



**SAVE THE DATE
RESERVE SEATS
NOW CELEBRATE
GENEROSITY
NOVEMBER 18TH**

Celebration of Generosity in Memphis November 18th

A recent study proved that Memphis is the second most generous city in the United States. In addition, Hope Christian Community Foundation donors are outstanding examples of generosity. Grants made by our donors in 2008 were 100% greater than 2007 at \$32 million. Grants made so far this year are 20% higher than the record pace of 2008 at \$24 million.

With this encouraging news HOPE is excited to announce our annual luncheon this year with a focus on Generosity in Memphis. On Wednesday, November 18th at the Holiday Inn, located on the University of Memphis campus, Craig Strickland from Hope Presbyterian Church will be our keynote speaker on the topic of greater generosity. We are also proud to highlight giving testimonies from HOPE donors David Montague and Alan Barnhart. The cost of the event will be \$25 per person or \$250 for a table of 10. If you would like to use your HOPE donor advised fund to sponsor a table, please contact HOPE 901.682.6201 for special pricing.

DATE: Wednesday, November 18th, 11:30 - 1:00PM

LOCATION: Holiday Inn, University of Memphis

FORMAT: Lunch, Testimonies, Keynote Speaker

KEYNOTE: Craig Stickland from Hope Church

COST: \$25, \$250 per table of ten

RSVP: 901.682.6201 or www.hopeccf.org

Please mark your calendars and reserve time to celebrate the blessing of generosity in Memphis on November 18th. For more information on the event, please visit www.hopeccf.org. This will be a great event to celebrate how God is moving through generosity and we encourage you to invite your pastor or financial advisor to join you. Memphis is unique in giving statistics and HOPE is proud to highlight all that is happening around us.

NEWSLETTER
FALL 2009

Hope Christian Community Foundation exists to serve donors and ministries in order to facilitate the building of God's kingdom in our community and throughout the world.

ENJOY TAX SAVINGS

Those who make charitable gifts may wish to structure the amount and timing of their gifts to make the best use of tax incentives that remain available this year.

With the proposed changes in federal tax laws, giving this year may never save you more.

The higher your tax rate, the more your gifts will save you. If you are subject to the alternative minimum tax (AMT), you may be surprised to learn that charitable deduction serve to reduce the amount of both the regular income tax and the AMT.

Remember that only gifts made by December 31 can help reduce the amount of taxes you owe next April.

DECIDING WHAT TO GIVE

CASH - Charitable gifts are most often made in the form of cash and checks. When you itemize your tax deductions, gifts of cash may be used to eliminate federal income tax on up to half of your adjusted gross income (AGI). You may enjoy state income tax savings as well.

SECURITIES - Giving securities (individual stocks, bonds, or mutual fund shares) that are worth more than they cost can bring additional tax savings. Gifts of such property are generally deductible from income tax at full current value if owned for longer than one year, and can be used to offset tax on up to 30% of your AGI. In addition, no tax is due on any gain, as could be the case in the event of a sale. Giving securities also frees up cash for other purposes or to diversify investments.

If you own investments that are worth *less* than they cost, consider selling them and making a charitable gift of the cash proceeds. This creates a loss you may be able to deduct from other taxable income along with the amount of the cash contribution. The combined deductions for the gift and the loss may total more than the current value of the investment.

Whether you make a gift in the form of cash or other property, any unused deductions may serve to reduce your taxes in as many as five future years.

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

In addition to gifts of cash and securities, another option you might wish to consider in today's environment is **GIFTS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS**.

Retirement plan assets can be a practical source from which to make gifts. Unlike many other types of investment accounts, amounts withdrawn from retirement accounts are taxable to you and eventually to your heirs, if left to them.

If you are over 70.5 and have an IRA, you may want to consider making charitable gifts directly from these funds. Amounts given in this way for charitable purposes are not taxed as income and represent a way to make completely tax-free gifts.

Those over 59.5 may be able to accomplish a similar result by combining a gift with a withdrawal.

Some retirement plan giving options may be available only for gifts completed in 2009. Check with your financial advisor for the latest opportunities that apply to your situation.

ACT TODAY

As you can see, you can make meaningful and cost-effective charitable gifts by carefully planning their timing and the property used to fund them.

HOPE will be pleased to provide more information to you and/or your advisors as you act to complete your plans.

End of the Year Giving

"The Giving Season" is upon us. The most active days for giving each year start the day after Thanksgiving and run through December 20th. For various reasons, many wait until the last second to fund donor advised funds or to submit grants to the ministries and non-profits they want to remember before the end of the year.

One of the many benefits to your HOPE donor advised fund (DAF) is that you are not limited by time to direct grants from your fund to a ministry. If you do desire to get a grant to a ministry before the end of the year, we will cutoff grant requests on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd at Noon in order to cut checks and mail them out by year end.

We do accept gifts into your DAF through December 31st at Midnight. Complex gifts, such as stock transfers, must be received into our account by the end of 2009. Please be mindful that many stock transfers take an average of three to five days to process.

**Grant Requests Deadline to
Ministries by Year End:
Wednesday, December 23
Noon**



**contact
hope**

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