual Retirement Account, you may accumulate funds beyond your needs for comfortable support of yourself and loved ones.

In such a case, it may be very easy and convenient to make a gift of such

accounts to perpetuate work you consider vital for the well-being of future generations.

It can be satisfying to know that the funds for which you have worked a lifetime and carefully saved may ultimately be put to good use when you no longer need them.

LIFE INSURANCE

Many people do not realize how convenient and welcome a gift of life insurance can be.

Life insurance needs change as life goes on. Children become self-sufficient and investments may provide unexpected income and security. After such developments, some life insurance coverage may no longer be needed for the reason it was originally purchased.

Also, because federal law now exempts many estates from taxation, life insurance purchased to cover estate taxes may be obsolete.

One of the simplest ways to make a significant gift in the future is to name a charitable beneficiary to receive all or a portion of the proceeds of a policy which is no longer needed for family

protection.

Another way to make a gift of insurance is to take out a new policy, naming a favorite cause or causes as beneficiary or co-beneficiary. Many find this a convenient way to make a special gift “on the installment plan.” You can assure a gift which may be much larger than its cost.

MEMORIAL GIVING

All of the ideas we have discussed can include a loving tribute to a friend or loved one. There may be no more meaningful way to honor a life than by a gift with lasting meaning.

Examples of memorial gifts are endless. Many organizations and institutions enjoy buildings, equipment, scholarship and endowment funds, and a multitude of other services which have been made possible by gifts in memory of loved ones.

Your imagination is the only limit to the ways in which you can honor a special person. We will be glad to assist you in choosing an appropriate commemoration for your gift.

What are the Benefits of an Estate Plan?

PEACE. An estate plan is designed to help you provide for those you love and protect both you and your family.

PROVISION. You have spent most of your lifetime gathering assets and making plans. But many people spend more time planning their vacation than planning their estate. With a good estate plan you can give loved ones the property you have acquired in the right way, at the right time and at minimum cost.

PROTECTION. In addition, a good plan will provide for you in your senior years. It may be important to designate a specific person to manage your property, help doctors and other medical staff with important decisions and make certain that you are receiving the best possible care. An estate plan can increase your lifetime security and also achieve your goals for family and ministry.

SPIRITUAL LEGACY. 1 Chronicles 29:11-12 clearly illustrates God's ownership of all. An estate plan acknowledges that ownership helps to prepare the next steward and ensures that your final act on earth is one of good stewardship.

What Good Things Happen with a Will?

With an updated will, you can transfer specific property or assets. In addition, you will be able to direct the residue of your estate. For those with larger estates, there could be substantial estate tax savings. In addition, you know that the executor or personal representative that you select (not the one a probate judge chooses) will be managing your property. A good will can carry out your plan and save thousands of dollars while transferring property quickly and inexpensively to your loved ones.



Can I use my Estate Plan to Leave a Christian Legacy?

Yes! Giving generously to the Baptist Resource Network may be the exact way God is calling you to make lasting impact! You will have peace of mind knowing your financial gifts will be used to help churches all over our region to share the Gospel and make disciples for Christ. Thank you!

I'm interested... What is my next step?

Contact the BRN, 800.451.6599 or helpdesk@brnunited.org, to inquire further about our endowed funds or about the opportunity to give.

Contact Ministry Trust, 470.851.2366, to learn how Non-Cash Gifts, Planned Giving, and Estate Planning can be an opportunity for you, or if you are ready to give.

BAPTIST RESOURCE NETWORK OF PENNSYLVANIA/SOUTH JERSEY

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