

**CHURCH
URBAN
FUND** 



**Continue God's work
for generations**

A GUIDE TO GIFTS IN WILLS

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Let us not love
with words or
speech but with
actions and
in truth.

1 JOHN 3:18



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Dear friend

Imagine a world where everyone is part of a loving community. A world where people are valued and connected, and their needs are met. Where refugees are welcomed and homelessness no longer exists. That's the world God intended. That's the world we're striving for, so thank you for your gifts, prayers, and time which help bring that world a little closer.

But poverty remains – and we must continue to serve future generations.

Keep building the world God intended by leaving a gift in your will to Church Urban Fund.

Your compassion, faith and kindness will live on. You'll keep shaping lives, strengthening communities and help build God's Kingdom on earth.

Of course, your loved ones come first. But even a small gift to Church Urban Fund can make a real difference. It's simple to do, and could be the most powerful donation you ever make.





With thanks and blessings,

Bishop Rob Wickham

Group Chief Executive, Church Urban Fund

25,000 people 
are welcomed weekly into
 CUF-supported
community spaces

$\frac{1}{3}$ of CUF's income 
is from gifts in will;
 these gifts are vital

7,000+ people 
use our resources to
 shape their church's
mission

4,000+ 
faithful volunteers
 make their neighbourhoods
better places to live

Why leave a gift in your will to CUF

A gift in your will to Church Urban Fund is a way for your faith to reach forward and shape future communities. It's a gift of love and compassion to people who need the most help.

You can make a lasting, positive difference – and help build the world God intended.

Your gift can:

- Help churches respond powerfully to needs in their own communities.
- Combat poverty and loneliness, using local wisdom and expertise.
- Mobilise volunteers and bring hope in places where life is most difficult.
- Create Places of Welcome, where people feel safe, connected and able to get involved.
- Strengthen young people to become confident leaders in their communities.

**A gift in your will is
a Kingdom-building,
life-changing, faith-filled
act of kindness**



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I've made
friends, I've
become a
Christian, and
this is now my
church.

COLIN



The difference you will make

When life throws one challenge, you can usually cope. But for Colin, everything started to fall apart at once – and it wasn't long before he found himself homeless...

“

When my dad died, life became a real struggle,” remembers Colin.

“I ended up living on a golf course in a tent. I managed to keep going to work each day, but I only had one hot meal a week and lived off ham sandwiches.”

One day, Colin was invited to a CUF-supported Place of Welcome at a local church. The church had received a grant and started a weekly drop-in session, offering tea, coffee, hot food and a warm place to sit. “It was welcoming, warm and friendly,” said Colin.

Through the connection with church, Colin began accessing other support... A food bank. Help with housing. The love and care of local Christians. “I was invited to a church service, and it was nothing like I expected,” said Colin. “It’s like a family here.”

In time, Colin became a Christian and was baptised. He’s now a volunteer at the church. “It’s helping me move forwards,” said Colin with a smile. “I’m making progress, step by step.”

Our promise to you

Deciding who to include in your will is a significant and personal decision.

We promise:

- Your family and your wishes come first when you make your will.
- We will never pressure you to make this important decision.
- Your privacy is safe with us.
- Your gift will be used wisely and carefully where it will have the greatest impact.

Join 'Faith in our Future'

When you include CUF in your will, you can join 'Faith in our Future', a community of forward-thinking, caring individuals.

So please let Kelly (kelly.jones@cuf.org.uk) know so we can thank you. As a valued member of Faith in our Future, you will receive a special pin badge, representing our shared vision for thriving communities.



Join other generous supporters

Many loyal friends choose to remember Church Urban Fund in their will. For most, it's a way to keep building communities as God intended them to be.

JOHN'S WILL GIFT

For John Chilvers, the gift in his will was deeply personal.

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Dad volunteered with the church as a statistician towards the end of his career,” says John’s son, David.

“It took him around the country and he saw deprivation up close. It changed him. He said: Love must respond to what it sees.”

When John died aged 98, he (and his wife Elaine) generously chose to support CUF.



ALISON'S PLEDGE

Alison Grieve has pledged a gift in her will.

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I can't give a huge amount now, but including CUF in my charity beneficiaries is my way to keep supporting a cause that's important to me.

CUF is about making the church strong. Showing God's love in action. Empowering Christians to get involved in their communities. That's vital today – when communities are splintered – and it will be even more important in the future. I hope God will direct my gift where it can support communities the most.”





Your questions answered

WHAT KIND OF GIFT CAN I LEAVE?

There are two main ways to leave a gift in your will:

- A share of your estate
- A fixed-sum cash gift

WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A WILL?

Please use a solicitor to draw one up. Any solicitor local to you can provide help or advice, and can ensure your will is legal and valid.

CAN I AMEND MY WILL?

If you already have a will, it's a good idea to review it to make sure it reflects your wishes. You can update your will at any time. Amending your will to include Church Urban Fund is very simple.

WHAT ABOUT INHERITANCE TAX?

Charitable gifts are usually free of inheritance tax. Gifts in wills can also help reduce inheritance tax on the rest of your estate. A solicitor can advise you.

How to remember CUF in your will

It's very simple to include Church Urban Fund in your will.
You will need to provide your solicitor with our charity address and registration number:

Church Urban Fund
The Foundry
17 Oval Way
London SE11 5RR

Registered charity number: 297483

Write your will for FREE

As a friend of CUF, you can make a will for free. We have partnered with the National Free Wills Network to provide local solicitor-written wills. There's no obligation to include a gift to CUF, but we hope you will consider it once your loved ones are provided for.

Find out more about writing your will at cuf.org.uk/willgift





Thank you

Your generosity today can build communities the way God intended them to be, for generations to come.

Thank you so much for considering a gift in your will to Church Urban Fund.



To find out more about gifts in wills:

- Talk to us on 0203 752 5655
- Email kelly.jones@cuf.org.uk
- Scan the QR code to go to cuf.org.uk/willgift, for more information



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Church Urban Fund is a registered charity in England and Wales (297483).
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