

Legacies



A Quarterly Publication of the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana

Winter 2010

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

A Gift of Love
Page 2

Tips for Finding
the Best Senior
Discounts
Page 3

Foundation
to Offer Online
Statements
Page 4

New 'Faith &
Finance' E-News
for Lay Leaders
Page 4



THINKING BEYOND THE “NOW”

“Anybody can do this. I’m just a retired minister, but I believe in what the Foundation’s doing.”

These are the words of Ken Reed, who with his wife Bobbie, set up a charitable gift annuity that pays them a good return now and will benefit a United Methodist ministry of their choice later.

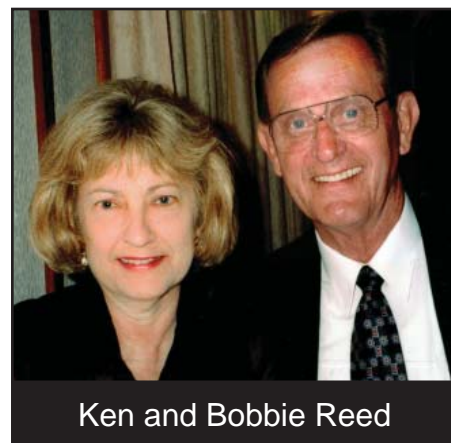
“We all need to think beyond the ‘now’ and think about endowing the church for future generations,” Ken added.

Establishing a charitable gift annuity was a natural progression for the Reeds. They have tithed to the church for nearly all of their 57 years of married life and have always believed that giving is important.

“Since my involvement with the United Methodist Foundation, I have realized the need to give from the other pocket too,” Ken claimed, referring to giving from one’s accumulated assets in addition to giving from current income.

Ken served as president of the United Methodist Foundation of Louisiana from 1990 to 1998, after over 40 years of service as a United Methodist pastor and District Superintendent. Bobbie is a retired school teacher.

Ken has ministered to three churches in the Louisiana Conference, including Broadmoor in Baton Rouge, where the Reeds are active members. Since his retirement in 1998, Ken has served the Foundation part time leading capital campaigns and cultivating planned gifts.



Ken and Bobbie Reed

“One of the first things I did as president of the Foundation, even before I understood them, was to set up a gift annuity for a lady at Christ Church in Shreveport. I realized it is a win-win situation for everyone involved,” Ken stated.

Ken can testify to the many benefits of a charitable gift annuity. “They provide a tax deduction in the year the gift is made, and we’ll earn 6.1% for the rest of our lives. Even though rates have dropped since we set this up, our rate is locked in. Ultimately, our gift will benefit the Foundation President’s Fund, to help ministry in the future.”

“When we give of our accumulated assets, it says that we believe God claims us even beyond this life. It’s what planned giving is all about—setting up gifts to benefit the church in perpetuity. That’s exciting.”

Still thinking beyond the “now,” the Reeds hope to do another gift soon.



CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

A Gift of Love

What if there was a way to give one gift to two people and make each of them happy? What if you could do this and also get something back? There is a way.

Consider setting up a gift annuity for a loved one to secure his or her future. It can be set up during life or at death. There may be gift/estate tax consequences, but tax savings from the charitable deduction may partially or fully offset these transfer taxes. This is a great way to benefit another person with secure fixed income for life.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, “The only gift is a portion of thyself.” Who in your life needs a little gift from you? With all the troubles and tribulations in the world, one of the best things we can do for a loved one is to give the gift of security. Find this with a charitable gift annuity. You can fund a gift annuity with us that will provide a lifetime of payments to your loved one no matter how long he or she lives. The payments are fixed and will never change no matter how the stock market, real estate or any other aspect of the economy performs.

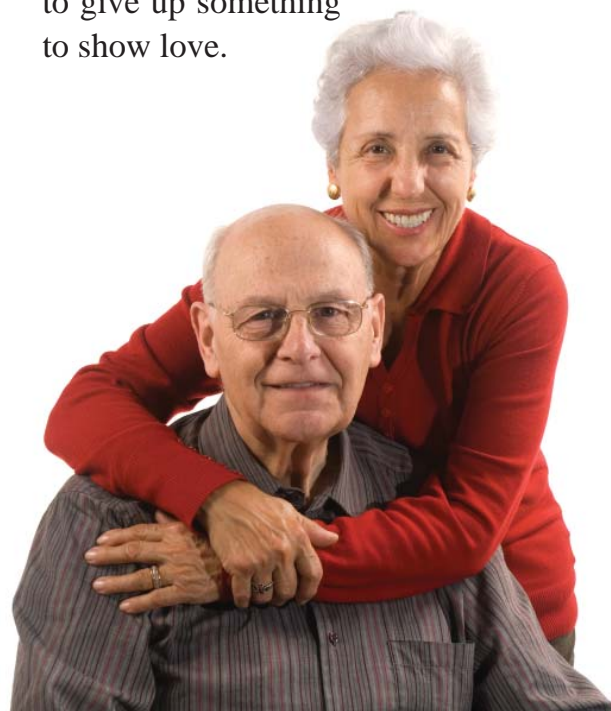
The payment rate is based on your loved one’s age. When you fund a gift annuity to benefit someone else, you will have to consider gift tax calculations. When you fund a gift annuity you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you will care for your loved one for as long as he or she lives. You will also know that after a lifetime of payments the gift annuity will be used for the mission of your United Methodist church or whatever United Methodist institution you name, as a legacy to you and to your loved one.

You can also establish a gift annuity for a loved one in your will. When you die, your will can specify the amount and the person, and the payments can begin then. Your legacy can show that your love lasted a lifetime and beyond.

While Emerson was right about the importance of giving, he was wrong about one thing. You really don’t have to give up something to show love.

Want to surprise your loved one?

Whether you are giving a loved one a gift annuity now or in your will, they do not need to know of your generosity until you want them to know. If you are doing it now, we will only need his or her name and birth date to get started! We can even let you deliver the news of the first payment if you want.



2010 Board of Trustees

Mark McMurry
Chair

Don Avery
Joseph Awotwi
Richard Boisture
Omer Davis
Doug de Graffenried
Mike DeHart
Irwin Felps
James Goins
Lee Hampton
Jan Holloway
Sandra Kuykendall
Frank McArthur
Alice Prophit
Fred Wideman

Rob Fairly
President

Contact Us:

8337 Jefferson Hwy.
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Phone:
(225) 346-1535
(800) 256-9317

Web Addresses:
www.umf.org
www.umfgiving.org

Legacies Editor:
Kelly Johannessen
kellyj@umf.org

SAVVY LIVING

Tips for Finding the Best Senior Discounts



Dear Savvy Living:

It seems like senior discounts have been dwindling over the past few years. What's the best way to find them?

— Penny Pincher

Dear Penny,

One of the perks of growing older in the U.S. is the many discounts that are still available to seniors. While the recession has caused many companies to cut back or eliminate their senior discount programs, there are still plenty of good deals out there. Here are some tips and tools to help you find them.

Just Ask

The first thing to know is that not all businesses advertise it, but many give senior discounts just for the asking — so don't ever be shy or embarrassed to ask. You also need to know that some discounts are available as soon as you turn 50, while others may not kick in until you turn 55, 60, 62 or 65. Here are some other tips that can help you find the best deals and discounts.

Web Search

The best resource for finding senior discounts is SeniorDiscounts.com — a savvy resource that lists more than 150,000 businesses offering senior breaks on a wide variety of products and services like airlines, car rentals, travel, recreation, local transportation, shopping, restaurants, hotels, state and national parks, medical services, pharmacies and museums. For an annual fee of \$8 you can find discounts by the city, state, or zip code, or by the category you're interested in. Or for \$13 you can find and get discounts through their members-

only club, and receive a printed copy of their SeniorDiscounts Guide to boot. Also check out SeasonedSpender.com and Bargains4seniors.com, two less established sites that let you search for discounts and deals for free.

Join a Club

Another avenue to senior discounts is through clubs and organizations. AARP (www.aarp.org, 888-687-2277), offers its members (age 50 and older) a wide variety of discounts through affiliate businesses. Annual AARP membership is \$16. There are other groups you may not think about or be familiar with such as The Seniors Coalition; www.senior.org — an education and advocacy organization that provides discounts to its more than four million members. You can join at any age for \$13.50. If you're a current, former or retired federal employee, you can get discounts by joining the National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE), www.narfe.org, 800-627-3394. Also consider AAA, www.aaa.com. While you don't have to be a senior to join, AAA provides a variety of travel and shopping discounts to go along with their emergency roadside services.

"Savvy Living" is written by Jim Miller, a regular contributor to the *NBC Today Show* and author of *The Savvy Senior* book.



"Where Faith and Money Come Together"

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
BATON ROUGE, LA
PERMIT NO. 2340

8337 Jefferson Hwy. ■ Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Address Service Requested

SIGN UP FOR
FREE RESOURCES AT
WWW.UMF.ORG

FOUNDATION NEWS

New Website Offers More Convenience

Foundation account holders will soon be able to view their statements and account balances online.

This new feature will be added this spring and is part of a recent website renovation to provide a new look and easier navigation for the resources on the site. The website redesign allows visitors to more easily contact the Foundation, download forms, learn about planned gifts, and more.

Instructions regarding online account activity will be mailed this spring.

Overall, we strive to make the website easy to use and want it to offer everything you need and expect. Check it out at www.umf.org and let us hear from you!

New Resource for Church Stewardship

**Finance and Stewardship Chairmen:
We have something new for you!**

Our new "Faith & Finance" e-newsletter is designed especially for financial lay leaders in the church. Veterans or rookies, church leaders can use this quarterly resource tool to lead their churches in all stewardship and financial endeavors. The newsletter's timely articles will assist in educating and inspiring congregations on the benefits of giving—not just for the church budget, but as a matter of discipleship and a means of transforming lives. The first issue's headlines included:

- Survey Reveals New Trends in Church Giving, Budgeting
- 10 Ways to Inspire Generosity and Increase Church Giving in ANY Economy
- Could Your Church Be At Risk for Embezzlement?
- Vision Creates Resources: A Church's Story

Contact us at information@umf.org to get on the mailing list, or view the archives on our website at www.umf.org. (Click on Resources, then Publications, then Faith & Finance.)