Estate Planning #3 - **How?**

Dear Fellow Servant
of Christ,

In the previous letter, we thought about what the impact of your estate gift can be. In reality, your estate gift can impact your family, your church, GPLHS, and any other of your ministry passions.

Once you come to grips with questions like "**Why** am I considering an estate gift?" and "**What** do I want my gift to do?" the next question that naturally flows is "**How**?" "How can I make a notable impact with my gift?" "How can I achieve my desired goals?"

Here's where things can get a bit fuzzy. Do terms like bequest, beneficiary, trust, and annuity paint a clear picture? Or do they make your eyes glaze over? Chances are you are wondering, "Where do I begin?"

A great place to start is by determining a couple of particulars: 1) your impact goals; and 2) your assets. Why? Because these details serve as the foundation upon which your estate plan can be built.

Yet, before you travel down this road much farther, we suggest you talk to someone who is trained to help people work through this process. With that in mind, GPL can provide some guidance and help you connect with a Christian giving counselor. A trained giving counselor can help you explore the options for transferring your assets to meet your charitable giving goals.

To accomplish this, you and a trusted giving counselor will likely discuss your family circumstances, church and ministry passions, as well as various life events, your plans for specific assets, or tax issues that concern you. You'll also want to consider the best timing and gifting strategies to use in order to achieve your impact goals.

Maybe this all sounds overwhelming. If so, you're not alone.

For many people the hardest part is getting started. However, if establishing an estate plan is something you want to do, you have to start somewhere. So start the conversation. We are here to help you start the process and make connections.

May God bless your use of the resources available to you. Doing so will allow you to offer an estate gift that will significantly impact the lives of others now and into eternity.

GREAT PLAINS LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

P.S. If you would like to have an initial meeting to talk about estate planning, please contact our Mission Advancement Office at 605-886-0672.