

Giving a Gift that Lasts a Lifetime

"When we cast our bread upon the waters we can presume that someone downstream whose face we will never know will benefit from our action, as we who are downstream from another will profit from the grantor's gift." -- Maya Angelou

Peg Devlyn took these words of Maya Angelou to heart when she decided to take part in the United Church of Christ Charitable Gift Annuity program.

Peg, a member of the UCC Congregation at College Street Church, wanted to give a gift to her church. And now, members of Hawai'i Conference churches can also participate in the UCC Gift Annuity program.

Peg received information from the United Church of Christ Financial Development Ministry. Through an easy application process and with as little as \$1000, she could give a gift, receive a charitable deduction on her income tax and receive income for life. Her gift was invested in the United Church Foundation and will go to College Street Church upon her death. Until then, Peg will receive a check every year.

"I decided to wait for payments until I'm 65," Peg said. "Then I can get a check every birthday for \$63.00. I've always loved my birthday. Now it will be even better. "

Peg says this is more than she could earn with bank interest. "On the other hand, I don't own the \$1,000 any more; my church does!"

Because the process to make this gift was so easy, Peg started thinking of other ways she could use a Gift Annuity.

Peg said one thought is to give a Gift Annuity to each of her children for their 50th birthday. She said then they would have a birthday gift from her each year for the rest of their lives, even if Peg is no longer here to share it. And, of course, their lives will also benefit the church in one more way.

Gift annuities offer the opportunity for anyone, regardless of their income, to give a gift to their church or another UCC-related organization that will last their lifetime...and beyond.

WUCC's pledge goal for the 2008 World Series of Faith is \$120,000. A baseball field diagram has been created to measure the progress of the goal with first base representing \$30,000, second base \$60,000, third base \$90,000 and home plate \$120,000.

According to the church newsletter, the 2008 World Series of Faith is an opportunity to "rally support, compassion and commitment as we grow our outreach to the community."