

The Resurrection Lutheran Church Endowment Committee will host a **lunch** and ***Peace Through Planning*** seminar on **Sunday, August 22**, after the second service.

It is easy for all of us to postpone planning for our death, funeral and estate distribution. To help us prepare for our future needs the ***Peace Through Planning*** workshop will include presentations from:

- an estate planning attorney
- an ELCA gift planner
- a funeral home representative
- and Pastor Corey

The emphasis will be education of the topics, **not** on selling of services. The following story is to get us thinking about our own plans...

Tithing from the Grave

George sat across from his Charitable Estate Gift Planner sharing stories about how he fell in love with his bride. He was 93 years old. "I was headed off to fly planes in the war, and had I decided I wanted to marry my girl. So, I flew in a little jumper plane to Atlanta in 30-degree weather to pick up her ring. I wanted to ask her before I left so no one else would snag her up while I was gone."

George and his bride Lois have been married for more than 70 years now. "We have been tithing for more than half of that." Like most couples, when they first got married, they felt they had nothing and tithing to their congregation was last on their list. As they grew and matured in their faith, their priorities and their generosity changed.

"Our congregation does good work in the community," said George. "We feed God's people and look out for each other. The world needs more messages of grace, not less. Our tithe helps provide hope." George and Lois were worried that when they died, their tithe would die with them. They were worried that the congregation would feel that loss on a monthly basis and feared it would limit the congregation's ability to continue in the important ministry they do.

George and Lois decided to tithe their estate to their congregation by making their congregation the beneficiary of one of their Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) that represented 10% of their assets. They chose to use the gift to start an endowment for the congregation knowing that with a standard 4 or 5% distribution each year, their tithe would live on in perpetuity.

George and Lois were ready to make their gift, but their congregation wasn't ready to receive it. They had not discussed the possibility and did not have an endowment by-law ready to answer the questions, who will steward the endowment, how will it be invested and how will we use the quarterly distributions to build up the Kingdom of God? Their gift helped spark the congregation to action and now, three other couples in the congregation had followed the faithful and generous example of George and Lois.

Resurrection Lutheran Church has a formal gift policy which was attached to the July 15th newsletter.

For more information on how to include Resurrection Lutheran Church in your estate [click here to submit your request electronically via web browser](#)

or

return the information below to the church office.

I/We are interested in including Resurrection Lutheran Church (Lebanon, OH) in my/our estate plan and would like more information.

Name _____ Phone _____ email _____