

Planned Giving Tip
June 2007
Benefits of Leaving Bonds

Here is one more that can be placed in the bulletin 2-3 times in the next year:

BENEFITS OF LEAVING BONDS

Many Americans have U.S. Savings Bonds, tucked away, perhaps, in a desk drawer or safe deposit box. Savings bonds are valuable, but they may be subject to heavy federal income taxes and state and federal “death taxes” in a person’s estate. For example, heirs who receive \$50,000 in savings bonds from your estate may have to pay income tax on \$25,000 or more of built up interest. Furthermore, the full \$50,000 could be subject to federal estate tax of 45% or more, leaving them with only a fraction of the bonds’ value.

You can erase all taxes on savings bonds at death by changing your will or revocable living trust to specifically leave bonds to {parish name}. Savings bonds that we receive pass 100% free of estate taxes and, as a tax-exempt organization, we would owe absolutely no income taxes on the bonds. In other words, every dollar could be used for {parish name}, in contrast to the shrunken after-tax amount that would be available to other beneficiaries.

Keep planting seeds!