

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT

A Publication of Barnabas® Foundation

2022, Issue 1

FROM THE DIRECTOR



As seasons change in our lives, we face a number of decisions – sometimes based on our own timing, and other times because of circumstances outside of our control.

I have met a few people who always seem to have the ability to see the future and make decisions before those decisions are thrust upon them. This might be as simple as buying a new car at the right time, downsizing, simplifying their lifestyles or other decisions like that. I admire how they take a proactive rather than a reactive approach to life.

I encourage you to consider what decisions need to be made in your life to prepare wisely for your future. Proverbs tells us, “The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty.” (Proverbs 27:12, NIV)

While making some difficult decisions takes intentionality and courage, preparation can be freeing once you no longer have the burden of “what if” hanging over your head.

Here at Barnabas Foundation, we are honored to help people consider plans that will honor God, care for their families and support the causes close to their hearts. If it’s time to be proactive with your estate plan, one of our planners would be happy to help you.

Grateful to serve you,



James Bakke, J.D.
Executive Director

“LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE WHEREVER YOU ARE”

Life Story: Roger and Audrey Otten

If you want to catch the Ottens, you’d better call early in the morning. Each at the age of 90, Roger and Audrey are on the move every day.

Connecting and investing in the community is how the Ottens have spent their 67 years of married life together.

“We think it’s important,” states Rog. “We’d like to see more people getting involved in the community.”

The Ottens recently befriended Ann, a woman who was going through a divorce while receiving chemotherapy for cancer. “Rog and I often go to McDonald’s for coffee from the YMCA,” remarks Audrey. “And one day Ann asked, ‘Can I come along?’” Eventually, Ann received Christ as her Lord and Savior and a week later, she was baptized by Rog and Audrey’s pastor. The next day, she passed on to glory with Jesus.

“God used us as friends first,” reflects Audrey, “then to lead her to Christ.”

Over many years, Rog and Audrey have supported and volunteered with dozens of organizations, both public and faith-based. They also served as elected public officials for their city, both of them as aldermen at different times, and Rog as county board supervisor for 32 years. As far as the Ottens are concerned, it’s all God’s work.

Now Rog and Audrey consider their legacy and understand there are multiple audiences watching. “We have four families,” notes Audrey. “There’s our own family, our church family, our YMCA family and our McDonald’s family.”

“The message we want to give is this: all of it is about God’s Kingdom and loving Jesus,” says Rog. “Let your light shine wherever you are.”



Continued on back side

“LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE WHEREVER YOU ARE”

Continued from front

To this end, the Ottens have plans to leave most of their estate to charity. Many of the same organizations to which they gave to over the years will continue to receive their support, well beyond their lifetimes.

Rog and Audrey have spent their days shining the light of Jesus in their community. Their sincere prayer is others will be inspired to reach out and give of their time and resources to follow God’s leading.

ASK BARNABAS FOUNDATION

Q: One of my goals is to update my estate plan. How can a planner help me?

A. Since 1976, Barnabas Foundation has helped thousands of individuals and families transfer their God-given wealth to loved ones and the ministries close to their hearts. In a confidential setting, a planner will help you explore the various tax-wise options available to you, in a way that is clear and easy-to-understand.

Together, you will discuss answers to important questions like...

- Does my will reflect my values, needs and goals?
- How much is enough for my loved ones?
- How do I best provide for children or grandchildren with special needs?
- Am I taking full advantage of charitable tax laws?
- How can I extend my impact through my favorite charities?

You’ll walk away with practical recommendations and clear-cut action steps to streamline the process of finalizing your legal documents with your chosen attorney.

Have Questions?

Call us at 888.448.3040 or email planning@BarnabasFoundation.com to ask a planner.

FAMILY MATTERS

Navigating Family Dynamics in Your Estate Plan

February 23, 11 a.m. (Central)

When it comes to estate planning, there is no one-size-fits-all solution. Your plan should be as unique as your lifelong passions and the family it’s designed to serve. Join Barnabas Foundation’s Steve Baker, J.D., as he discusses how to develop a values-based plan that honors God, supports your family and furthers the causes that mean so much to you.

Learn More and Register:

BarnabasFoundation.com/Interactive



3801 Eagle Nest Drive, Suite B
Crete, IL 60417-1993

BarnabasFoundation.com
1.888.448.3040

