



Seasons of Generosity – Planned Giving

Session One

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Opening Prayer

Welcome & Introductions

- Please state your name and congregation

Opening Prayer

God of all times and generations, teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. Open our hearts to see how our lives, our stories, and our choices can bless others and bear witness to your love. *Amen.*

Welcome



Why we're here

- ▶ To reflect on legacy as a **spiritual practice**
- ▶ To notice how **faith, aging, and gratitude** shape our choices
- ▶ To begin a conversation we'll continue together this Lent



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Scripture Grounding

Scripture: Psalm 90: 1-4, 12 (NRSV)

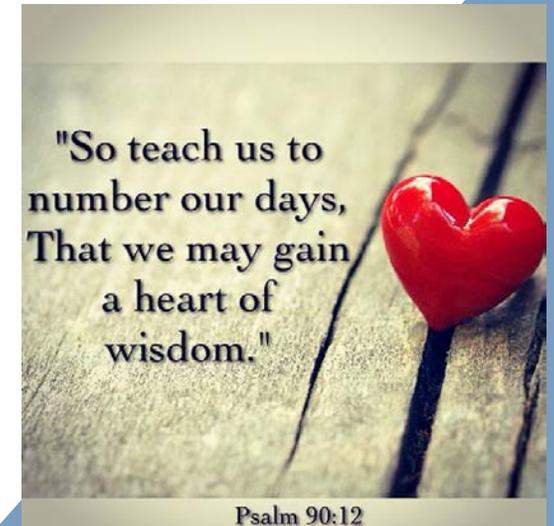
Lord, you have been our dwelling-place
in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to dust,
and say, 'Turn back, you mortals.'
For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.

So teach us to count our days
that we may gain a wise heart.

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Naming the Reality

Aging in Our Culture

- ▶ Our culture often avoids or dismisses aging
- ▶ Ageism can make wisdom feel invisible
- ▶ Yet Scripture names aging as a season of **clarity and meaning**



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Reframing Legacy

Legacy Is More Than What We Leave Behind

- ▶ Legacy is the story our lives tell
- ▶ It is shaped by relationships, choices, and love
- ▶ We are always *living into* a legacy—right now



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The Spirituality of Legacy

Legacy as Discipleship

- ▶ Rooted in **gratitude**, not fear
- ▶ Shaped by trust in God's abundance
- ▶ An expression of faith lived over time



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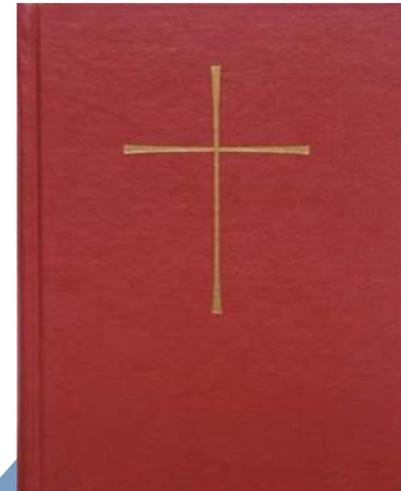


It's our Responsibility to Ask

From the Book of Common Prayer, p. 445

"The minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time, about the duty of Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well being of their families, and of all persons to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."

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What is a Legacy Society?

At Its Heart

- ▶ A ministry of gratitude and remembrance
- ▶ A way to honor faithfulness
- ▶ A way to invite others into generosity



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Why This Ministry Matters

For Your Congregation

- ▶ Encourages long-term sustainability
- ▶ Strengthens relationships and trust
- ▶ Invites deeper discipleship



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Planned Gifts: A Gentle Overview

Many Ways to Give

- ▶ Bequests in a will
- ▶ Beneficiary designations
- ▶ Gifts of retirement assets or insurance
- ▶ Gifts that support mission and ministry long-term



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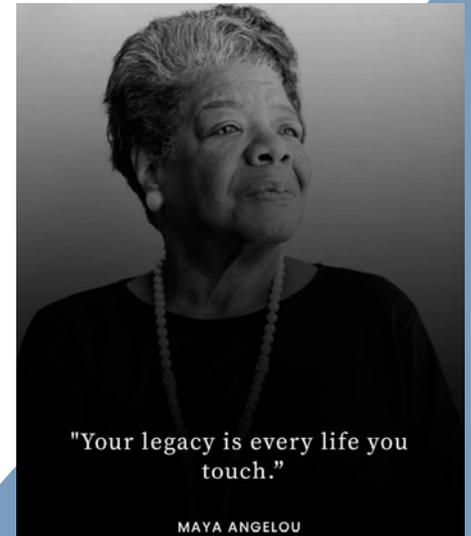


A Question Worth Holding...

How Do We Hope to Be Remembered?

- ▶ In our families?
- ▶ In our congregations?
- ▶ In the wider community?

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Small Group Work

In Your Breakout Group

- ▶ What does the word *legacy* mean to you?
- ▶ Who has shaped you through their legacy?
- ▶ What kind of legacy do you hope to leave?

Small-Group Work



A Local Story

A Story of Legacy

A planned gift that strengthened a parish's ministry for generations

Legacy in Context



Looking Ahead

This Is Just the Beginning

- ▶ Legacy grows from faith and gratitude
- ▶ Over the coming weeks, we'll explore:
 - ▶ Gratitude and generosity
 - ▶ Planned giving as a spiritual practice
 - ▶ How our stories can bless the Church



Closing



Closing Prayer

Gracious God, you give us all we need for life and faith. Teach us to be wise stewards of our blessings, that our lives may witness to your abundance and care, today and for generations to come. *Amen.*

Closing





Thank you!

For more information, resources, and videos, find us at www.tens.org

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