



"Creating a Legacy" November 2019 — End the Year Well: Donor-Advised Funds

From: **Bethel University** <development@bethel.edu>

Date: Fri, Nov 22, 2019 at 3:30 PM

Subject: "Creating a Legacy" November 2019 — End the Year Well: Donor-Advised Funds

Creative estate planning can benefit you, your family, and Bethel.

No Images? [Click here](#)

Create a Legacy

ESTATE PLANNING NEWS

Hi –

I am so thankful for all the donors who support Bethel students year after year, who have a desire for Bethel education to continue for generations to come. The impact of scholarships today go far beyond the present.

I shared those words with the 200 people who attended the annual [Scholarship Appreciation Dinner](#) on November 6. It's important for me to share it with you again, whether you were able to attend or not. At Bethel, we have a lot to be thankful for this holiday season. We are thankful for the great work our alumni are doing around the world for God's glory and our neighbors' good, we are thankful for our students, we are thankful for



our faculty, and we are thankful for fantastic supporters like you.

The annual dinner is a great opportunity to share the great things happening at Bethel, and we'll echo that here. Your support is helping students like Kyongmin Song S'21, who is in the M.A. in Theological Studies program, and Ben Harker '20, an applied physics major. "Far greater than the monetary value is the encouragement of knowing donors invested in me," Harker says. "It is very humbling to experience this generosity."

Our supporters are also helping a special new cause: A [scholarship fund](#) is supporting students enrolled in Introduction to Biblical Greek for Spanish Speakers, a class launched this fall and taught by Professor of Biblical Studies Juan Hernández Jr. The course introduces students to New Testament Greek and focuses on vocabulary-building, basic grammar, and translation, ultimately equipping students to read the Bible in its original language. Though open to undergrad students, most students are Latino adults working in various ministries.

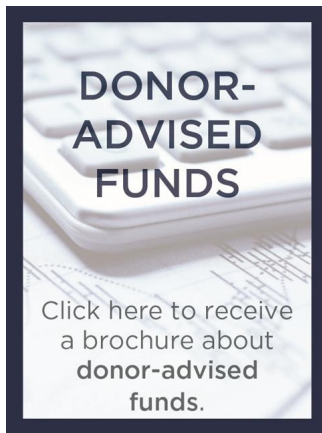
We'll also share a few helpful tips as you and your family finalize your year-end charitable giving. As always, [contact me](#) if you would like to explore your planned giving options. I would be happy to find a plan that supports Bethel and honors your legacy. I'll close by echoing the words of our Chief Advancement Office Jim Bender: You are a blessing to us.

Dan Wiersum
Associate Vice President for Planned Giving

The Donor-Advised Fund

A Foundation of Giving! Are You Looking for Ways to Save on Taxes and End the Year Well?

A [Donor-Advised Fund \(DAF\)](#) helps turn your giving into something more. DAFs are like having your own foundation—but without



the fees, taxes, labor, and filings required to start and maintain a foundation. It offers you a flexible vehicle for charitable giving. Unlike private foundation gifts, DAF gifts generally qualify for a full fair market value charitable deduction. A DAF also permits you to make grants to charity without the unfavorable private foundation restrictions and excise taxes.

- Funds are invested by the Bethel University Foundation carefully and prudently for growth, which allows you to direct gifts to 501(c)(3) organizations of your choice.
- When you pass away, your children may make recommendations for distributions from the fund for a number of years.
- At the end of the DAF term, the remaining fund balance will become an asset of charities you designate, including Bethel, so you impact more student lives.

DAF Tax Benefits

You can maximize your tax deductions by bundling a few years of giving. The 2017 tax reform act kept the charitable deduction for those who itemize. But the law limited or eliminated several other itemized deductions. That created a new incentive to consider bundling deductible expenses, such as gifts to charity, so those count toward reducing your taxes.

How You Do It:

If you usually donate \$12,000 annually to charity, you could instead donate \$24,000 once every two years to a donor-advised fund (DAF) and have the fund distribute gifts over two years. Combined with other deductibles, you might then be able to take a nice tax write-off that year, which may generate (or be generated by) other tax-planning possibilities.

Opening a DAF Account is Easy

Simply contact us for an application form, then complete and sign the fund agreement. You may fund your account with a gift of \$10,000 or more in cash, securities, real estate, or other assets. Check with us if you have unique or special assets that may be donated in a tax-efficient way.

For more information on [DAF](#), please call [Dan Wiersum](#) or the Planned Giving office at [651.635.8053](tel:651.635.8053), or planned-giving@bethel.edu.

Copyright © 2019 Crescendo Interactive, Inc.

Used by permission

Scholarship Appreciation Dinner



Nearly 200 students, faculty, alumni, and other Bethel community members gathered to celebrate the continual support of Bethel's donors at the annual Scholarship Appreciation Dinner on November 6. Sponsored by the Office of Planned Giving, the dinner connects scholarship donors with the recipients of their generosity. Students and their donors share a meal, swap stories of their college experiences, and put a face to the names that have had such a major impact on their lives.

[Read more and see photos from the event.](#)

New Course Offering



Juan Hernández

Bethel's newest course offering—Introduction to Biblical Greek for Spanish Speakers—is a rare opportunity for bilingual students to learn the original language of the New Testament in their native tongue.

The course has also garnered interest from the wider community. Many are Bethel alumni or parents, and some are descendants of Swedish immigrants who also desired to study the Bible but didn't speak English as a first language. They decided to organize a scholarship fund for aspiring Greek students who weren't able to

pay full tuition, allowing about one-third of Juan Hernández's students to take the course free of cost.

[Read more about how Hernández is engaging Spanish speaking students.](#)

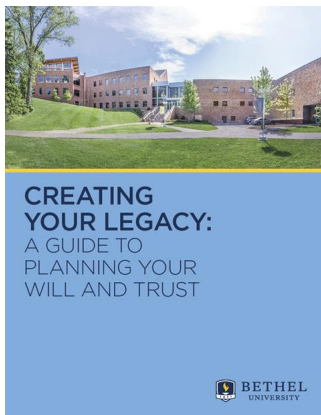
Estate Planning Resources

Creating A Will is Easier Than You Think

Creating your will is your opportunity to carefully articulate your wishes, your values, and your legacy. This planning is important to help you *provide* for and *protect* your loved ones and the charitable organizations you care about after you're gone.

If you are thinking about creating or updating a will or trust, we can help. Bethel's website at bethel.edu/planned-giving includes a number of valuable resources about [wills and bequests](#), including wills videos, and a free personal and secure [online Wills Planner Account](#).

SPECIAL OFFER—Get Your FREE Wills Guide Legacy Pack



We would like to send a [FREE Wills Guide](#), *Creating Your Legacy: A Guide to Planning Your Will and Trust*, to our friends and alumni. This guide is an easy-to-use, fill-in-the-blank booklet that can help you organize all of the information an estate planning attorney will need to create your will or trust plan.

[Bethel's estate planning experts](#) are also available to answer questions and help customize your estate plans to **Provide** for and **Protect** you and your family while creating an enduring legacy.

Upcoming Events

- [Festival of Christmas](#) | December 5–7
- [Royal Nation: Naples 2020](#) | March 13

Personal Planner

Ten Reasons to Update Your Estate Plan

You have completed a will and perhaps a revocable living trust. Your durable power of attorney for healthcare and a living will are in place. All of your records are safely in place and carefully. [Read More](#)

Finances

Stocks—[Read Latest News—Stocks](#)

Bonds—[Read Latest News—Bonds](#)

CDs and Mortgages—[Read Latest News—Interest](#)

Bethel's Planned Giving Team

Savvy Living

How to Create an Ethical Will

Can you write a column on ethical wills and how to make one? The attorney that made up my will recently suggested I write a letter as a tool to explain the intentions of my will, as well as express my thoughts and feelings, but I am not sure where to start. [Read More](#)

Washington News

[Read Latest News—Washington](#)



Dan Wiersum '73, CSPG, MBA
Associate Vice President for Planned Giving



Marleen Smith
Manager for Planned Giving Operations

NEWS

EVENTS

GIVE

[Office of Planned Giving](#)

651.635.8053 (800.255.8706, ext. 8053)

planned-giving@bethel.edu

bethel.edu/planned-giving

This material is for educational purposes only and is not intended as financial, legal, or tax advice. Please seek a professional advisor for personal estate planning services.

Bethel University | 3900 Bethel Drive | St. Paul, MN 55112 |
651.638.6400 | www.bethel.edu

You're receiving this because you're a Bethel Donor. If you'd no longer like to receive Donor Planned Giving emails, you can unsubscribe at any time.

[Unsubscribe](#)