

SILVER LININGS



CHRISTIAN CHURCH(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

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PERSONAL PLANNER

One of the e-mails your Editor receives regularly comes from David Moore, Assistant Vice-President, Legacy Planning, Chapman University. On Jul 28, his communication was entitled "Personal Planner." After reading it, I decided this information needed to be passed on to the readers of "Silver Linings." Looking at the material, some two plus months later, I'm not sure if the material is original with David, or it comes from some other source. Whatever the source it's valuable information for adults of all ages, but especially Seniors who are folk have, like me, "more yesterdays than tomorrows."

Your Family Letter--Memorial Services. A family letter is a key part of a good estate plan. It is much more personal than many of your estate documents. It allows you to share your heart and show appreciation and gratitude to family members. During a time when family members are grieving, it also helps them to complete many practical steps to protect your property. Your family letters may have up to ten different sections, each focused on a separate topic.

#1 -- Estate Data

Your estate organizer usually has four parts. It will explain the family names and key information, identify your attorney, CPA and other financial and health advisors, cover all of your assets and financial information and outline your estate planning choices.

The estate organizer may be printed or you may use an online version. Your family letter should explain where the information is located. If you are using an online estate planner, it is important to know your account name and password so the information will be available.

#2 Important Documents

Your important documents will generally be safeguarded in three different ways. First, many individuals have a safe deposit box. The safe deposit box typically holds birth certificates, death certificates, degrees and other legal agreements, marriage or divorce documents, military discharge records, property deeds, a personal property inventory, stock and bond certificates and vehicle titles.

Second, you may have a fireproof box at home. This box will frequently include your insurance policies, your living will, medical power of attorney or advance directive, trust documents and your will.

Third, there are some items that should be left with your attorney, friend, agent or other trusted person. These are items that may be needed while you are still living or will be necessary very soon after you pass away. These documents, or copies of them, will include your financial power of attorney, a durable power of attorney for health care or advance directive, your living will, trusts and your will.

#3 Accounts and Passwords

Because an increasing number of records and information are retained online in personal accounts, you will want to be certain that your personal letter lists all accounts. You may decide to include passwords with the personal letter. Alternatively, if you are entrusting all of this information to a specific person or other location, that should be identified.

With the rapid movement to online banking, online mutual funds and securities accounts, donor advised fund accounts, health savings accounts and your e-mail accounts, you may have 6 to 10 accounts with various passwords. It will be important to have all of this information recorded.

(At least three more topics will be in the November issue. Look for them.)

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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THIRD ANNUAL PSWR SENIORS' RETREAT NEXT MONTH

The third annual retreat for Sr. Adults in the PSW Region will be held at the Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside. The event will begin at 2 P.M. on November 8 and conclude at 2 P.M. the next day. The theme is: "Aging Well: Blessed to Be a Blessing." Our Retreat Leader is the Rev. Karen Berns from Pasadena. She's a Presbyterian Pastor, who's also served as a Hospice Chaplain. She's a member of the design team for the New Theological Seminary of the West's Certificate in Spirituality and Aging and one of its faculty members.

This retreat will provide resources for all people who are concerned about developing or expanding Senior Ministry in their church and who also desire to grow in their personal spiritual life.

The registration fee is \$85 a person. The full fee is \$120, but each registration is subsidized with a gift of \$35 from the Older Adult Ministry Committee. Registration information was mailed out in August. Those who would like to attend this event need to contact Darwin Mann, Retreat Organizer and a member of the OAM Committee. He can be reached at this address: Darwin Mann, 8515 Costa Verde Blvd., #1653, San Diego, CA 92122. Contact him if, in a conversation with your Pastor, you discover that he/she does not have a copy of the registration form. We have had two wonderful retreat experiences, one in 2014 and one in 2015. We are certain the 2016 event will be as rich an experience as we've had in the first two retreats. So, don't miss this year's retreat! The deadline to register for this event is Tuesday, November 1, 2016.

SENIOR GOLFERS WERE OUT IN FORCE

On Monday, September 19, one-hundred golfers from congregations around the PSW Region, participated in the Don Shelton Memorial Golf Classic held at San Dimas Canyon Golf Course. At least one-third of the golfers were Seniors. The winning Senior team included Dennis Short, long-time Pastor and leader in the PSW Region. He played with three golfers from Hillcrest, a Church of the Brethren Retirement Center in La Verne where Dennis resides with his wife, Linda. They not only were the Senior foursome with the lowest score--59 which is 12 under par for the San Dimas course--they took Third Place in the overall competition with golfers of all ages who played in this year's golf tournament.

OAM COMMITTEE AT REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

The 2016 Regional Assembly is set for October 14-15 at First Christian Church, Fullerton. The Older Adult Ministry Committee will have a table in the exhibit area with information about the work it does year round. This will include information about grants of financial support available for Senior Adults, 65 and up, in the PSW Region. Be sure to visit their table to find out about this program, as well as to get a registration form for the Third Annual Senior Retreat sponsored by the OAM Committee on 11/8-11/9.

FEATURED HYMN

OUR HYMNAL HAS A NUMBER OF HYMNS DEVOTED TO GOD'S WORLD AND THE CARE OF THE EARTH. ONE FROM THIS SECTION OF OUR HYMNAL IS "FOR BEAUTY OF MEADOWS."

"FOR THE BEAUTY OF MEADOWS, FOR GRANDEUR OF TREES, FOR FLOWERS OF WOODLANDS, FOR CREATURES OF SEAS, FOR ALL YOU CREATED AND GAVE US TO SHARE, WE PRAISE YOU CREATOR, EXTOLLING YOUR CARE.

AS STEWARDS OF BEAUTY RECEIVED AT YOUR HAND, AS CREATURES WHO HEAR YOUR MOST URGENT COMMAND, WE TURN FROM OUR WASTEFUL DESTRUCTION OF LIFE, CONFESSING OUR FAILURES, CONFESSING OUR STRIFE.

TEACH US ONCE AGAIN TO BE GARDENERS IN PEACE; ALL NATURE AROUND US IS OURS, BUT ON LEASE; YOUR NAME WE WOULD HALLOW IN ALL THAT WE DO, FULFILLING OUR CALLING, CREATING WITH YOU."

CHALICE HYMNAL, No. 696. THE WORDS COME FROM WALTER FARQUHARSON, 1969. THE HYMN TUNE IS ST. DENIO, WELL-KNOWN AS THE TUNE FOR "IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE."