Several years ago, church leaders launched the Resurrection Foundation to help our congregation members invest in the church's mission and ministry for future generations. Our hope is that Resurrection members continue to make ministry happen here after their passing by leaving a legacy gift.

Among our goals is that by 2030 there will be 2,500 Resurrection households making a commitment to leave a legacy estate gift. This annual report includes stories of people who have made this commitment and the impact of gifts already received by the Foundation.

LaVon and I have committed a major portion of our estate to go to the Resurrection Foundation upon our deaths. We believe this bears witness to our faith and allows us to make ministry happen through our church long after we die. I invite you to join LaVon and me in taking the next step to make a commitment to the Resurrection Foundation, as together we are used by God to share the good news and love of Jesus Christ with a world in need of this message of hope.

In Christ,

Adam
MATT OZMENT
New Generations Seminary Scholarship
Currently I am in my second semester at Asbury Theological Seminary, working toward a Master of Divinity. Thus far, seminary has impacted every aspect of my life, particularly my faith and how I can realign myself to God's calling on my life every day. It has influenced the way I share the Gospel through my role at Church of the Resurrection both in the occasional small groups or classes I teach and the events that I support as the Special Events Production Manager in Tech Arts. I am beyond grateful to the Foundation for supporting me in seminary, as without them, my education would not be possible.

ALLY DRUMMOND
New Generations Seminary Scholarship
I am in my first year of the Master of Divinity program at Southern Methodist University's Perkins School of Theology. The opportunities here allow me to place my faith into action. I'm able to experience God's love at work through an internship with the Outreach Ministries at Highland Park UMC in Dallas. Through my classes and internship, I find authentic experiences which increase my knowledge of the love of God and neighbor. A Foundation scholarship is truly an honor. It's humbling to receive support from the church that has been teaching me about my faith since I was born and cultivating my call to ministry my entire life.

CAMERON MILLER
Thuma Scholarship Recipient
I am currently finishing up my first year at Saint Paul School of Theology. I received the Thuma Scholarship, a blessing from the Foundation to make seminary more affordable as I pursue the call that God has placed on my life. I have really enjoyed my classes, getting to dive deeper into the history of the Church, the Bible, and Methodist doctrine. I am also the Associate Pastor at Aldersgate UMC in Olathe, where I have the privilege to put into practice what I am learning at Saint Paul. After I graduate, I hope to become an ordained Elder for the United Methodist Church serving in the Great Plains Annual Conference.

ANGIE MCCARTY
Builders Class Scholarship Recipient
I am in my first year in the Saint Paul School of Theology Ph.D. program, having been blessed by the Builder's Class Scholarship from the Foundation. I am on the staff at Resurrection, working in Adult Discipleship with people ages 50+, and specifically those who are grandparents. I recently added hours serving in Congregational Care. I'm so grateful to use my gifts in education and pastoral care. Thank you for being a valuable part of my education, and for being the vehicle that God used to answer my prayers.
Larry Hanna was a husband, father, WWII veteran, and lifelong, active Methodist. His faith journey influenced many and will continue to do so as a result of the generous gift he left the Resurrection Foundation when he passed in 2018. He lived his life by faith, raised his family with faith, and through his estate planning has ensured that others can receive the gift of faith. His gift enables Church of the Resurrection to be a witness to faith for many generations.

Larry’s life, and the way in which he gave witness to his faith, reminds us that God promises always to be with us even through life’s hardships. He knew both joy and heartbreak; he was the father of three and was widowed twice. His daughter, Sandy Buntin, shares her father’s story and how his faith impacted her:

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Dad was raised by a very devout Christian mother and father. He loved his mother very much and she had a huge influence on his faith journey. His family belonged to a little country church in Oklahoma, and eventually became active in a Methodist Church in Hennessey, Oklahoma. After serving in WWII, he came home, got a job, married and started a family. When I was only 4 years old, my mother died in a freak accident; she fell through the floorboards while in a neighbor’s attic, landing on the garage floor below. One of the things that most deeply affected me through this loss was Dad’s unwavering faith; we still went to church and he never seemed to doubt God’s goodness and presence.

A year later, he married a woman who had lost her husband four years earlier and had a daughter the same age as me. Both Mom and Dad worked very hard to blend this ragtag group into one family. Every Sunday, we went to church. No exceptions. We grew up with devotions read by Dad every night and prayers before every meal and before going to bed each night. Dad’s faith was a big part of my upbringing. Praying and going to church were part of our lives just like going to school and eating meals were. As I grew older and encountered many of life’s challenges, Dad’s unwavering faith continued to draw me into a personal relationship with Christ.

Dad was a longtime Methodist. When Mom died, he moved to Tallgrass Creek joining Church of the Resurrection in 2003. He became an active member of the Morningstar Sunday School class where he found community with a group of people he enjoyed.

Larry Hanna’s legacy is immense and is a sweet reminder that God is always in the midst of our life journeys – loving us, caring for us, and making all things new.

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You can join Larry in ensuring others receive the gift of faith through your planned giving. Contact Debi Nixon at debi.nixon@cor.org or 913.544.0709 to learn more.
A LEGACY OF FAITH: Val and Rob Smith

Val and Rob Smith have been Resurrection members since 2004. Beginning as “nominal Christians,” they’ve been greatly impacted by their spiritual and serving experiences at Resurrection and wanted to find a way to help others have a similar experience. With no children, their estate planning focused on determining the best use and application of their residual estate for greatest impact.

They have felt so blessed in their lives, and wanted to find a way to share those blessings with others. Through their estate planning, they have defined portions of their residual estate to provide legacy benefits for designated Resurrection Ministry areas including Silver Link Ministry, Bless the School, and the Backpack Ministry. As a commitment of the Foundation to help steward the gifts of its donors, Foundation Executive Director Debi Nixon meets with the Smiths yearly to review their plan and make any necessary adjustments.

This approach provides a convenient way to invest in the longer-term challenges being addressed by the church in ways that have greatest impact into the future. Thank you Val and Rob Smith!

If you haven’t had coffee with Debi Nixon yet to review your plan or establish a plan, please call 913.544.0709 or email debi.nixon@cor.org. There is nothing Debi loves more than sharing coffee, dreaming about the future, and helping the Foundation steward your gifts in ways that will make a difference in the lives of others.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR: Lewis Gregory

It is my honor and privilege to serve as the Chairman of the Resurrection Foundation Board of Directors. As members of the Church of the Resurrection, we have committed to a journey of knowing, loving, and serving God as we grow in our faith. The Resurrection Foundation encourages church members to transform our lifetime commitment and stewardship into lasting kingdom impact through legacy gifts to the Foundation to sustain our church’s mission and ministries, fund new initiatives, and build a strong foundation for future generations.

The decision to make a legacy gift is a spiritual act that complements our annual practice of stewardship and generosity and is an expression of our gratitude as well as our faith. The Foundation honors and celebrates those who make this commitment with membership in the Resurrection Foundation Legacy Society. If you have remembered the church in your will, trust, life insurance policy, or other estate-related gift, or if you intend to make such a gift, it is important that you let us know by completing a Donor Declaration, which confirms your intent, ensures that your gift will be fulfilled exactly as you envision, and serves as a lasting and tangible testament for your family of your faith and generosity.

You may complete a Donor Declaration by meeting with one of our Foundation staff or by going online to cor.org/foundation. Information you share will be kept confidential. All legacy gifts, regardless of the amount, are acts of worship, vision, and generosity that honor God, bless future generations, and have lasting kingdom impact.

I invite you to consider what kind of legacy you want to leave, and affirm that what has been important to you during your lifetime continues to be important into the future.

Lewis Gregory | Chair, Resurrection Foundation Board of Directors
HOW TO GET STARTED TODAY MAKING YOUR FUTURE IMPACT:

Every legacy gift has great impact on helping our church fully live into its vision of being used by God to change lives, strengthen churches, and transform the world. We do this through:

- Grants for Local and Global Mission Initiatives, particularly focused on meeting the needs of children and families living in poverty and giving them a future with hope
- Grants for Catalytic Mission and Ministry, including new campus starts
- Support of Specific Campus Initiatives and Needs, including evangelism, outreach, and ministry innovation
- Seminary Scholarships and Grants helping equip leaders for the future of the church
- Endowments for New Ministries and Building and Maintenance Needs

TAKE THE NEXT STEPS:

1. There are many ways to include the church in your future plans:
   a. Make a bequest in your will or other estate plan. When you establish a will or other estate plan, you can include a bequest of a specific dollar amount or percentage be left to the church to carry out the mission and ministries that are important to you.
      Your Estate Attorney can help you ensure your wishes are documented and executed.
   b. Name the church as a beneficiary of a certain percentage (such as a 10% tithe of your retirement plan or life insurance).
   c. Other planned gift vehicles such as real estate, donor advised funds, stock, and cash

2. Schedule a meeting to learn more about the Foundation and ways to maximize your gift.
   Contact Debi Nixon, Executive Director at 913.544.0709 or email debi.nixon@cor.org.

Our Foundation Team is available for confidential conversations about ways to maximize the impact of your gift.
This past year we received 32 new Donor Declarations with Legacy Gift intentions ranging from $100 to more than $1,000,000.

Every gift is important, and every gift tells a story. Let us tell yours by completing your donor declaration at cor.org/foundation.

2019 DISTRIBUTIONS 494,823

The purpose of the Foundation is to endow and support the lasting impact of the church’s ministry and mission by encouraging members to remember Church of the Resurrection in their planned giving. By remembering the church in your estate planning, you bear witness to your faith and give inspiration to others that will have impact for generations to come.

For more information, visit the Church of the Resurrection Foundation website: foundation.blogs.cor.org