

Dear Spoelhof Society Friends,

No greater task: Hearts and minds renewing God's world is the title of our current campaign for Calvin College. This title reflects the important work of the college as we educate young men and women to be agents of renewal in



President Gaylen Byker

God's world. And the campaign for Calvin helps provide financial resources to carry out this great task. Now in its public phase, gifts to the campaign have surpassed 75% of our campaign goal of \$150 million. This is a wonderful blessing for the college, and we

are grateful to our many alumni and friends who have invested in Calvin and are helping ensure its well-being for generations to come.

One of the important messages we are communicating through the campaign is Calvin's faithfulness to its mission and our determination to remain distinctively Christian and academically excellent. For more than 130 years, this Christ-centered liberal arts college has been steadfast to this purpose, and we intend to remain grounded in our faith tradition for generations to come. Your investment will support this important mission for years to come.

In the midst of this campaign for Calvin College many planned gifts can be counted toward the campaign goal according to the following guidelines:

Age of donor(s)	Percentage of gift counted
75	100%
70	75%
65	50%
60	25%

If you have included Calvin in your estate plans and notified the college of the estimated value of your estate, we have counted your planned gift (as allowed) in our campaign. And we are very thankful for your generosity and commitment. However, if you have not notified the Office of Planned Giving at Calvin regarding the estimated value of your will, I urge you to do so. You can use the form in this newsletter to indicate the estimated amount of your planned gift to Calvin.

Thank you for your faithfulness to Calvin and your investment in the college. Thank you for notifying us of your planned gift that will benefit our current campaign but, most important, will strengthen Calvin College for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Gaylen Byker



Sally J. Vander Ploeg, J.D.,
 C.P.A.
 Director of Planned
 and Major Gifts
svploeg@calvin.edu

Office of Planned Giving
 Calvin College
 3201 Burton Street SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546

(800) 968-4363
 fax (616) 526-8450

plannedgiving@calvin.edu
www.calvin.edu/giving

grateful to our ancestors...

Is It Time to Review Your Will?

The right to plan your estate is a priceless privilege. With a will you can:

- Determine how, when, and to whom your assets will be distributed
- Name the executor of your estate
- Create trusts for the benefit of your spouse, children, or others
- Reduce the burden of federal estate taxes
- Provide for your favorite charities

Changing Circumstances Should Prompt You to Take Action

Your grandson calls and excitedly tells you he's been accepted by your alma mater. You decide it's time to make your winter home your permanent address. While such events are significant by themselves, they should also serve as notice that it may be time to review your will.

Changes in any conditions in effect when you first drafted your will should cause you to reexamine your plans in light of new circumstances. This issue of the *William Spoelhof Society* newsletter highlights some of the most important of those events.

Additions to the Family

The addition of a new family member, whether a child or grandchild, is a wonderful event. It is also an important reason to review your will. Are your financial and estate plans flexible enough to meet the new challenges?

Additions to the family also mean added responsibilities for those you may have named as guardians for your dependents. Are they up to the task? It's important to review periodically not only your own situation but

also the circumstances of the loved ones affected by your plans.

Change in Marital Status

Perhaps you are recently married, widowed, or divorced—another major reason to review your will. What provisions might have to be made for your new spouse? Does your new spouse have children with special needs?

If you are recently widowed, are there decisions to be made about the assets you've received from your spouse's estate? Are your contingent beneficiaries still appropriate in light of your recent change in marital status?

Changes in Assets

Over time, your assets may have increased in number and value, in which case federal estate taxes could alter your plans—and your ability to distribute your assets as planned.

When you examine your assets, take into account nonprobate assets such as life insurance as well. If you have increased your insurance coverage over time, you may want to adjust the distribution plans specified in your will.

If you own a business, how has time affected the value of your business? Do your plans still provide for an orderly transfer of your interests to those who will carry on the business?



The Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex on January 31, 2008

...faithful to our heirs

Moving to Another State

If you will be moving to take advantage of a new career opportunity—or perhaps relocating to a gentler climate after retirement—remember to review your will.

A will or trust that is valid in one state may require some modification to conform with another state's laws. It's important to have an experienced professional in your new state of residence look over your will and trust documents to make sure your wishes will be carried out without unnecessary complications or delays.

Health Conditions

Lifesaving techniques and medicines only dreamed about ten years ago are possible today, and with such new advances comes the question of the quality of life that medicine is able to prolong.

As the subject of living wills is being discussed and debated across the country, you may want to decide now who will manage your affairs in the event incapacitating injury or illness does strike.

Executor and Trustees

The duties and responsibilities of executors and trustees are considerable. Perhaps you named a family member as executor when you first drafted your will. Is that individual still able to negotiate the complexities of the probate process? If you have moved, will he or she be able to serve under the laws of your new state?

continued on back

Vande Guchtes Give Time and Funds in Support of Calvin

Pete and Judy Vande Guchte are co-chairs of the *William Spoelhof Society* Planned Giving Advisory Council—a volunteer board of thirteen members that meets twice annually to offer counsel and expertise to the planned giving program at Calvin. Their participation on the Council gives them the opportunity to learn more about Calvin today and, with other Council members, to examine ways they can help advance the college through planned giving.

One of the key messages the Council wants to reinforce among Calvin alumni is the importance of having a will—and then encouraging alumni



The Vande Guchtes

to remember Calvin in their estate plans. "This is a significant way to give back to Calvin—as we remember in gratitude what Calvin has given us," said Pete. Judy adds that during this current campaign for Calvin, notifying the college of one's planned gift means that a portion of the gift can be counted toward the campaign goal.

The Vande Guchtes describe their leadership of the Planned Giving Advisory Council as a special and meaningful way to remain engaged with the college and to support Calvin. Having served as a Calvin administrator and professor for many years, Pete is again serving Calvin—now with Judy—through the Planned Giving Advisory Council. Together they are also providing for the college with their planned gift.

Calvin is grateful for the Vande Guchtes' investment in the college and grateful also for the dedication and support of all the members of the *William Spoelhof Society* Planned Giving Advisory Council:

Pete and Judy Vande Guchte, Co-Chairs

Roger and Sandy Alderink

Lloyd and Phyllis DeVries

Nathan and Julie Frazee

Larry and Mary Gerbens

Ralph Luimes

Helen Meulink

Curtis Vrieland

continued from inside

Your Charitable Interests

Organizations you have assisted during your lifetime, such as Calvin College, will certainly miss your help when you are gone. However, through your will, you can continue to be a part of their work.

Charitable bequests can be tailored to meet your specific personal and financial objectives. Those objectives may very well change over time. It is important to review the charitable bequests you have made to see if they continue to reflect your present intentions.

We Are Here to Help

We invite you to call our office or return the enclosed reply card for a complimentary copy of our booklet, ***Ensuring Your Wishes: A Guide to Your Will***. We would be happy to meet with you or your financial or legal advisor about a gift to the college.

You should consult your attorney about the applicability to your own situation of the legal principles contained herein.

11

Where to Start

The best time to review your will is now. Update the lists of assets and documents you used to draft your original will, and don't overlook your retirement-plan benefits and life insurance.

Does your will reflect the current needs of your beneficiaries? Would other arrangements be more equitable? Take your ideas to an attorney who specializes in estate planning to advise you about revising your plans. If you do not know an attorney, the trust department of your bank can probably recommend two or three attorneys who specialize in estate planning.

If you are making minor changes to your will, it may not be necessary to rewrite the document entirely. Many adjustments can be accomplished through a codicil or will supplement.

CONTENTS

A Letter from the President

Is It Time to Review Your Will?

Vande Guchtes Give Time and Funds in Support of Calvin

Calvin College
Development Office
3201 Burton Street SE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49546-4388

CAV
MINDS IN THE MAKING

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Grand Rapids, MI
Permit No. 248