

# Your Generosity Matters

*Planning your philanthropy for impact*

**Justin Gould**, *Chief Philanthropy Officer*

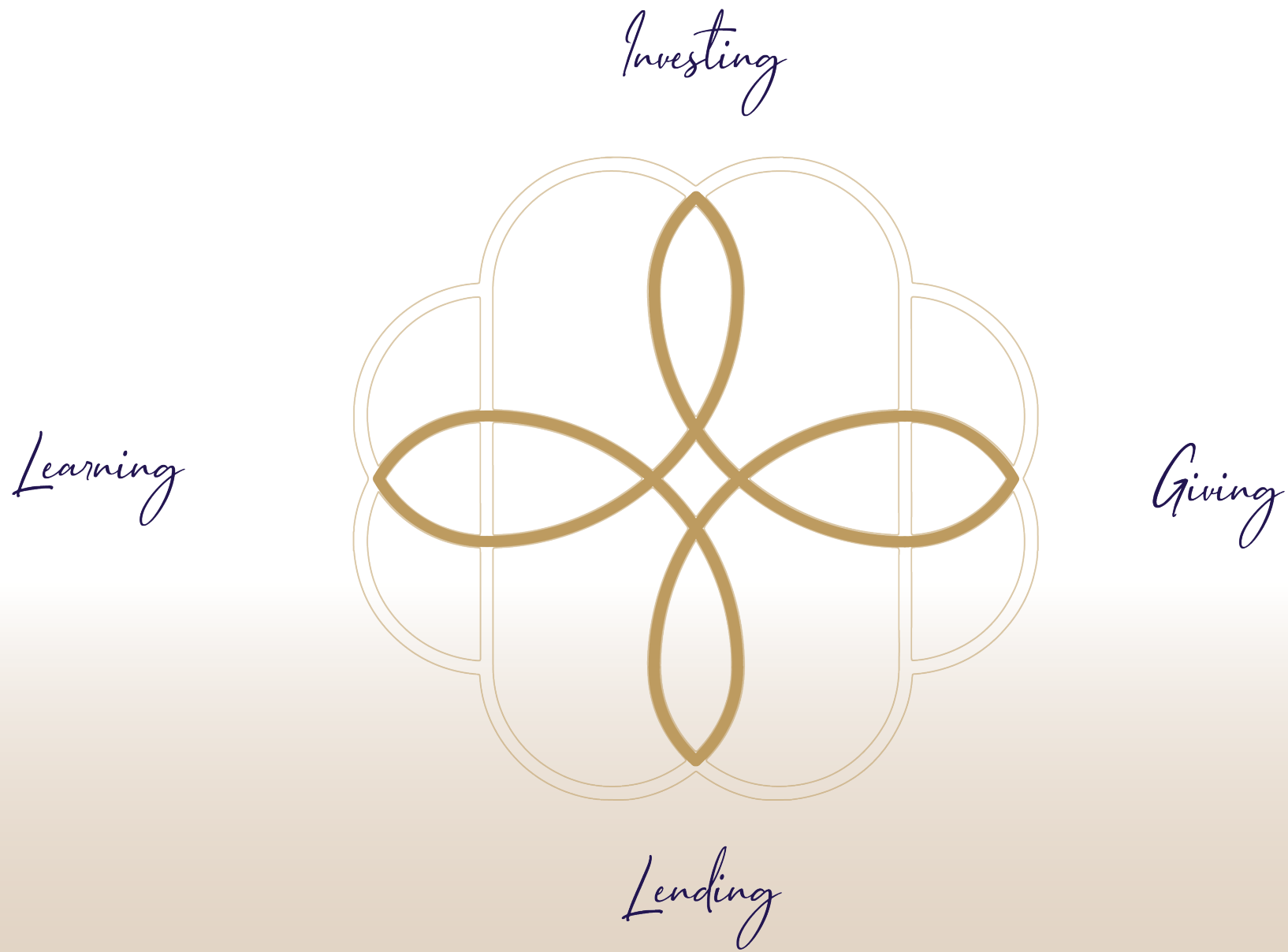
**Pamela Gray**, *Dir. of Philanthropy, Gift Planning*

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**Tom Stanton**, *General Counsel*



# Partnering in... **A CYCLE OF GENEROSITY**



# Today's Conversation

- Why Do People Give?
- Personal Estate Planning Kit
- Wealth Transfer
- Legislation that drives Philanthropy
- What to give?
- How to give?
- Impact through Endowment





“Making a clear plan steeped in generosity is the most loving thing I can do.”

- Bishop Joseph A. Wilson

# Why Do People Give?



# Living Generously and Graciously

- **God is the provider and the owner.** God has entrusted us with the resources we have in our lives.
- **We are the receivers and the stewards** of these resources. We are responsible for how we use the resources we are entrusted.
- We are called to take **positive action** , using the resources to **live generously and take positive action.**

“Live out your God-created identity. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you.”

**Matthew 5:48**

“I will bless you...and you will be a blessing”

**Genesis 12:2**

“Earn all you can, save all you can, and give all you can.”

**John Wesley**

# Why *Your* Generosity Matters

- **Commitments of Discipleship:** prayer, presence, gifts, service, witness
- **Relationship with God:** We give because we've experience God's generosity first.
- **Spiritual Practice:** Like prayer or service, generosity deepens trust, stretches faith, and reorients our hearts from scarcity to abundance.
- **Bearing Witness:** Generous disciples make the gospel visible through open hands, shared tables, and lives poured out for others.

*What is the difference God is calling me to make in this community and the world?*

# Personal Estate Planning Kit

- Planning tools
  - Lesson Book
  - Record Book
  - *Passing Your Story on to Loved Ones*





# Philanthropy in the United States

Giving USA



# Legislation Impacts Philanthropy

## ○ H.R.1 of 2025

- Extensions of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act
  - Estate and gift tax exemption has been increased to \$15 million for 2026 tax year
- Above-the-line charitable deductions for non-itemizers beginning in 2026
  - Up to \$1,000 single filers and up to \$2,000 for joint filers
- New limits to deductions for itemizers in the top tax bracket
- New floor on deductions for itemizers and corporations *\*Source: Stelter*

## ○ SECURE Act 1.0 (Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement) of 2019

- Inherited IRAs for non-spouses must be distributed within 10 years

## ○ SECURE 2.0 Act of 2023

- Increases the minimum age for RMD's to 73
- Established the Legacy IRA via QCD to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity (once per lifetime)



# Why is an Estate Plan Important?

Benefit	Description
Clarity of wishes	Ensures assets are distributed as you intend
Protect loved ones	Designates guardians, provides for dependents
Tax minimization	Reduces estate, gift, and income taxes
Conflict reduction	Prevents family disputes
Incapacity planning	Appoints decisionmakers for health and finances if you can't act
Charitable giving	Allows you to support causes important to you

# Seasons of Generosity

1st Quarter

Age: under 40

Starting  
family &  
career

2nd Quarter

Age: 40-54

Building family,  
career, wealth,  
affinities

4th Quarter

Age: 70  
"or better"

Retired,  
rested, and  
available!

3rd Quarter

Age: 55-69

Peak earning  
years, building  
wealth and  
legacies

Pass it on or pay it forward?  
*Why not both?*

An inheritance can be more than  
wealth; a legacy is about passing  
on values and opportunity.

**Halftime !**

People start thinking about  
significance, security for beloved  
people & places

# Gifts for the Present

- Cash
- Appreciated Securities
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)
- Other tangible assets
  - Real estate
  - Art and collectibles
  - Royalties, business interests



*We not only give our **TREASURE** but also, we give our **TIME**, **TALENT**, **TESTIMONY** and **TIES**.*

# Easy Gifts for the Future

Of the \$45.84 billion given by bequest in 2024 and estimated \$10.24 billion was given by estates under \$1 million

- Gifts by Will

- General – stated sum of money
- Specific – certain asset from your estate
- Residuary – after other bequests and expenses have been paid
- Contingent – given based on a contingency

- Gifts by Living Trust

- Trust assets do not go through probate, which can provide privacy
- Revocable

- Beneficiary Designation

# A Will Story...

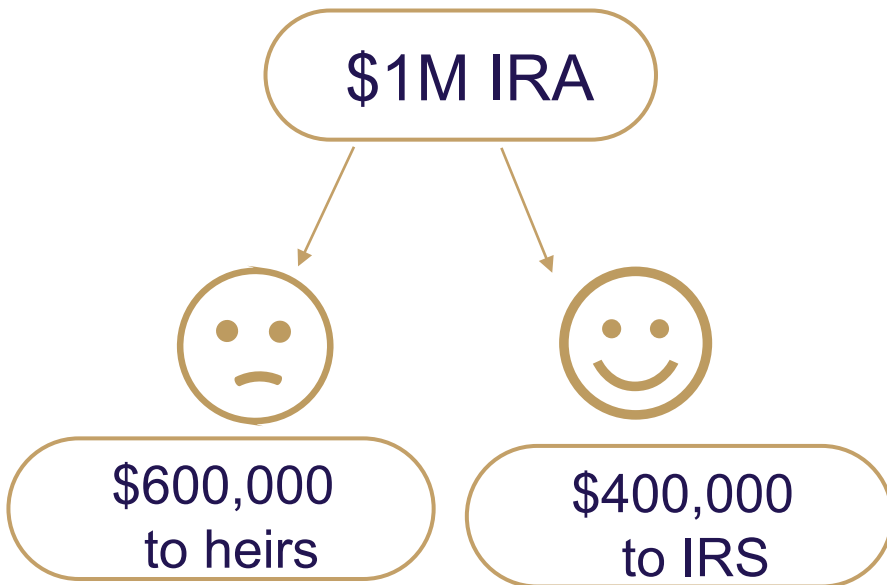
- JoAnn Ranton of Waxahachie, TX
  - The James & JoAnn Ranton Family Endowment was established during their lifetime and is included in her estate
  - Multiple beneficiaries



# Taxwise Giving: Retirement Assets

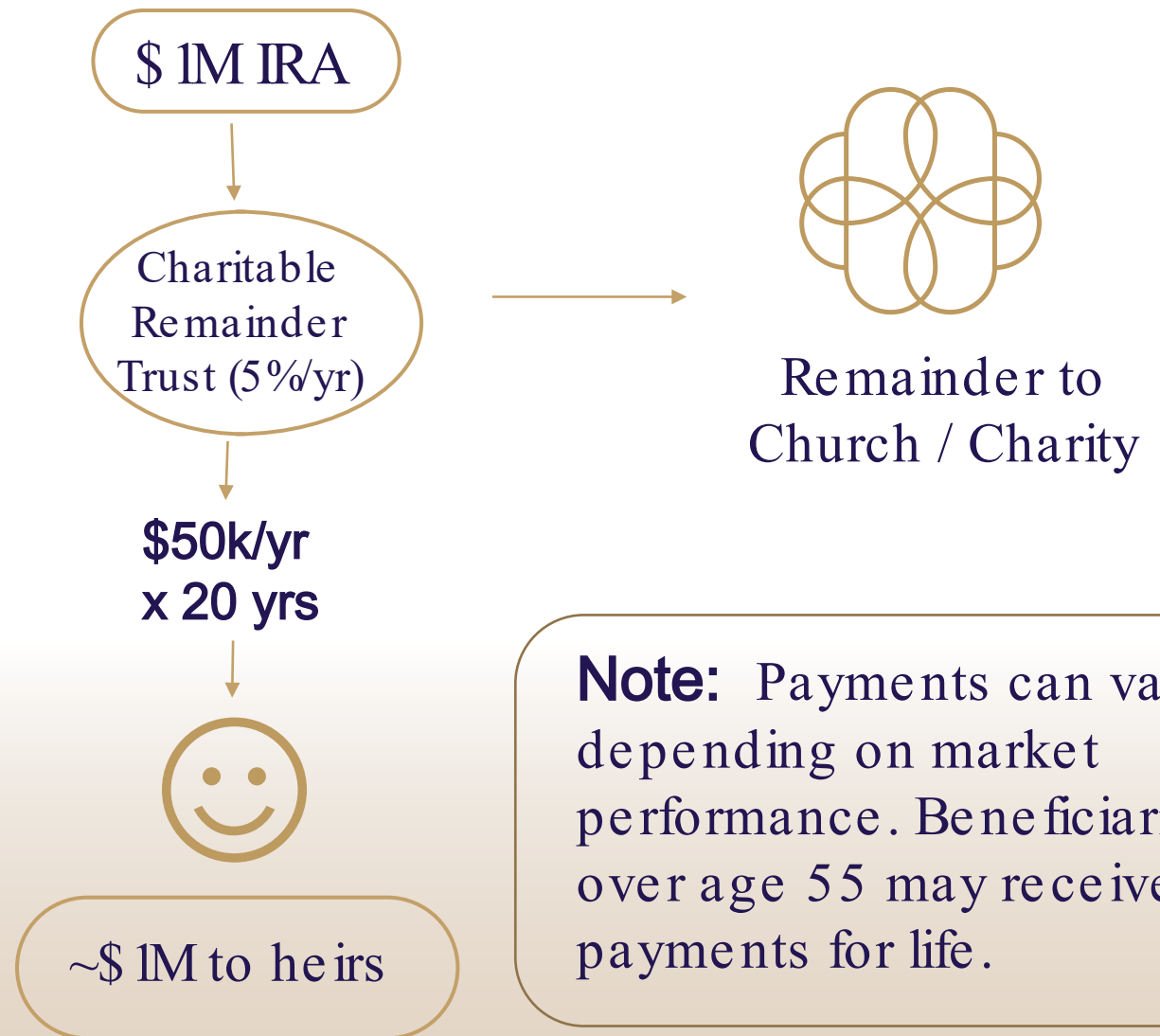
- Retirement assets are often the *easiest and smartest gifts to give to charity*
- **Lifetime giving** : Qualified Charitable Distribution (For individuals 70.5+)
  - Excluded from income, satisfies Required Minimum Distribution
  - Up to \$11k allowed per individual, per year.
  - Up to \$54k per individual can be used to make a one-time donation to establish a CRT or CGA
- **Future gift** : Beneficiary Designation or Stretch IRA
  - Why? Non-spouse heirs pay income tax on inherited retirement accounts
  - This can result in nearly 40% of the value lost to taxation at death.

## Without Charitable Planning



**Note:** Assumption for non-spouse heirs, who may pay ~40% income tax on inherited retirement accounts.

## With Charitable Planning



**Note:** Payments can vary, depending on market performance. Beneficiaries over age 55 may receive payments for life.

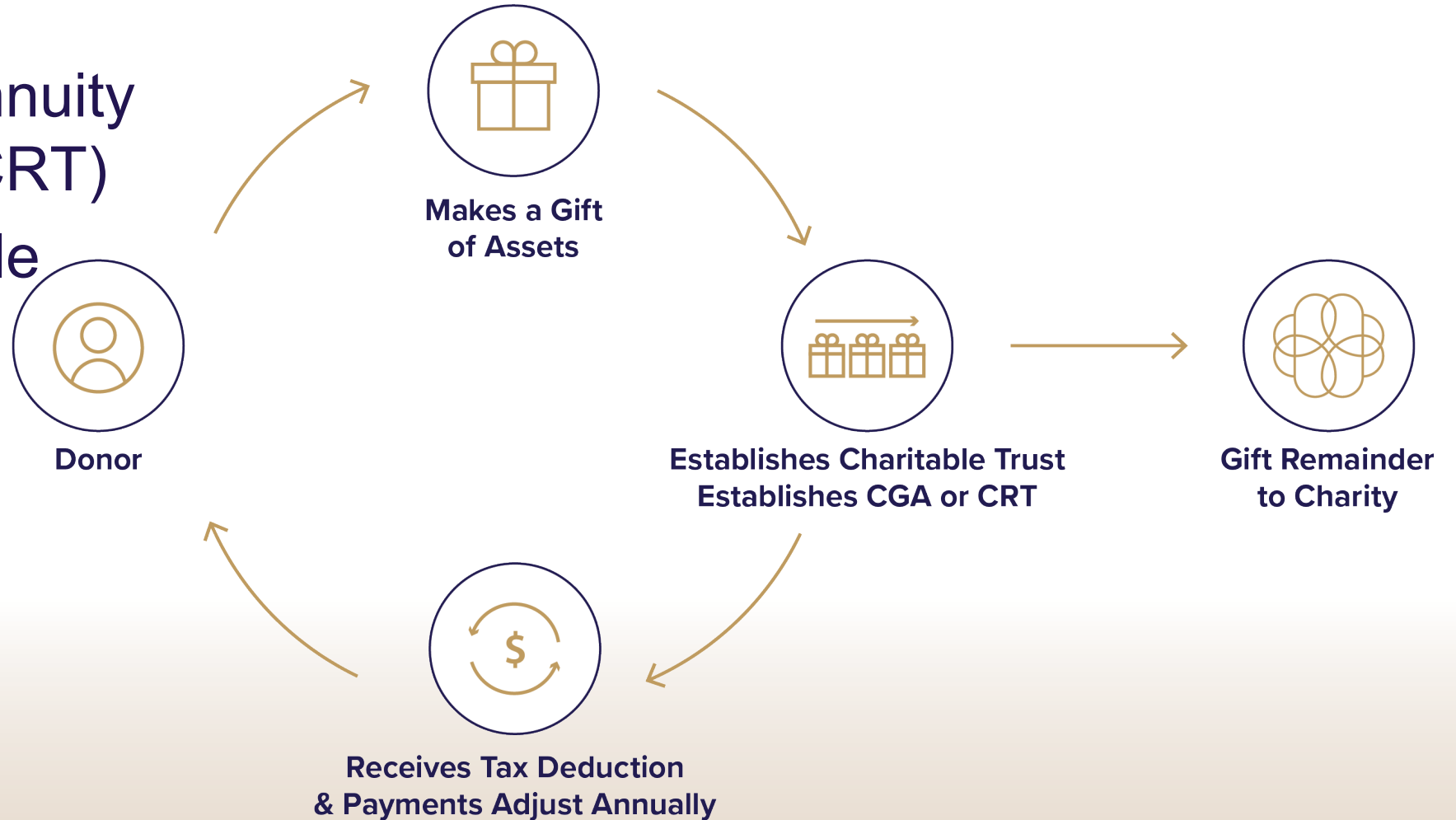
# Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

- The King Family
- Excluded from income
- For individuals age 70 ½
- For 2026, the QCD limit has increased to \$111,000 per individual or \$222,000 per couple
- There is a one-time option of \$55,000 to establish a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) or Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)



# Gifts That Pay You

- Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) or Trust (CRT)
  - CGA is a simple contract
  - CRT must be drafted by an advisor



# A CGA Story...

**Jack and Carol Nuzum of  
Albuquerque, NM**

*“The gift annuity was the best of both worlds,” Jack shared. “We would have a good return on our investment while we were alive and generously support the work of our church after we passed.”*

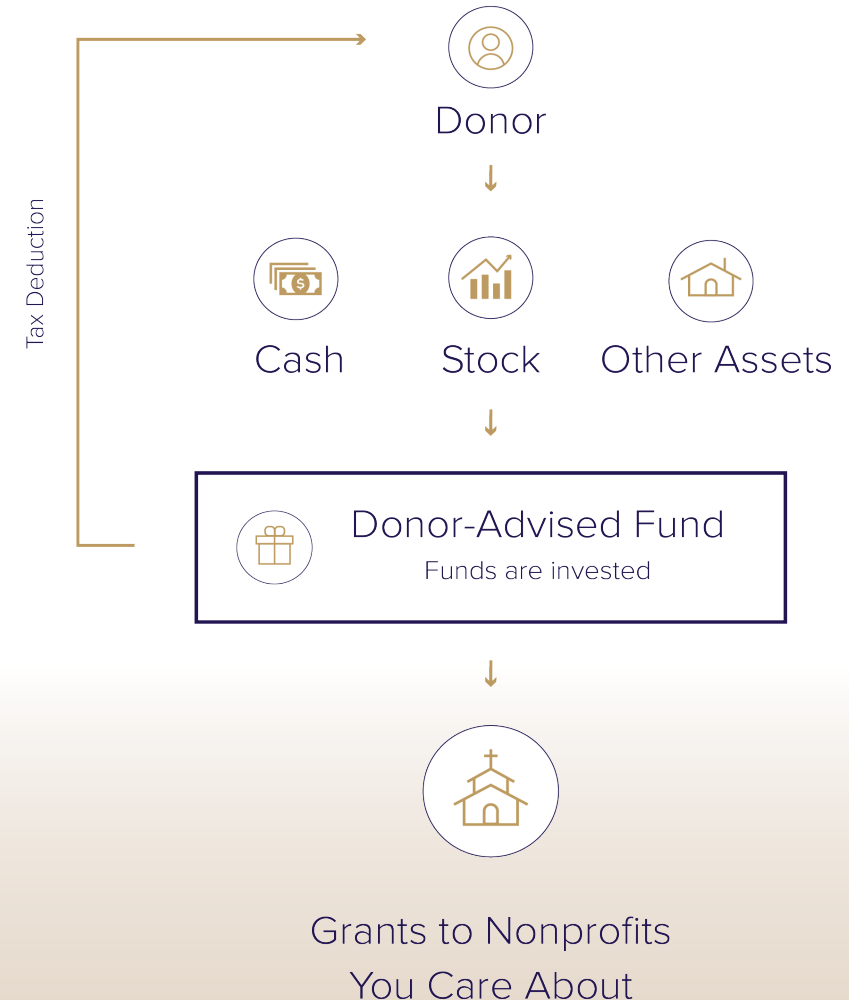


# Taxwise Giving: Donor-Advised Funds

A charitable fund set up by an individual or family at TMF that will grow and provide the flexibility to impact different charities each year.

Benefits include:

- Immediate tax-deduction
- Simplicity
- Privacy
- Investment growth
- Legacy and family involvement
- Flexibility





# Donor-advised Fund Stories...

- **The Snyder Family**
  - Family Foundation
- **The Ausley Family**
  - Appreciated securities
  - Values based intergenerational giving

# Long Endowment



# Endowments Perpetuate Generosity

- Endowments are permanent funds, kept separate from an organization's operating fund. They are invested to grow and keep pace with normal inflation, and make an annual distribution based on a percentage of the value (usually between 4-5%.)
- They can be set up by organizations and individuals and are governed by policies and procedures that adhere with TUPMIFA.

## **Other benefits:**

- Secure a healthy financial future through a sustainable income source
- Build capacity
- Allow individuals and families to express their values and create a meaningful legacy

*“I found a way to make sure my faith continues to shine through my church for generations,” Scott said. “I want this church to be here long after I’m gone, for my family, including my grandson, who was recently baptized and is now the 5<sup>th</sup> generation of the Roberts family to attend FUMC La Porte.”*



- **Scott Roberts** created the Roberts Family Endowment to support his church.

# What Will Your Story Be?

*“Anyone can build a giving legacy. All you need is a generous spirit.”*

**-Cathy Bell**

Three key questions to consider:

- What really matters to me?
- How do I want to be remembered?
- What values do you hope to share with the next generation?

# Questions?

- Visit us
  - <https://texasmethodistfoundation.planmygift.org>
- Email us
  - [giftplanning@texasmethodistfoundation.org](mailto:giftplanning@texasmethodistfoundation.org)
- Call us
  - 512-583-1940

