

# GIFT PLANNING NEWSLETTER: Unitrust

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## *Enjoy Income and Tax Benefits Today, Provide for Your Loved Ones and Ministry Tomorrow.*

Since 1969, Americans have used charitable remainder unitrusts to benefit themselves, their families and, ultimately, charity. Simply put, you transfer assets into a unitrust created with the LCMS Foundation, and the Unitrust makes payments to you. This transfer often allows you to increase your income and enjoy tax advantages. When the trust terminates, the remainder of its value is distributed to your designated ministries.

Unitrusts can provide you with increased income and reduced taxes while preserving more of your estate for people you love and ministries you care about. Through a unitrust, you can:

- Receive regular payments
- Reduce taxes
- Provide for loved ones
- Make a future gift to strengthen your favorite ministry

As a caring Christian, you want to use your financial blessings to enjoy financial security and provide for your family and your favorite ministries. A unitrust is a flexible tool you can use to increase your income NOW while laying the groundwork for a future gift to ministries that re important to you.

### **BENEFITING YOU AND MINISTRY: ONE EXAMPLE**

Twenty years ago, Carol and Mike purchased \$20,000 worth of stock. The stock steadily increased in value and is now worth \$100,000. But it produces a relatively low yield, about \$2000 annually.

Carol and Mike, who are both 75, have three goals with their gift:

- Increase the income produced by the \$100,000 stock portion of their portfolio
- Minimize (or eliminate) any capital gains tax they would incur by selling the stock
- Make a lasting gift to their favorite Lutheran Church Missouri—Synod ministries

If the couple sells the stock to reinvest it and increase their return, they face a capital gains tax of about \$12,000. Instead, their LCMS Foundation gift planning counselor suggests they transfer the stock into a unitrust. Because that transfer ultimately benefits ministry, Carol and Mike pay no capital gains tax. They also enjoy an immediate charitable tax deduction.

And their income increases! Carol and Mike now get about \$5000 each year which is \$3000 more than they had been receiving from their stock. That's possible because after the couple transferred the stock to the LCMS Foundation, it was sold and reinvested without a reduction for capital gains taxes.

Carol and Mike will receive payments for the rest of their lives. At their deaths, they know that their unitrust's remaining value will be transferred to their favorite LCMS ministries.

### **THE LCMS FOUNDATION SERVES YOU!**

The LCMS Foundation is the only Lutheran organization that offers you comprehensive charitable expertise and customized services for your Lifetime Plan for Giving™.

Your LCMS foundation gift planning counselor can answer your questions and help you establish your own unitrust or other gift planning tool.

**Contact the LCMS Foundation Today! 800-325-7912**  
[LCMSFoundation.org](http://LCMSFoundation.org)

