



JAMES S. LUCKEY
SOCIETY

H
HOUGHTON
COLLEGE

SUMMER 2017
NEWSLETTER

THE PLANNED GIVING NEWSLETTER OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE AND THE JAMES S. LUCKEY SOCIETY

THE SIMPLE WILL BEQUEST: A LEGACY OPPORTUNITY OFTEN OVERLOOKED

A simple will bequest is perhaps the most overlooked path to supporting Houghton College, and, interestingly, it offers for many the greatest opportunity to make a significant impact on Houghton's future. According to a 2016 Gallup poll, 66% of Americans do not have a will. The number improves significantly for those over 65, but 32% in this group still have not taken the time to ensure they have a valid will.

"Houghton College has always been near and dear to my heart. As a student, I had to work hard, but I am thankful I received a quality education and met many lifelong friends. My family has a great legacy; I want to continue that legacy by making sure future students get a solid foundation—a quality, Christian education that prepares them for life."

– Class of '57

By seeking to create or update your will, you can benefit your loved ones as well as your alma mater. Those who carefully consider an estate plan often realize that, in addition to caring for their family members, they can make the kind of signature legacy gift to Houghton they may have felt unable to do because of the uncertainties about the future.

"We chose to add Houghton College to our wills in gratitude for all that Houghton provided to us as students. Our experience at Houghton helped us grow in many ways: spiritually, academically and relationally. We will be forever grateful for the lifechanging impact Houghton has had on us. Even though we are young, we believe you are never too young to add Houghton to your will."

– Class of '08 and '09

Will bequests have proven to be transformational in Houghton's history, and they have served thousands of students who have gone on to do incredible things for God's kingdom. It is fitting that a lifetime of labor be invested in the long-term mission of Houghton.

There are several key benefits to a will bequest (or living trust designation):

- You control your assets during your lifetime.
- It will not be subject to any potential federal estate tax.
- You may change or update at any time.
- You provide future support for Houghton College.
- If you are affected by the estate tax, a gift to Houghton will relieve your loved ones from a significant tax burden.

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Estate gifts to Houghton can take many forms and are often quite simple additions to your estate plan. We have suggested language on our web page. (Simply visit houghton.edu and click on the "giving" link at the top.)

"We annually support the student scholarship fund, and we also want to make sure that support continues after we are gone. So we are using our wills to make sure that happens."

– Class of '57

In addition to a bequest, including Houghton College as a beneficiary in your will or living trust (by stating a specific dollar amount or percentage), you can also name Houghton College as the remainder beneficiary of a life insurance policy, IRA account or Donor Advised Fund.

"I chose Houghton to be in my will because Houghton College accepted me and gave me a chance. They took a 'second look' at admission when I wondered if I was good enough for college. I was successful in my chosen profession because HC gave me a chance and encouragement to succeed. I want to give back to help those in the future who need that 'second look.'"

– Class of '72

If you are interested in learning more about investing in Houghton's future through your estate, please contact the Office of Advancement or visit our website for more general information.

"When I retired in 1991, because of the thankfulness that I had for my Alma Mater, we listed the college in our will. Now, 26 years later, I still feel that way and I am thankful that 22 of my mother's descendants have benefited from an education at Houghton. For both of these reasons we are updating our will to help more of our family and many others by adding to our bequest to the scholarship program. We pray that this will help the college to continue to prepare graduates to reach out to a needy world as they serve; in the church, the education field, in government, and elsewhere throughout their lives."

- Class of 1952

WHY TELL US ABOUT YOUR WILL?

If you have included Houghton College in your estate plan, please let us know so...

- » we can **THANK YOU**. We seek to foster a spirit of gratitude at Houghton, and we value the opportunity to show our gratitude.
- » we can **INCLUDE YOU** as a member of the James S. Luckey Society. Join hundreds of other alumni and friends who have included Houghton in their estate plans.
- » you can help **INSPIRE OTHERS**. Each estate gift we confirm and each story we hear from alumni and friends who have made this choice helps us to illustrate to others the potential impact of these gifts.
- » we can **HONOR YOUR LEGACY WISHES** quickly and efficiently. If you are designating your will bequest for a certain purpose (such as establishing an endowment), working with us ahead of time will help ensure your gift can be applied immediately to its intended purpose. Some funds or projects will require pre-approval from our gift acceptance committee, and having a conversation ahead of time will also help ensure your gift will be stewarded correctly.





JAMES S. LUCKEY SOCIETY

The James S. Luckey Society was established in 2010 to honor those donors whose gift plans set a firm foundation for the long-term financial health of Houghton College and its continued ability to support Houghton students as they pursue God's call on their lives.

Like these legacy donors, James S. Luckey—aptly remembered as “The Builder”—demonstrated such qualities as faithfulness, hard work and deep concern for students. As Houghton's first official president, Dr. Luckey set his nearly inexhaustible energy to the task of raising a relatively unknown seminary to a fully accredited college with a reputation for academic excellence and faith.

Even as he pursued this vision, Dr. Luckey attended to the young people God put in his care, often quietly paying their tuition or finding them jobs that would provide room and board to ensure their stay.

Members of the James S. Luckey Society share a similar vision. They give wisely for the long term, whether it is through a will bequest, making gifts that pay an income for life (charitable trusts and annuities), naming Houghton College as a beneficiary of a retirement plan (IRA) or life insurance policy, or through the creation of an endowment. They have the big picture in mind, yet their gifts attend to the details. Their support has a major impact on the future of Houghton College, but it also touches the lives of individual students—students who will become the future servant leaders of our world.



- Please call. I/we want to learn more about supporting future students by naming Houghton College as a beneficiary in my/our will/living trust, retirement plan, or life insurance policy, through a gift that pays an income for life, or through the creation of an endowment.
- I/we have already included Houghton College in my/our estate plan but have yet to provide documentation. Please provide me with necessary paperwork.

Name(s): _____

Phone(s): _____

Email(s): _____

Please mail this completed form to:

Office of Advancement, Houghton College, One Willard Avenue, Houghton, NY 14744-0128



GIFT PLANNING CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of Advancement
Houghton College
One Willard Avenue
Houghton, NY 14744

Phone: 585.567.9340

Fax: 585.567.9208

advancement@houghton.edu

www.houghton.edu/giving/

A Prayer for Houghton Graduates

by *Dr. Shirley A. Mullen '76, President*

Gracious God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—

In a world that shows forth at every turn both the lavish beauty and goodness that you intended in Creation and the marks of tragedy and twistedness that came as a result of the Fall—may we as Houghton graduates be creative, competent and courageous agents of your loving and restorative purposes.

In a world that talks much of human rights and individual potential—may we keep alive the memory of the foundation of those rights and the source of that potential in that we bear the Image of the triune God of the universe.

In a world that has come to disassociate Christian faith from the pursuit of Justice and Freedom—may we embody the only true Freedom that comes through obedience to the Truth and the only true Justice that comes from loving our neighbors as ourselves.

In a world torn by divides of religion, politics, economics, ethnicity and a host of other identities—help us to imagine redemptive communities that manifest the diversity, complexity and richness of God's Kingdom.

In a world that has lost the capacity for intelligent, sustained and gracious conversation—help us to be agents of hospitality and grace, creating spaces where people can listen and learn from one another, and, together, come to see more clearly what God would have us see.

In a world captivated by technology—may we model what it means for technology to be used for good, not evil, and as our tool, not our tyrant.

In a world driven by busyness—may we remember your gift of Sabbath, reminding ourselves on one day in seven that we are not in charge and that our lives are in larger and safer hands than our own.

In a world that values primarily personal achievement—may we exercise our gifts for God's glory and the good of others, remembering that our gifts are not our own but are only held in stewardship.

In a world shaped by fear—of economic uncertainty, of war, of violence, of difference, of sickness, of death—may our lives be shaped by the hope of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ and your promise to make all things new.

May we treasure without fear the multiple ways that we can come to see God's glory in the world—through the tools of science, through literature, through art and music, and through each other.

Like salt, may we season our frantic world with generosity, gratitude and grace.

Like the Sun, may we bring to light all that is True and Beautiful and Good in a world that has forgotten how to recognize things of ultimate value.

Above all, may we embody your Love to every person we meet, remembering that we serve a God who did not stop at sending a text but became like us, taking upon himself the form of a servant that we might know the extent and the magnitude of His Love.

We pray all these things in the name of our Lord Jesus. Amen.

