

# Offerings



A Lutheran Planned Giving Newsletter

Winter 2002

## FOCUS ON: Lutheran Theological Seminary

**T**he ELCIC is fortunate to have two seminaries serving the needs of theological students. Here is a brief look at one of the two schools. We will highlight the other — Waterloo Lutheran Seminary — in the next issue.

Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS) is now located on the campus of the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, but it was founded in 1913 as the Lutheran College and Seminary in Edmonton. A second seminary existed for almost thirty years in Saskatoon, but the two merged in 1965 and moved to the present facilities in 1968. The seminary is owned by the B.C., ABT, Saskatchewan and MNO synods of the ELCIC and governed by a board representing the four synods.

Over the years some 600 people have graduated from LTS and its

predecessor institutions. In the beginning, of course, they were all men and mostly of Northern European background. Today's students are male and female in almost equal numbers; some are in their second career; many come from ethnic groups not considered traditional hotbeds of Lutheranism in Canada; several denominations are represented.

Six full-time and one part-time faculty teach the current student body of about 40. The majority of students are enrolled in the Master of Divinity program, which usually leads to ordination and service in a congregation or institutional ministry. Others are working toward degrees that prepare lay leaders for service in the church, but in other places in society as well. The seminary offers the Master of Divinity, the Master of Theological Studies and the graduate degree, the

Master of Sacred Theology. It also offers the Bachelor of Theology and some certificate programs.

The seminary is in conversation with the two other seminaries on the University of Saskatchewan

campus, the College of Emmanuel & St. Chad (Anglican Church of Canada) and St. Andrew's Theological College (United Church of Canada) about working much more closely together. The expectation is that each school will remain independent with all three moving into the same building, sharing a certain amount of programming such as library, and some team-taught classes.

The seminary has begun an endowed fund to support student financial aid.

The full and accurate name of the institution is: "Lutheran Theological Seminary Saskatoon". For more information about gift opportunities, readers can contact Grace MacLennan in the seminary development office at (306) 966-7846 or [development.office@usask.ca](mailto:development.office@usask.ca).



### In this issue...

<b>Tax Reduction Made Permanent</b> .....	2
<b>The Lighter Side</b> .....	2
<b>The Trust Solution</b> .....	3
<b>Friends of Lutheran Planned Giving</b> .....	4

# Tax Reduction Made Permanent

Federal Finance Minister Paul Martin pleased the charitable community by announcing in late 2001 that a tax reduction on certain charitable gifts would become a permanent feature of the income tax system in Canada.


In the 1997 budget Mr. Martin unveiled a reduction in the capital gains inclusion rate on gifts of appreciated securities.



The measure, which cut in half the income tax on gifts of shares, mutual fund units, etc., was implemented for a five-year trial period ending in 2001. During that period Canadian charities received many such gifts, and petitioned the government to extend the trial period.

Gifts of appreciated securities were featured in the Fall 2000 issue of *Offerings*. The reduced inclusion rate means that a

donor is almost always better off to donate appreciated securities themselves rather than to sell them and donate cash. The tax savings can be significant. Anyone who owns

stocks or mutual funds and is contemplating a cash donation either during their lifetime or in their will is well advised to contact Lutheran Planned Giving for more information. 

## The Lighter Side

### OBITUARY NOTICE

It is with great sadness that we pass on the following news.

The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection and complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71.

Doughboy is survived by his wife, Play Dough; two children, John Dough and Jane Dough; plus they had one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart.


P.D., as he was known, rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not considered a very "smart cookie", wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes. Despite being a little flaky at times, as a

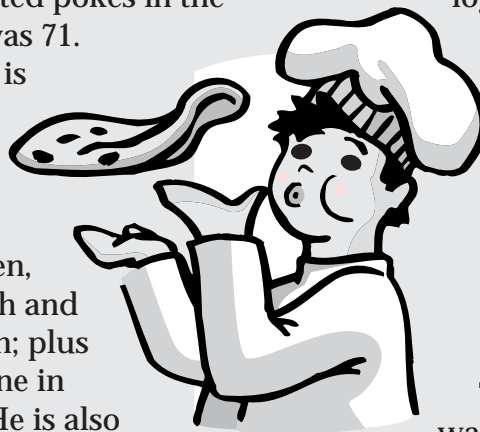
crusty old man he was still considered a roll model for millions.

The grave site was piled high with flours. Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded.

The deceased was buried in a lightly greased coffin.

Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay their respects, including Captain Highliner, the Jolly Green Giant, Tony the Tiger, Betty Crocker, Uncle Ben and Mr. Christie.

The funeral went on at 3:50 for about 20 minutes. 



# The Trust Solution

Can you imagine cutting your children out of your will? While most of us have had the thought cross our mind (possibly when they were teenagers), few of us would *seriously* contemplate disinheriting our children. But a friend of mine found herself disinherited — and by accident, no less.

Her father, Herb, married Marjorie late in life. Marjorie had adult children from her first marriage. When Herb died, my friend discovered that his will had left everything to Marjorie. When she died everything went to *her* children, and nothing to my friend or her three siblings. Without any ill will or evil intention, Herb had disinherited his own children.

It is very common for people to make wills leaving everything to their spouse, with a proviso that the estate go to their children if the spouse dies first. This is usually done because the surviving spouse will require all of the combined assets to live on, particularly if the amounts are modest or living expenses are high. This causes no problems as long as his children and her children are the same people. But when each comes into the marriage with children (and assets!) from a prior union, trouble can result.

Fortunately, there is a ready solution to this problem. A trust is a legal entity that can be created either during one's lifetime (called an *inter vivos* trust) or in a will (a testamentary trust). Instead of leaving all of his possessions to his second wife, Herb could have directed in his will that they be transferred to a trust for Marjorie's benefit.

A person creating a trust (called the **settlor**) names three other parties:


- the **trustee**, who is responsible for overseeing administration, including investment of the assets, disbursement of the income and disposing of the assets when the trust is wound up;
- the **income beneficiary**, who receives the income from property invested in the trust for as long as he/she lives;
- the **remainder beneficiary**, who receives the remaining assets when the trust is concluded.

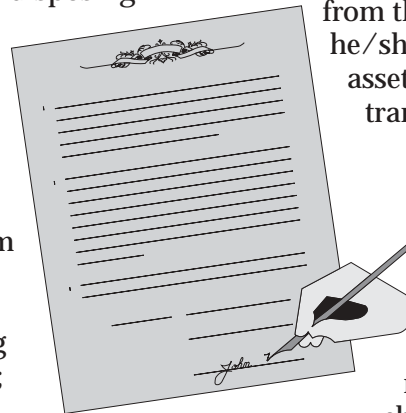
The assistance of an experienced lawyer is required to set up most forms of trust.

Trusts can also be useful in situations other than second

marriages. Some people have spouses or children who may not be capable of making good financial decisions on their own. Appointing a trustee to make these decisions can be both prudent and kind. Testamentary trusts are common in the wills of people who have children under the age of legal majority (18 years) at the time.

A specialized form of trust is called a **charitable remainder trust**. In this case a family member is named as income beneficiary, but the church or another charity is named as remainder beneficiary. A loved one enjoys the income from the assets as long as he/she is alive, but the assets themselves are transferred to a charity upon their death.

Through the use of this vehicle a donor can be generous to both family members and the church. Plus, there are significant income tax advantages that make this form of planned gift especially attractive to people with high net worth. Call your lawyer or Lutheran Planned Giving for more information about charitable remainder trusts. 



**Offerings** is a publication of Lutheran Planned Giving, a ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. Lutheran Planned Giving does not provide or purport to provide legal or tax counsel. We urge our readers to consult with and rely upon the opinion of qualified legal, tax and financial advisors before implementing any of the ideas described in this publication.

Lutheran Planned Giving  
Jeff Pym, Director  
385 Torrance Street  
Burlington, ON L7R 2R7  
1-888-308-9461  
lpg@worldchat.com

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# Friends of Lutheran Planned Giving

Lutheran Planned Giving is pleased to welcome another group of new Friends. **Friends of LPG** are those people who have made arrangements to create a gift to the church, and given us permission to publish their name. The last public recognition of **Friends of LPG** took place in the fall of 2000, so we can call these people the class of 2001 (and a classy group they are).

We give thanks to God that these individuals and couples have chosen to remember their church with a planned gift. They deserve the respect and gratitude of all ELCIC members.

**Jessie Baldwin**, Scarborough ON  
**Robert and Beverly Binhammer**, Toronto ON  
**Norm and Gerda Coull**, Winnipeg MB  
**Keith and Grethe Crouse**, Eganville ON  
**Jim Diebel**, Hanover ON  
**Don and Donna Engel**, Winnipeg MB  
**George Evenson**, Camrose AB  
**Bruce and Sharon Fetter**, Stratford ON  
**Pauline Finch and Alfred Durichen**, Kitchener ON  
**Ralferd and Harriet Freytag**, Victoria BC  
**Ed and Phyllis Gelhorn**, Winnipeg MB  
**Allan and Prijna Gingrich**, Waterloo ON  
**Fred and Thelma Hack**, Shaunavon SK  
**Robert and Rowene Harlock**, Kitchener ON  
**John Harrison**, Montreal QC  
**Donna Hollinger**, Regina SK  
**Jean Johnson**, Winnipeg MB  
**Robert and Nancy Kelly**, Waterloo ON  
**the late Merle Knauff**, St. Jacobs ON  
**Ken and Marie Kuhn**, Winnipeg MB  
**William Kurschinski**, Williamsburg ON  
**the late Alfred Lange**, Chesley ON

**David and Heidi Magnuson-Ford**, Stonewall MB  
**Marie Millson**, Southampton ON  
**Shirley Mitchell**, Cambridge ON  
**Gerald and Doreen Mitchinson**, Victoria BC  
**Reinhard and Hilda Neske**, St. Catharines ON  
**Myrtle Reinke**, Eganville ON  
**the late Elizabeth Reis**, Seaforth, ON  
**Rolf and Mirian Ruppenthal**, Hamilton ON  
**Robert Schilk**, Scarborough ON  
**Dorothy Schmidt**, Waterloo ON  
**Rosella Schock**, Scarborough ON  
**Alex Schorn**, Winnipeg MB  
**Andy and Margaret Schuepbach**, Claresholm AB  
**Albert and Marieanne Schwarz**, Kleefeld MB  
**Bill and Rochell Shafer**, Kitchener ON  
**Elva Trussler**, New Hamburg ON  
**Doris Trute**, Montreal QC  
**Eva von zur Muehlen**, Waterloo ON  
**Donald and Laurana Waito**, Kitchener ON  
**Wayne Wasylenko**, Pinawa MB  
**the late Herbert Wittig**, Woodstock, ON

In addition to those whose names are printed above, seven new donors chose to remain anonymous.

If you are not already a **Friend of Lutheran Planned Giving**, call us to find out how you can join the group. 

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## Let Us Know

### If you:

- have a comment, question or quibble;
- need more information;
- want to share a story or tell us about your gift

### You can reach us at:

**Lutheran Planned Giving**  
**1-888-308-9461**  
**[lpg@worldchat.com](mailto:lpg@worldchat.com)**

*If you received more than one copy of this newsletter, please pass a copy on to someone who might appreciate the opportunity to learn more about planned giving.*