



# PLANNED GIVING GUIDE



CHRISTIAN  
STUDY CENTER

A home for the University of Florida community, facilitating encounters  
with a Christian vision of life, learning, and hospitality.



# Planned Giving

to the Christian Study Center

## Why participate in Planned Giving?

Creating a will that reflects your values will offer peace of mind, blessing to your family, and long-term sustainability for the organizations you care about. A planned gift also provides tax advantages, particularly for gift of appreciated stock and real estate. The total income, estate, and capital gains tax savings, as well as the savings on probate expenses, can be substantial.

## 5 Ways to Bless My Family's Future

**1. Get a Will.** When people start adding up the value of their home, life insurance, retirement accounts, and other property, they begin to see that even with a modest middle class estate, a plan is needed that provides for their families and the charities they love.

**2. Reduce (or eliminate) unnecessary taxes and court costs.** A Will can help you reduce probate hassles and costs, avoid certain taxes, and decrease other administrative expenses – freeing up more resources to your heirs and charitable work.

**3. Decide who will manage your stuff after you die.** Without a Will, a court decides how to distribute your estate. On the other hand, when you name your own representative in your Will, you decide who will distribute the money and assets entrusted to you.

**4. Decide who will take care of your kids.** If you have minor children, a Will allows you to name the guardian of your children and a Trustee of the assets to provide for the children. If a court is left to make these decisions for you, your spiritual values may be disregarded.

**5. Include “ministry” in your family.** Your Will can be powerful testimony to family and friends. Including your extended “family” in your Will – namely your church and favorite organizations – is a wonderful way to express your values for generations to come.



# Methods of Giving

to the Christian Study Center

- Cash
- Appreciated Securities
- Retirement Plan Assets
- Charitable Lead Trust
- Real Estate
- Life Insurance
- Bequest
- Legacy Society

The Christian Study Center (federal tax ID number 59-3638273) is a Florida nonprofit organization exempted from federal income tax as a 501(c)(3) publicly supported charity. The CSC does not provide legal, tax or financial advice. When considering planning matters, seek the advice of your own legal, tax or financial professionals.

# Cash

Simple with immediate impact

## Benefits

- Cash is the easiest gift to make.
- Cash gifts go straight to work supporting the programs that are important to you.
- Cash gifts may be combined with other techniques described in this guide to leverage the impact of your gift.

## Did You Know?

- We accept checks or you can contribute online using a credit card at [christianstudycenter.org/give](http://christianstudycenter.org/give)
- Cash gifts provide the maximum charitable income tax deduction available under federal tax laws. For cash gifts, you can claim a deduction up to 60 percent of your adjusted gross income, with any excess balance carried forward for up to five years.

# Appreciated Securities

Minimize tax and Maximize Gift

## Benefits

Giving appreciated securities—stocks and bonds—can be more tax efficient than giving cash.

HERE'S WHY:

- If you make a gift of securities directly to the CSC, you will qualify for an income tax deduction — and gift credit with the CSC — for the full market value, without paying capital gains tax.
- If you were to sell these securities before making the gift, you would have to pay tax on any capital gains.

## Did You Know?

- If you own securities in a brokerage account, these shares can easily be electronically transferred to the CSC.
- In most cases, the CSC will promptly sell gifted securities that are publicly traded and apply the cash toward the purpose you designate.
- Closely held stock and other securities that are not publicly traded work best when there is a mechanism for the CSC to sell the gifted interest to other stakeholders or the corporation itself. For these gifts, the donor must usually obtain an appraisal to claim a tax deduction. **For more information, contact Larry Christian, Raymond James at (352)-642-8330.**

# Retirement Plan Assets

## Avoid Double Taxation

### Benefits

- Retirement accounts such as IRAs, 401(k) and 403(b) plans, can be subject to double taxation — ordinary income and estate tax — meaning that more than 60 percent can go to taxes if left to your heirs.
- Retirement plan assets left to the CSC will transfer tax-free.
- In planning for your estate, consider giving the CSC your retirement plan assets and leave more favorably taxed assets to your family.

### Did You Know?

- Most account administrators require the organization's legal name and tax ID number. To designate the CSC as a beneficiary, the legal name is The Christian Study Center of Gainesville, Inc., and the tax ID number is 59-3638273.
- Under the “Protecting Americans from Tax Hikes Act” of 2015, Americans over age 70 ½ can distribute up to \$100,000 in a calendar year from an IRA to the CSC or other public charities tax-free. This can be a significant benefit for IRA owners who are subject to required minimum distributions (RMDs), which are included in their gross income. If your spouse has a separate IRA, he or she can also make a qualified charitable distribution. The amount of the transfer will not be included in your taxable income, and the transferred amount may count toward your RMD.\*

\*The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 (Act) increased the age for required minimum distributions from retirement plans.

The Act increased the age retirees must begin taking taxable withdrawals to age 73 in 2023 and age 75 by 2033, up from age 72 under the previous law. IRA owners can still make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) starting at age 70 ½. Additionally, beginning in 2024, the maximum annual QCD amount of \$100,000 will increase to account for inflation.

# Charitable Lead Trust

## A Valuable Estate Planning Tool

### Benefits

- Charitable Lead Trust can greatly reduce or eliminate gift or estate tax on trust assets passing to family members.
- Charitable Lead Trust makes annual payments to the CSC for a period of time set by the donor, then distributes the remaining assets to the donor's family or other named beneficiaries.
- This structure provides a tax-advantaged method of supporting the CSC for a set number of years, with a potentially significant future tax-free distribution to family and other heirs.

### Did You Know?

- Charitable Lead Trust is complex and must be carefully reviewed by the donor's advisors to ensure it is compatible with their entire estate plan.

# Real Estate

The greatest Gift at the Lowest Cost

## Benefits

### OUTRIGHT GIFTS

- Receive a charitable income tax deduction for the full fair market value of the property.
- Avoid capital gains tax on appreciation.
- Transfer to the CSC the burden and expense of managing and selling your property.

## Did You Know?

- The National Christian Foundation (NCF) has the resources and expertise to facilitate most real estate gifts.
- An appraisal is usually required to substantiate the tax deduction for most real estate gifts, and the appraisal must be obtained by the donor.
- Property subject to a mortgage may not be suitable as a gift due to tax and other considerations.

## Benefits

### RETAINED LIFE ESTATE

- Benefits
- Transfer title of your personal residence, farm or ranch now, while retaining the right to live in it or use it for the rest of your life or another's life. Upon the death(s) of the life tenant(s), title to the property vests to the CSC, and any subsequent sale proceeds will be applied to the purpose you designate.

## Did You Know?

- You receive an immediate income tax deduction based on the fair market value less the present value of the retained life estate.



# Life Insurance

Name CSC as the Beneficiary

## Benefits

- Life insurance allows donors to leverage their resources while providing an extraordinary gift for future students.
- You can donate your existing policy by making the CSC beneficiary and receive an income tax deduction for the value of the policy.

## Did You Know?

- If you prefer, you can maintain ownership of your policy but still name the CSC as a beneficiary. This way, you maintain the flexibility to change beneficiaries if your situation changes.
- Fully paid-up policies are preferable to the CSC. We may cash out gifts of policies not fully paid up unless the donor makes gifts to the CSC to cover future premium payments.
- If you have a term policy (often provided as an employment benefit), consider naming the CSC as a beneficiary.

# Bequest

## A Revocable Gift in Your Living Will or Living Trust

### Benefits

- A bequest is a gift to the CSC at your passing, generally through a provision in your will or living trust.
- It may be revoked at any time during your lifetime if your situation changes.

### Did You Know?

- You can complete a Change of Beneficiary form to name the CSC as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, bank account, brokerage account or life insurance policy.
- A bequest might not be received by the CSC for many years — so there's a delay in funding the gifted purpose. As a result, restrictions placed on the use of your gift should be as minimal as possible, providing the CSC with maximum flexibility, as priorities and programs change over time.
- For suggested bequest language, go to [www.christianstudycenter.org/give](http://www.christianstudycenter.org/give) or call (352)-379-7375.

# Legacy Society

Honoring those who remember the CSC

## Benefits

- Donors of planned gifts to the CSC are eligible for membership in the Legacy Society.
- Membership is one way we are able to thank you during your lifetime for your planned gift.

## Legacy Society Members Receive:

- Invitations to exclusive events
- Tri-annual newsletter
- Designation as a Director's Council member\* (with gifts of more than \$100,000)
- If you have already provided for a planned gift to the CSC, please contact the Director of Advancement to join the Legacy Society.

## Here are some ways to become eligible for membership:

- Include a bequest for the CSC in your will or living trust.
- Name CSC as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or retirement account.
- Name CSC as the beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust or charitable lead trust.
- Deed your home or other residential property to CSC while retaining a life estate.

\*Membership in the Director's Council is based on cumulative giving. Gifts of cash, securities, real estate or insurance premiums, deferred gifts, employer matches and gifts in kind are all counted toward your cumulative giving.