Generosity & Endowment Committee
May 2026

Say What? There's Another Way I Can Make An Estate Gift To RLC That Pays Income To Me?

Sounds like mumbo-jumbo!

No, not mumbo-jumbo, but an instrument called a **Charitable Remainder Unitrust**, available from the ELCA Foundation. It works like this: you make an irrevocable gift to RLC, but income on the amount gifted is paid to YOU (or another beneficiary) for your lifetime or 20 years. Not only do you receive annual income, and plan a wonderful gift, but you get an immediate tax deduction in the year the gift is made. The irrevocable gift can be funded with a variety of assets like cash, stocks, bonds, or other assets. (Appreciated stock is particularly advantageous.)

That's the basic info. If you are interested in the details of a Charitable Remainder Unitrust for your estate plans, you have a friendly smart expert with a great toolbox of ideas available FREE to RLC members: Lisa Higginbotham, our ELCA Foundation regional gift planner has helped several church members plan or consider estate gifts to RLC. Yes, Lisa's consultations are free to the RLC family and she's happy to answer questions about all kinds of options for estate gifts to RLC. You can reach her at lisa.higginbotham@elca.org or call her at 805-910-5048.