



Leaving a Faithful Legacy Through Estate Planning

Earth Ministry has more than a 20-year history of leading the way in caring for the environment from a faith perspective. If you want to make a lasting gift that reflects your deeply-felt values while making a real difference for the Earth, include Earth Ministry as part of your estate planning goals.

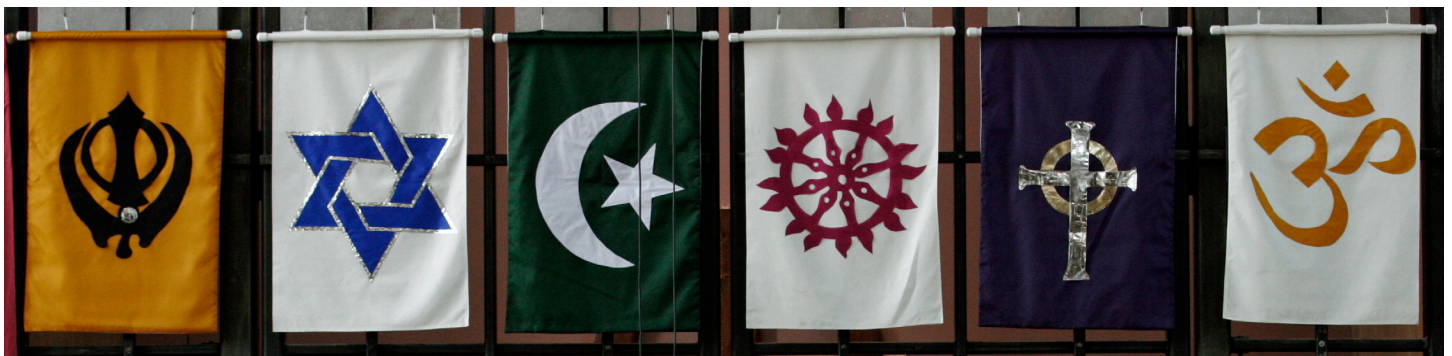
Estate planning isn't just for the rich or older people. It's for everyone! It can begin by simply writing a will, but it can also involve changing beneficiaries of life insurance policies and retirement accounts, and providing for your charitable interests through planned giving.

To ensure that your estate plans meet your long-term income and family needs, be sure to consult with your attorney or financial advisor.

Your commitment to Earth Ministry is important and greatly appreciated. Now you can leave an enduring legacy of support that will ensure the organization's work will continue well into the future. A planned gift is a powerful and thoughtful financial donation after your lifetime that shares your dedication to Earth Ministry and its vital mission with future generations.

If you decide to include Earth Ministry in your estate plans, please let us know. We value the opportunity to express our gratitude in person and would like to invite you to become a member of Earth Ministry's Sacred Giving Circle. We are also able to keep your giving anonymous if that is your preference.

To discuss making a planned gift to Earth Ministry, please contact Executive Director LeeAnne Beres at (206) 632-2426 or LeeAnne@earthministry.org. She will be happy to talk with you about planned gifts to consider or to schedule a time to meet with you in person.



Planned Giving Options

There are several different ways to make a planned gift to Earth Ministry. We are happy to work with you and your advisor to determine the one that is right for you. Please contact us with any questions.

Earth Ministry is registered with the IRS as a 501(c)3 charitable organization. Our tax ID number is 91-1547974.

Bequests

(Leaving a gift to Earth Ministry in your will)

One simple way to leave a lasting legacy of support is to make a charitable bequest to Earth Ministry in your will or living trust. You may specify a specific dollar amount or property, a percentage of your estate, or the residual after other designations are fulfilled.

A bequest to Earth Ministry is free from federal and state taxes. The amount of the bequest is deducted from your estate total, offering substantial saving by decreasing the value of the estate subject to taxation. There is no limit to the amount of your estate that can be left to charitable organizations.

If you have already made out your will and wish to amend it to include Earth Ministry, you can consider using codicil language to make your desired changes.

Your attorney can prepare a codicil which adds a new bequest while reaffirming the other terms of your will. If you have created a revocable trust you can make changes through an amendment.



In creating your will or living trust, you can consider naming Earth Ministry as follows:

"I give and bequeath [insert here the exact dollar amount, description of property, percentage of estate or residual estate] to Earth Ministry, a nonprofit membership organization, incorporated by the laws of the State of Washington, having as its principal address 6512 23rd Ave NW, Suite 317, Seattle, WA 98117."

Please note: This wording is intended to be used as sample wording only and is provided solely as a courtesy for our donors to share with their attorney. It should not be relied upon as a substitute for professional advice.

Earth Ministry
6512 23rd Avenue NW, Suite 317
Seattle, WA 98117
(206) 632-2426
www.earthministry.org



Gifts of Stock or Other Securities

Earth Ministry encourages gifts of stock and other securities that may provide you favorable tax benefits. To transfer securities, contact your stock broker. Please include the donor name on the stock transfer. As always, consult your tax advisor about your personal tax benefits gained through gifts of appreciated stock.

Grantee: Earth Ministry

Broker: National Planning Corp (NPC) Brokerage Fund

Earth Ministry Account Number: 5NP-619534

NPC DTC Number: 0443

NPC Phone: (206) 763-4350

NPC Fax: (206) 763-4364

Retirement Plans

You may name Earth Ministry as a beneficiary of your 401(k), IRA, or other retirement accounts. Designating Earth Ministry to receive the remaining balance in your retirement plan is a tax-wise strategy. Gifts from pension plans are issued free of federal taxes. Simply use your plan's beneficiary designation form and choose Earth Ministry as a beneficiary of either a percent or dollar amount.

You may also donate an IRA outright. The Pension Protection Act of 2006 opened up powerful options for current IRA rollover gifts from individuals age 70½ and above. Contact your IRA custodian directly on how to make an IRA Charitable Rollover to Earth Ministry.

Life Insurance

Life insurance policies offer another simple way to give to Earth Ministry. Just complete and return to the insurance company a form that states that Earth Ministry receives all or a portion of the death benefit associated with the insurance policy. By naming Earth Ministry as a beneficiary, the value of your estate will be reduced by the value of the amount that goes to Earth Ministry in the policy, potentially reducing estate taxes. Upon your death, the life insurance proceeds will be passed on to Earth Ministry.

Similar to IRAs, you can make a gift of a paid-up life insurance policy that you no longer need by transferring the policy outright to Earth Ministry. Or you might think about taking out a new policy benefiting Earth Ministry and receive tax benefits with each premium paid.



What gift is right for you?

We suggest that you involve legal and/or financial advisors before deciding on a course of action. Whatever you decide, keeping your estate plan up to date is important. Life changes, so make sure to review your will, retirement accounts, life insurance policies, and other financial documents periodically. A good time to update your estate plan is when a life event occurs, such as a marriage, divorce, birth or death, or when there are changes in tax law. The Washington State Bar Association has an excellent website that provides information regarding wills, along with an attorney referral list.

If you have any questions about how these gifts are accepted or used by Earth Ministry, please contact Executive Director LeeAnne Beres at (206) 632-2426 or LeeAnne@earthministry.org.

Earth Ministry's Sacred Giving Circle

Earth Ministry is inviting our most loyal supporters to join our Sacred Giving Circle. Simply by including Earth Ministry in your estate planning, you can help ensure that people of faith continue to play a leadership role in working for a just and sustainable future for God's children and all of creation – now and long into the future.

Benefits of membership include personal invitations to special events; a gift basket of Earth Ministry blend coffee from Grounds for Change; and an annual gift membership to Earth Ministry given to a designee of your choice in your honor. At your discretion, as a Sacred Giving Circle member you will also receive recognition in Earth Letter and in the Sacred Giving Circle section of our website.

The most important benefit that you will receive from joining our Sacred Giving Circle is the satisfaction derived from making a lasting contribution to protect God's good gift of creation for future generations. Thank you for supporting Earth Ministry in this thoughtful and meaningful way.



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Leaving a Legacy: Rev. Steve and Carolee Grumm

For Rev. Steve and Carolee Grumm, experiencing the diversity of nature in “the little places that we’ve lived” unites them in caring for God’s creation. Steve and Carolee have lived, worked and played in the Black Hills and Big Horn Mountains of Wyoming, the Sangre Di Cristo Mountains of Colorado, and the agricultural diversity of the Willamette Valley in Oregon, before settling in Seattle 18 years ago.



“Though we’ve experienced the wonder of creation through travel,” Carolee says, “we most personally recognize the hand of the Creator in all the little places we’ve lived. And we’ve seen what can happen if creation isn’t cared for.” Just 60 miles away from their home in Wyoming was a dumping ground for oil processing plants and a large-scale coal mining operation. “Damage to the earth made a big impression on us and made us want to protect what we love.”

Steve and Carolee discovered Earth Ministry when they moved to Seattle. It was refreshing for Steve to hear Earth Ministry leaders speak of God active in the natural world, and people of faith share a passion for environmental justice. “Earth Ministry has challenged me to take action and inspire others to do the same,” he says. “I’ve valued the conversations with people I’ve met through the work of Earth Ministry and the relationships I’ve built over the years.”

Currently Steve and Carolee share time with their grandson Hawkeye as he creates his own experiences in the natural world. They see Earth Ministry as a the best way to put their faith into action for future generations and have included Earth Ministry in their estate planning. Says Steve, “we want to leave a legacy and see Earth Ministry’s history of success continue long into the future. There’s no better organization to articulate and act upon the moral imperative to care for all creation.”