



Resource Guide

This **Resource Guide for Wayzata Community Church (WCC) Members on Estate Planning** is designed to help individuals and families plan their legacy in alignment with their faith and values.

Faithful Stewardship: A Resource Guide to Estate Planning & Planned Giving

Building a Legacy of Love, Family, and Faith

Introduction

Estate planning is more than just financial preparation—it is an opportunity to reflect on what matters most: your faith, family, and the causes that have shaped your life. At **Wayzata Community Church**, we believe that wise stewardship is an act of gratitude and devotion. This guide will help you explore estate planning strategies that not only provide for your loved ones but also support **WCC's ministries and mission for generations to come**.

1. Why Estate Planning Matters

- ✓ **Protects Your Loved Ones** – Ensures your assets are distributed according to your wishes.
- ✓ **Strengthens Your Legacy** – Reflects your faith and values in your giving decisions.
- ✓ **Maximizes Impact** – Allows you to bless **family, charitable organizations, and the church** in a tax-efficient way.
- ✓ **Provides Peace of Mind** – Prevents uncertainty for your family and loved ones.

 *Scriptural Reflection:*

"A good person leaves an inheritance for their children's children..." — Proverbs 13:22

2. Essential Estate Planning Tools

Wills & Trusts

- ◆ A **Will** ensures your assets are distributed as you desire. Without one, the courts decide.
- ◆ A **Trust** can help minimize taxes, avoid probate, and provide greater flexibility.

Beneficiary Designations

♦ You can name WCC as a beneficiary of your **retirement accounts, life insurance policies, or investment accounts** with a simple form—no attorney required.

Planned Giving Strategies

- ♦ **Charitable Bequests** – Designate a portion of your estate to WCC in your will.
- ♦ **Donor-Advised Funds** – Make charitable contributions while reducing tax burdens.
- ♦ **IRA Charitable Rollovers** – If you're 70½ or older, you can donate up to \$100,000 annually from your IRA tax-free.
- ♦ **Charitable Remainder Trusts** – Provide income for you or loved ones while leaving a gift to WCC.

 *Scriptural Reflection:*

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." — 2 Corinthians 9:7

3. How Your Legacy Supports WCC's Mission

Your estate plan can help **strengthen and sustain** the ministries you love, including:

-  **Worship & Music** – Supporting choral programs and sacred arts.
-  **Children & Youth Ministries** – Investing in future generations of faith leaders.
-  **Community Outreach** – Expanding mission work, local aid, and global partnerships.
-  **Scholarships & Education** – Helping students deepen their faith through study and service.
-  **Pastoral Care & Support** – Ensuring ongoing spiritual care for our congregation.

 *Scriptural Reflection:*

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." — Matthew 6:21

4. Practical Steps to Begin

1. **Reflect on Your Values & Priorities** – Consider how you want to provide for family and charitable causes.
2. **Meet with an Estate Planning Professional** – Work with an attorney or financial advisor to create or update your plan.
3. **Review Beneficiary Designations** – Ensure your retirement accounts, insurance policies, and investments align with your intentions.
4. **Explore Planned Giving Options** – Consider ways to include WCC in your estate plan.
5. **Have a Conversation with Loved Ones** – Share your vision for giving and legacy-building.
6. **Consult WCC's Generosity Team** – We can help guide you through the process and discuss giving opportunities.

 *Scriptural Reflection:*

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans." — Proverbs 16:3

5. Ways to Connect & Learn More

- ♦ **Attend a WCC Legacy Planning Event** – Join us for upcoming workshops and discussions.
- ♦ **Schedule a Confidential Consultation** – Our generosity team is available to discuss your goals and answer questions.
- ♦ **Request Estate Planning Resources** – Resources, sample bequest language, and more available upon request.

Contact Our Generosity Team

 Wayzata Community Church, 125 Wayzata Blvd E, Wayzata, MN
 (952) 473-8877 |  dknoll@wayzatacommunitychurch.org

Closing Thought

Planning your estate is a profound way to **express love for your family, faith, and future generations**. Through thoughtful stewardship, your legacy will continue to bless and inspire for years to come.

 *"The world of the generous gets larger and larger..."* — Proverbs 11:24