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Your will can also create a plan which will pay income for life to those you name and then give any remaining amount to charity... accomplishing several objectives through one plan.

**Because... a will protects the children of a first marriage** who may be inadvertently neglected in second marriage situations. (Example: mother dies; father remarries and, at his death, second wife - and ultimately her children - inherit father's estate.)

You may wish to provide specific gifts to your children of a first marriage in combination with gifts to your spouse.

**And... an additional consideration...  
Your Church!**

The Minnesota United Methodist Foundation, is placing an emphasis on the importance of a will in the life situations of our members.



Ministry at many local churches has benefited from such thoughtful consideration. Perhaps you may consider your church as well.

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As you contemplate the reasons for your own will - what you would like to accomplish by sharing your life gifts - please consider a bequest to the Minnesota United Methodist Foundation to perpetuate its ministries.

In a bequest to the Foundation you may be very specific in your wishes: you may designate your gift to your home church and/or other ministries: or you may choose to direct your gift in a general way to "the area of greatest need." The Foundation will honor your wishes.

**Sample Charitable Bequest Provision**

I give and bequeath \_\_\_\_\_% of the remainder of my estate to:  
The Minnesota United Methodist Foundation, a non-profit organization with principal offices in Minneapolis, Minnesota to be used in the area of (ministry)

Questions and concerns regarding a will or any area of estate planning can be addressed to:

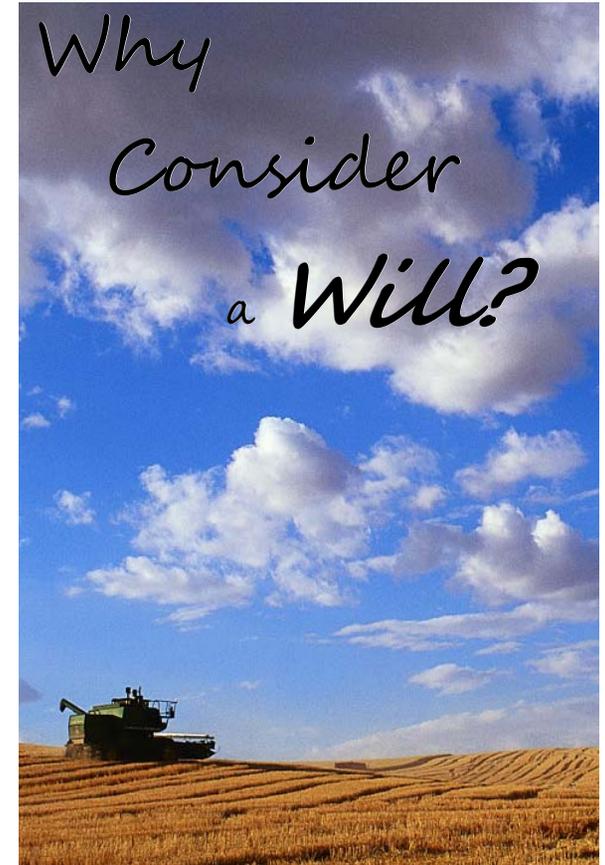
MINNESOTA  
UNITED METHODIST



**FOUNDATION**

122 West Franklin Ste. 508  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Telephone: 612-230-3337  
E-mail: val.walker@mnumf.org  
www.mnumf.org



*There are Many Reasons...*

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**Because... a will is a rock solid testament** that delivers your personal assets to beloved members of your family circle. Take the time to think ahead and create an enduring legacy through the use of this powerful lasting tool.

**Because... a will is a life statement** about living and caring. It is a message for the living, to the living. You may change your will at any time.

**Because... a will brings order and direction** and making a will takes thought. It prompts you to evaluate your possessions. Is your estate worth more than you had previously thought? Are there possessions that you want distributed to certain people? Will planning gets you thinking about those you want to receive your estate. As you prepare your will you gain a sense of order and direction.

**Because... a will may preserve the value of your possessions.** Directives through your will clear a way for prompt and inexpensive transfer of your possessions. If you die intestate (without a will) the laws of your state will distribute your property.

Typically, court costs and taxes are much higher in the absence of a will and reduce the amount that actually reaches your heirs.

**Because... a will protects children and other dependents** and through your will you may name the person or couple who would replace you as a parent.

The significance of this reason for a will is very clear. For minor children, or for another dependent family member, a guardian chosen by those who care would make a lifetime difference in most cases. Your will may also provide for the costs of basic care, education and other needs of dependents.

If your choices and decisions are not expressed in a will, your state's laws will attempt to protect and provide for your dependents. The law must deal with these situations in a prescribed manner, no special considerations are given.

**Because... a will personalizes transfers of possessions** as you designate the transfers of personal goods, heirlooms, furnishings, collectibles and other possessions. The life-long friend who shares an interest or hobby with you, the child who would treasure your pocket watch, tools or ring, and the charity whose work you admire cannot benefit from your estate without a will.

Personalizing a last gift of your possessions speaks of your caring to those who will rejoice in the life you lived.

**Because... a will provides for your charitable gifts** and most people have a favorite charity or two and would like to assure that the work they believe in continues.

Any possession may be transferred to a qualified non-profit organization through your will (including savings bonds). By law charitable transfers reduce the amount of your taxable estate.

**Because... a will may prevent family conflict and anxiety.** Your will provides direction and states your wishes. Those who survive you and would have the responsibility of settling the matters of your estate are much better equipped to do so with specific instructions. You minimize conflict, confusion, decision struggles and family disruption by documenting your desires and plans legally.

**Because... a will may design a financial plan for loved ones** and can be structured to provide installment gifts or benefits. You may want to provide regular income payments to a spouse or other heir.

You may choose to divide your total will gift to an individual or organization into several installments to be paid out over a period of years.

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