

Report to the 57th Regular Convention
Central Illinois District
Gift Planning Counselor

The work of the Gift Planning Counselor is work that will quite likely provide a vast amount of the future funding of the church. Testamentary gifts (gifts made at death through the estate) are becoming more and more critical. I share my time at CID between Gift Planning and Church Extension Fund. Gift Planning is 25% of my time. I enjoy both responsibilities and it is a privilege to serve the CID in both capacities.

The gift planning process is accomplished through the LCMS Foundation. It is our philosophy that God has written on each believer's heart a lifetime plan for giving. It is the gift Planner's job to assist the member in discovering that plan and putting it into practice. That process is usually begun with a presentation in your congregation, followed by personal, confidential consultation in your home until the gift is complete or you stop the process.

In nearly every case, a portion of the gifts are left to the member's congregation. Other areas remembered with these gifts are all of the ministries of the Central Illinois District and Synod, all the RSOs, the Concordia University System schools, and the two seminaries.

In many cases, the gift left through this process is the ultimate gift made by these members. It is my job to help them discover that gift and assist the donor in finding a way to make the gift happen. Thanks be to God, through this process, I have been able to assist members in leaving \$31.3 million dollars in gifts to ministry. I see many more in the future with God's help.

This is extremely rewarding for me and the donors. With God's help, more will be accomplished.

Respectfully Submitted,

David H. Rohe, Gift Planning Counselor