



# Growing Generosity

EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO CHANGE LIVES!

## April 2018

Please feel free to use any of the April 2018 Growing Generosity tips listed below in your church newsletter or bulletin, on your website, or in other communications. Sign up today at <http://www.gumf.org/stay-connected/> to have Growing Generosity delivered right to your inbox.

**“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” – Jeremiah 29:11**

### **TIP #1: Stretch your charitable dollars**

Feeling charitable? Many of us understand the importance of supporting the church financially, but we want to make the most of our charitable dollars. A gift to the church endowment fund is a great way to support the church now and in the future, making your gift one that will keep on giving. Endowment funds are invested and the income may be used to support special church projects and initiatives for decades to come. If you have a passion for a particular ministry, consider either contributing to its endowment (if one exists) or setting up a fund specifically designated to support that ministry. For more information, contact the Georgia United Methodist Foundation at 770-449-6726, 877-220-5664 or [info@gumf.org](mailto:info@gumf.org) or visit [www.gumf.org](http://www.gumf.org).

**“But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” – Matthew 6:33**

### **TIP #2: Give your house to the church**

Giving your home to the church can provide benefits to both you and the church. Members frequently leave the family residence to their church in a will, not realizing the tax and estate advantages of donating the home while still living. By making a “gift with life interest,” the donor receives a tax deduction for much of the market value of the home. You (and your spouse, if married) can continue to live in the house for as long as you like and remain responsible for taxes and maintenance. For more information, contact the Georgia United Methodist Foundation at 770-449-6726, 877-220-5664 or [info@gumf.org](mailto:info@gumf.org) or visit [www.gumf.org](http://www.gumf.org).

**“Remember the Lord your God is the one who makes you wealthy.” – Deuteronomy 8:18a**

### **TIP #3: Give appreciated securities**

Under current laws, appreciated real estate, stocks, and bonds that are donated to your church or qualified charity may be deductible for income tax purposes at their current fair market value. This means that in most cases, you pay no capital gains tax on the appreciation (the increased value since purchase) and qualify for a tax deduction as well. Consider using these securities to fulfill a pledge or to make a special gift. For more information, contact the Georgia United Methodist Foundation at 770-449-6726, 877-220-5664 or [info@gumf.org](mailto:info@gumf.org) or visit [www.gumf.org](http://www.gumf.org).