

The United Church
of Canada



The United Church of Canada
FOUNDATION

Here I Am

God is calling
you to create
a meaningful
legacy. *How
will you be
remembered?*

**Your legacy will
help ensure that
your church
remains vibrant
for generations
to come.**

The good leave an
inheritance to their
children's children.

Proverbs 13:22



Your legacy will be a bold and vibrant church for the future!



In Exodus, God calls Moses to lead the Israelites out of slavery. In 1 Samuel, God calls to their young prophet in the night. And in the Gospels, Jesus calls Mary Magdalene first to spread word of the Easter resurrection to his disciples and believers.

As Easter People, we know that God is calling us, too: to carry out God's work in our community, and to ensure that God's faith and love flourishes.

What is God calling us to do? Today, as we in the United Church of Canada celebrate our centennial year, God is calling us to create a strong foundation for our next century. In doing so, we will ensure that the United Church of the future is one that is bold, and vibrant, and alive for another 100 years!

When God calls us, we must answer as Moses, Samuel, and Mary did: by saying, **"Here I Am!"**

Your Congregation

Each of us loves our home church. Maybe you were born into this community of faith. Maybe yours is a congregation that you chose for yourself. Maybe you chanced upon a Christmas Eve service and decided to stay. Regardless of how you arrived, your church is your home and family.

We each feel a strong connection to our particular faith community: we look forward to singing our favourite hymns, and seeing the familiar faces and friends who bring us comfort and joy. In good times, our fellow church members celebrate and worship with us; in times of difficulty, they are by our side to offer support, wisdom, and guidance through scripture and being a good neighbour.

Your congregation is the active heart of your faith, offerings, and ministries that support, nurture, and heal your community on local, national, and global scales. Your congregation is your bastion of faith. We must all do our part to strengthen it, cherish it, and protect it.

Creating Your Legacy

As part of our centenary celebrations, the United Church of Canada is asking each of us what our legacy will be. The call is clear: to be God's light for the world for the next hundred years or more.

You may ask yourself: "Can I, as an individual, do anything to ensure that my congregation remains vibrant and strong for years and years to come?"

The answer is YES! You can choose to leave a legacy that strengthens and benefits your congregation. By naming your congregation in your will, you can sustain your local ministries and purpose through Christ for long after you are called home.

A Legacy Gift is most likely the largest single donation you will ever make. As such, it is the gift that has the greatest impact. Legacy Gifts are aptly named: they are how future generations will remember us.

Ask yourself: Would a portion of my estate...

... Fund my congregation's ongoing ministries?

... Sustain my congregation through times of transition and uncertainty?

... Facilitate the creation of new, transformational ministry programs?

... Create or fortify my congregation's endowments?

Like Jesus taught in his Parable of the Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31-32), even the smallest gift has the potential to grow to have enormous impact. Your gift will make a difference to your congregation, and pave the way for your neighbours to make Legacy Gifts of their own.



When God calls, I answer "YES!" My legacy will be a living, thriving church in the future!

For further information on how to empower your congregation through legacy giving, please contact:

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Visit centennialcampaign.ca for more resources





... out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.

John 7:38

Supporting The Ministries Closest to your Heart

Beyond your congregation, you may also feel called by God to make a gift to many other ministries of the United Church of Canada, including Mission and Service.

Year-in and year-out, your gifts to Mission and Service have transformed and saved lives, inspired people to live with meaning and purpose, and helped to build a better, more sustainable world. A Legacy Gift that includes Mission and Service has the power and potential to change lives across Canada and around the world, for future generations.

Securing a Future Through Endowments

You can support your congregation and favoured ministry by making your Legacy Gift through the United Church of Canada Foundation. Established in 2002 to be an independent steward of United Church of Canada's investments and endowments, the Foundation is an incredible avenue for ensuring your gift has long-term, long-lasting impact.

By establishing an endowment fund through the Foundation, you are providing your congregation with a stable, dependable source of income year after year. Through careful stewardship and investment, your gift will grow over time and continue to have meaningful impact into the future.

Here I Am

When God calls, we answer. We plan for the future in accordance with God's will. Jesus tells us to "build a house on rock" (Matthew 7:24-27), to create a firm foundation upon which our faith and church can be built. Your Legacy Gift, designated now, will create future stability. It will ensure that your church can continue to offer security, faith, and community for your loved ones, as well as enrich your community through the good works of your church.



Your Legacy Gift is your unique answer to God's call. Whether you are led to give a portion of your estate to your congregation, your most-cherished ministry, to the wider work of the United Church, or to the United Church of Canada Foundation, by doing so you are boldly answering, "**Here I Am!**"

What's next? Contact a Campaign Outreach Volunteer to learn how to make the most of your gift.

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Once you have provided for your family and loved ones in your Will, consider how best to include the ministries you love in your Estate plans.