



“Your estate plan is a gift allowing your family to focus on **memories** not challenges.”

—Eve Rusk

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**Planned Giving & Trust Services**  
Seventh-day Adventist Church  
NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE

### How can PGTS help me with Estate Planning?

Planned giving and trust services staff will guide members through the process of estate planning, removing uncertainties and helping members feel comfortable and prepared. For members who wish to give something towards the spreading of the gospel through their estate, PGTS can help them create a gift plan that is customized to the needs of their family.

If it is your desire to leave a gift to one of the New Jersey Conference organizations (such as your local church, local school, or Tranquility Camp) we will reimburse you 100% of the attorneys fees per household for Wills, Power of Attorneys, or Trusts when you remember one of our New Jersey Conference Organizations with a 10% donation for Wills or 15% for Trusts.

## Sherry and Gary

**are ready to retire next year.**

They need some advice on tax implications and ways to navigate this next stage in life. They are prepared to get more involved at church but want to ensure their bills are taken care of before they retire and give a significant donation to the children’s programs.



To learn more about Sherry and Gary’s next steps scan the QR code or visit [SherryandGary.willplan.org](http://SherryandGary.willplan.org)



**Planned Giving & Trust Services**

# Estate Planning Basics

## Last Will & Testament

Your Will is one of the most important documents you will sign during your lifetime. Its preparation requires careful thought and wise planning to be certain your material possessions that God has trusted to your care will be distributed in accordance with your wishes.

### Who needs a Will?

- Every adult who has accumulated a life- time of assets.
- Young parents who are concerned about the guardianship of their children in the event of a common disaster.
- Single persons of all ages who desire to direct what is to happen to their assets.

### Is a Will necessary?

If you die without a Will, the court must divide your property according to the law of the state in which you reside at the time of death. These laws do not take into consideration the educational or financial needs of your family, or the Lord's work.

*The New Jersey Conference and its employees no longer accept the role of Executor/Personal Representative in new Wills.*

## Living Trust (higher costs up front)

Assets in trust by-pass probate (succession) helping to save your estate time and money.

Reasons to consider a Living Trust:

- When you have many properties/assets in your estate
- To save your grown children from themselves (spend-thrift protection)
- Ensure family 's privacy and all information is kept in strict confidence
- When you desire a complex distribution
- Assure that the family beneficiaries will get their honest portion, as per agreement

*The New Jersey Conference and its employees no longer accept the role of trustee or successor trustee on new living Trusts.*

## Charitable Remainder Trust

Also called the "give-it-twice" trust, this trust allows you to transfer an IRA or other assets into a charitable trust with lifetime or term (up to 20 years) payments to one or more beneficiaries (children or others). The remainder of the trust goes to a charity of your choice at the end of term. This trust is an irrevocable contract.

Available through Western Adventist Foundation [www.wafsda.org](http://www.wafsda.org)

## Charitable Gift Annuity

A person who enters into a charitable gift annuity agreement with a qualified charity makes an irrevocable gift to the organization and receives fixed payments for life.

This offers members and friends the opportunity of creating a gift annuity for the benefit of a church organization; supporting God 's cause while at the same time preserving essential life income.

Available through Western Adventist Foundation [www.wafsda.org](http://www.wafsda.org)

## Beneficiary Deed

### Beneficiaries on Retirement (IRA) Funds, Life Insurance, and Bank Accounts

This is an affordable alternative to trusts for small estates. Transfer on death benefits are available on many financial accounts. Take time to name alternate beneficiaries and these individuals or organizations can receive the funds directly without passing through probate/succession. If naming multiple beneficiaries, use percentages to direct distribution.