

*A Profile***MEGAN HOLLOWAY**

Just two days ago spring was here, apparently just visiting. We shed our winter coats and sprawled out on the grass. The squirrels seemed a little less manic about searching out their food stores. The crocuses did a little victory dance over winter and the daffodils egged them on. Maybe they celebrated a little too soon. Now looking out from my room over the Berkeley lawn all I can see is a mass of white and grey. Winter is trying to get the last word. Our coats are back on again, taking the worst of the unending snow and sleet. The squirrels have taken cover. It's hard to tell what will happen to the crocuses.

The crocus is a strange mixture of obedience and defiance. It seems to be the most obedient flower. At the subtlest rise in temperature, with the smallest extra dose of sunshine, the crocus responds. The rest of us usually don't even notice these changes. But to the crocus, they are a sign and a gift. Their obedience is a constituent of their true inner nature responding to Mother Nature.

The crocus is also the most defiant flower. It doesn't matter that the ground is still tundra-like. It doesn't matter if it's still February. It doesn't matter if it's still 35 degrees. They only hear that the ground is a little softer, the sun is out just a little longer, and it's two degrees warmer today than it was yesterday. The crocus only listens to the coming of spring. It shakes its fist at

*Megan Hollaway*

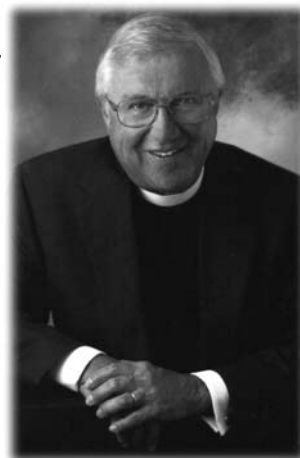
everything else. There's no guarantee that the crocuses are going to survive the eight inches of snow that they're buried under right now. But I have no doubt that they will shake their fists to the last minute, holding out for the promise of spring. And I'm putting my money on the crocuses.

This is my image of what it means to be called right now. I have to admit that by the third year of seminary many of us are worn out by the rhetoric of call. We are constantly asked when we were called to ministry. Then

we have to describe this experience to countless people, trying to make it sound both reasonable and of God. I take discernment very seriously. I think that many times God draws us to this and not that action. But often the dynamic of obedience to our true nature and to God becomes lost to us. The rhetoric flattens things out. Communication becomes more efficient but loses substance. We lose the ability to be clear about what or whom we are being obedient to and what or whom we are defying in the process of being obedient. Right now, as I look forward to graduation, ordination, my first job as a deacon, as I look back on three glorious years of study and the incredible support I've received to do such a decadent thing, I'm grateful to the crocuses for reminding me of how wild it is to be called to God through ordained ministry. So this is a bit of what it's meant lately for me to be obedient and to shake my fists:

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April 2007



Dear Friends in Christ,

I am eager to share with you some very exciting news: thanks to the wonderfully generous support of so many of you, our alumni/ae and friends, as of March 1st, the Annual Fund of the Society stands 74% ahead of last year! As a matter of fact, for most of the seven months since the beginning of our fiscal year on September 1st, our totals have been in excess of 100% of last year's giving to the Society. The numbers fluctuate as we receive gifts following my preaching engagements around the country and with the arrival in our office of large, single gifts. We note that we are receiving more and more gifts of stock, in widely varying amounts. The tax advantages of giving appreciated stocks are quite significant. Would that work for you? The seminarians we serve thank you and I thank you for your faithfulness, your generosity and your thoughtfulness!

Speaking of preaching in parishes around the country, I have spent much of the last several months on the road preaching in our congregations, meeting with potential donors and calling on parish clergy with the hope of generating ever more invitations to preach and meet potential donors. If you think that it would benefit the seminarians we serve and would like to have me come to your parish to share the compelling story of the extraordinary needs of so many of our current seminarians, please don't think that you have to wait for a personal call from me ( I am one man and there are 7,000 congregations coast to coast!). I would be absolutely delighted to respond to your invitation as expeditiously as possible. We know that it is these presentations which account for these very encouraging increases in giving to the Society. Please, give me a call!

On a more somber note, in these pages, Jerry Carroon, our Director of Scholarship Programs, has written about the decrease in enrollment in many of our seminaries. While it will take some time for our seminary deans and the Society to fully understand the reasons for this phenomenon, we are very concerned about this trend and how it will impact what many see as a coming shortage of Episcopal Priests to serve our congregations and chaplaincies in future years. As we learn more, we will share that information with you.

Again, thanks to you all and God bless you!

Most gratefully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John L.C. Mitman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Rev. Canon John L.C. Mitman,  
Executive Director

***"Thank you to the Society for the Increase of the Ministry for your support this academic year. It was such a treat for you to take the time to come to Sewanee to meet with us. I enjoyed our time together and look forward to visiting with you next semester. Please know that we are aware that the support and prayers of those like that of the Society for the Increase of the Ministry are part of Christ's sustaining love and care. We are thankful for your ministry in His service and look forward to joining you all in this ministry. Please know that you remain in our prayers."***

—C.V. Sewanee

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

### WITH THE DIRECTOR OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Dear Friends in Christ,

I have just completed my round of “spring” visits to the eleven seminaries of the Church. As usual it was an inspiration to meet with the fine men and women who are preparing to lead our congregations in the coming years. They are always so grateful for your support which enables them to complete their studies. For my part, however, I am grateful to hear their stories and to learn, first hand, of their struggles and their successes as they advance toward ordination. For our seniors, with commencement in the month of May followed by June ordinations and moving to their first cure, it is a time of excitement, anticipation and, obviously, stress. As always, for me, it is a time of some sadness as I say goodbye to those who are graduating and whom I have come to know, on your behalf, over the past years.

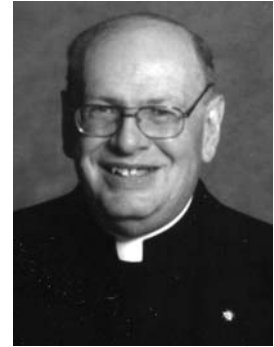
Their stories are, in many ways, our stories also. The support we give through the Society, while always welcome, can sometimes arrive at very opportune times. In several cases I arrived with scholarship check in hand, just after the birth of a child, and the relief of the parents, faced with a myriad of new expenses, was palpable. In another incident, in which one of our students felt God’s care for him was particularly evident, I handed a check to this young man the day after his car died for the final time. The SIM check was just enough to enable him to purchase a used car and get his spouse to her job and daycare and the seminarian to campus for classes. I don’t suppose I have ever seen a face filled with more joy and relief, than that seminarian—and certainly SIM was never more appreciated by anyone.

A matter of concern, however, has emerged during my visits this spring, and that is the decreased enrollment in many of our seminaries. Last fall’s entering class was diminished by some significant numbers, particularly among the categories of seminarians receiving support from the Society. The Society for the Increase of the Ministry has long held that it is our calling to support, as best we can determine, those students

who show the most promise for ending up serving in our parish churches, the front line of ministry. The best indication we have that seminarians are heading into parish work, in our experience, is that they are (1) enrolled in an Master of Divinity (M. Div.) course of study, (2) that they are full-time in that course and that (3) they have undertaken a formal discernment process in their home parish and diocese and have been named Postulants for Holy Orders. This then is the category of seminarian which the Society supports and any lessening of numbers of these students is of primary concern to the Society. There are, no doubt, several explanations for this trend and I am endeavoring to assemble information that will offer a more concrete explanation.

Some possible answers have emerged from my conversations with seminary administration and faculty as well as students. One reason for the decreased enrollment seems to be that fewer students are enrolling in the M.Div. program. This is seen in the smaller number of grant applications submitted for the 2007-2008 academic year. Many of the seminaries are offering distance learning degree programs as well as one year diplomas in Anglican Studies for students already holding a degree in theology from a non-Episcopal seminary. Others now offer a Master of Arts in Theology, which may, or may not, lead to ordination.

In addition there seem to be more students who are taking four or five years to complete a degree that had been expected to be completed in a three year curriculum. We had thought that there would be more retirements from clerical ranks, as the “baby boomers” reached the magic age—but that seems to be occurring at a slower pace than we had anticipated. In addition some bishops are not accepting candidates for the ministry in the same numbers as they did previously; one reason being that more parishes are going to part-time or bi-vocational clergy and



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**General Theological Seminary, New York City:**  
*Standing: Daniel Dice, Steve Paulikas, Nathan LeRud,  
 Rick Robyn. Seated: Sr. Deborah, Stephanie Allen,  
 Sarah Fossati, Licia Affer*



**Nashotah House, Nashotah WI:**  
*Ed Gleason, Susan Waldron, Bill Easterling, Tom Ortung,  
 Vic Scalisi, Dan Repp, Micah Snell, Jon Roberts*

*"Thank you for your time, support and wisdom. You are a blessing to so many. Your ministry is grace-filled."*

—M.R., CDSP

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### THE SOCIETY FOR THE INCREASE OF THE MINISTRY'S SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OCTOBER 2, 2007 AT TRINITY COLLEGE, HARTFORD

Once again we remind all of our alumni/ae, friends and supporters that we will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Society with a gala evening at Trinity College, Hartford, on Tuesday, October 2nd of this year.

The evening will begin at 5:30 with Choral Evensong in Trinity's spectacular chapel, which will be followed by a reception and banquet in the Washington Room, across the green from the chapel. The preacher at Evensong will be the Rt. Rev. Kirk Smith, Bishop of Arizona and a former grant recipient of the Society. The choir of Trinity Church in Hartford, under the direction of Bert Landman, will sing. The speaker at the banquet will be the soon-to-be-retired Dean of the Virginia Theological Seminary, the Rev. Dr. Martha J. Horne. Hosting will be the Bishop of Connecticut, Andrew D. Smith.

This is a very important milestone in the life and ministry of the Society and we very much hope that you will plan to attend! An invitation will come to you later in the year.

## *The 1857 Society*

The Board of Directors is pleased to announce the inauguration of The 1857 Society, a legacy society for SIM, whose members will include our alumni/ae and friends who have shown their support for our work and ministry by including SIM in their estate planning.

For some this may mean inclusion of SIM in their wills; for others, it may mean naming SIM as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy; still others may wish to establish a life income gift or other planned gift. The kick off of The 1857 Society will be an important part of our Sesquicentennial celebration on October 2nd.

Of two things we may be certain;

The size and strength of the endowment of the Society for the Increase of the Ministry and the support it will provide to seminarians in need, like all other endowed organizations and institutions, will depend absolutely upon whether those who care about this ministry will choose to include SIM in their estate planning. It's that simple.

The second is that most of us will be able to make generous gifts from our estates which we would never be able to make from current income while living. As a guideline, we simply ask that all of us resolve to include the Society as a beneficiary of our estates in an amount which will not imperil the well being of our other heirs. With that simple rule of thumb in mind, the seminarians supported by SIM shall most certainly benefit greatly from our generosity — and unto perpetuity!

For more information, please contact the SIM office at 860-233-1732 or at [simministry@earthlink.net](mailto:simministry@earthlink.net).

### **MEGAN HOLLOWAY** *continued from page 1*

Last semester several people encouraged me to consider going on for a Ph.D. Somehow in my mind their encouragement became an obligation for me to consider. I wrung my hands. I didn't sleep. I couldn't stop thinking about it and wouldn't stop talking about it. I did everything but pray about it. When I finally did stop and pray a resolution presented itself. I decided to say 'no' to the Ph.D. Instead, I would stay on for an extra year of course work and get a Master's degree in Sacred Theology. This seemed like a fair trade. I had successfully resisted my need to please people I look up to—shouldn't I get to hide out in school a little longer?

Then, right around the time the first crocus poked out of the ground, I got a call from a priest and friend in the Diocese of Virginia (where I'm from) who told me about his rural parish and invited me to consider

coming there. I spent the next month trying to ignore this invitation. I'm a city girl. My research for school was going to afford me the opportunity to travel internationally. I have very pressing academic questions left unanswered! But something like the crocus was responding to this invitation. Slowly, all the fist shaking at this invitation got transferred onto my resistances. I started growing into the idea of being in the country, learning from a wonderful priest, surrounded by fun and quirky parishioners. The only thing that sounds like spring's call to me is going to be a deacon now, with this church and these people. There is still some snow on the ground. There is a kind of mourning for the loss of even a small something that will not be. But, thanks be to God, this year it's melting fast.



**Virginia Theological Seminary, Alexandria VA:**

Standing: Kyle Stillings, Lisa Graves, Holly Davis, Allen Pruitt, Chip Graves, Scott Petersen, Matthew Scott, Amanda Eiman, Brett Backus, Seth Dietrich. Seated: Gulianna Cappelletti, Elizabeth Baumgarten, Jill Barton, Adam Thomas

*“As we come closer to accepting a call, we know full well that discernment does not end with graduation or ordination. Thank you for being a part of this journey.”* — D.R. Nashotah



**Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge MA:**

Jeff Mello, Mark McKone-Sweet, Berkeley Johnson

*“Thank you so much for supporting us in seminary and future vocations! Thanks for praying and paying.”*

—M.S., Nashotah

**CHRISTOPHER L. WEBBER  
RECEIVES HONORARY DEGREE**

The Rev. Christopher L. Webber, great friend and member of the Society's Scholarship Committee, received the Degree of Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, from The General Seminary on October 19th, 2006. Chris earned his B.A. degree from Princeton University in 1953, his Bachelor of Sacred Theology from General Seminary in 1956, and his Master of Sacred Theology from GTS in 1963. He has also served General as a Fellow and Tutor, and later as an Adjunct Professor. At the end of 2006, Fr. Webber retired as Vicar of Christ Church, Canaan, Connecticut and of the Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall, Connecticut. He is the author of twenty-four books and pamphlets, most recently *Give Us Grace: An Anthology of Anglican Prayer*, which provides a collection of five hundred Anglican prayers reflecting the diversity and strength of the Anglican Communion. Scholar, author, pastor, teacher, he has also published numerous hymn texts, nineteen poems, over thirty articles and sixteen book reviews as well as serving on a variety of diocesan and church committees. He is a consummate homilist, and as a pastor has consistently championed civil liberties, peace, justice, and gender equality. Our congratulations to Chris and our thanks to him for designating the offering at the service celebrating his fiftieth anniversary of his ordination to the Society.

## ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

We would remind our supporters of a new opportunity to support Episcopal Seminarians in need — Annual Scholarships.

With a gift of \$3,000 or more, a donor (an individual, family or congregation) will be matched with a worthy and appropriate seminarian chosen by the Scholarship Committee and our staff. The donor will be provided with a profile of the recipient who, in turn, would correspond with the donor. It is hoped that donors will wish to commit to this program for at least two years in the anticipation that a more meaningful relationship may then develop between recipients and donors.

Annual Scholarships may be given in memory of a loved one, in thanksgiving for God's many gifts or to commemorate a significant event in the life of a person, family or donor parish.

*Annual* Scholarships are distinguished from our *Named* Scholarships in that the funds contributed to the Society are given directly to the student, while contributions for *Named* Scholarships are placed in the Society's endowment and only the income from the endowment is used to support the scholarship.

Wouldn't you, your family or your parish value the rewards and satisfaction of an Annual Scholarship through the Society, knowing that you have made a difference in providing for the future ordained ministry of the Episcopal Church?



***Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Austin TX:***

*Jennie Anderson, Don Smith, Carissa Baldwin, Chris Miller, Teri Daily, Bill Kindel, De Freeman, Joe Behen, Shelley Adams, Lance Peeler, Kevin Dellaria, Keith Turbeville*

***“Thank you so much for the scholarship check! I’m so thankful for your support!”***

— H.P., Berkeley



***Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston IL:***

*Kristofer Lindh-Payne, Ryan Hall, Lauren McDonald, Kathy Charles, Derrick Fetz*

***“It is with great humility and sincerity that we receive your generosity. In the midst of turbulent times (and massive homework) your gift gives our family hope. May all in your organization sense the blessing of our Lord.”***

—W.B., Sewanee

*"I want to thank you and the Society once again for your constant and generous support of me throughout my time in seminary. It means more to me than I can properly express. Thank you very much."* —K.S., Sewanee

**New Named Scholarship  
Designated in Honor of  
William G. ("Bill") Andersen, Jr.**

The Board of the Society has voted to establish a Named Scholarship unto perpetuity in memory of the late William G. ("Bill") Andersen. Bill served as the President of the Episcopal Church Foundation and was a great supporter of the work and mission of the Society during his stewardship of the Foundation. Andersen was a great visionary in the life of the Episcopal Church and in 2001 identified seminarian debt as a grave threat to the supply of a diverse and well trained and educated supply of priests to serve and lead our church into the future. In support of the Society, Bill spearheaded the procurement of a \$300,000.00 grant from the Episcopal Church Foundation to the Society to help us organize and mount our campaign, Funding Future Leaders. Having retired from the Episcopal Church Foundation, Bill had offered to make calls on clergy and parishes in New Jersey and Pennsylvania to help us raise funds. Sadly, before he could begin this work, he died at his home in New Jersey in October of last year.

This William G. Andersen Scholarship is a most fitting memorial to this extraordinary man and his ministry.



**School of Theology at the University of the South,  
Sewanee TN:**

Chip Broadfoot, Joe Smith, Kimberly Still, Buff Grace,  
Deborah Jackson, Eric Zubler, Joel Turmo

**SOCIETY GRANTS  
2006-2007 GRANT YEAR**

**Traditional Scholarship Program**

(Full-time postulants and candidates attending Episcopal Seminaries)

Amount granted	\$167,100
Minimum Individual Grant	\$ 500
Maximum Individual Grant	\$ 3,000
Total Number of Grants	84
Average Grant	\$ 1,990

**The Alternative Scholarship Program**

(The Alternative Program supports postulants who, for whatever reason, and with the approval of their diocese, are attending accredited, alternative educational programs of study.)

Number of Grants (to date)	4
Amount Granted	\$8,000

**Dioceses whose postulants have received  
Alternative Program Grants:**

Atlanta, San Joaquin, Western Massachusetts,  
Connecticut

**Overall Statistics, Traditional and  
Alternative Programs**

34 women

Average Age	38.5
Under age 30	9 (26.4%)
Youngest woman	25
Oldest woman	59
Single women	22
Married women	12
Women with dependent children	9

54 Men

Average Age	36
Under age 30	15 (28.3%)
Youngest man	23
Oldest man	58
Single men	14
Married men	40
Men with dependent children	30

Overall age of men and women = 37 years

88 students

54 Dioceses represented



**Church Divinity School of the Pacific, Berkeley CA:**

*Phil Fackler, Jason Alexander, Michael Reid*

*"This scholarship has helped me a great deal in meeting my seminary expenses. I am extremely grateful for the generous overall scholarship from SIM, and I thank you and the entire SIM staff for selecting me to receive this award. As you know, many of us have sacrificed a great deal to be here; thus, this scholarship makes a huge difference to us as recipients. It is greatly appreciated. As I enter my final semester here at EDS, I am looking forward to what the future has to offer and how my life and ministry may continue to further God's mission by reaching out to the world and to those in need. Continued blessings for the work you are doing to help seminarians." —B.J., EDS*

## SIM Website Redesign

We are pleased to announce that the website of the Society, [www.simministry.org](http://www.simministry.org), has been completely redesigned to bring it up to date with the changes in our ministry and to provide the appropriate links to our second site, *Funding Future Leaders*, [www.fundingfutureleaders.org](http://www.fundingfutureleaders.org). Come and visit!

### **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM** *continued from page 3*

there are fewer placements available for the traditional full time rector, vicar or assistant.

Fewer seminarians mean fewer applications for scholarships, which is the negative view; on the other hand for those seminarians who do apply and are awarded scholarships the amount of the grants has increased significantly and that is a positive note. So please continue to pray for our seminarians, and the Society, that we can continue to meet their needs and that the mission of Our Lord and the gospel may be advanced.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

The Rev. Canon Robert Girard Carroon  
Director of Scholarship Programs

## BISHOP JOHN WILLIAMS AND THE SOCIETY FOR THE INCREASE OF THE MINISTRY

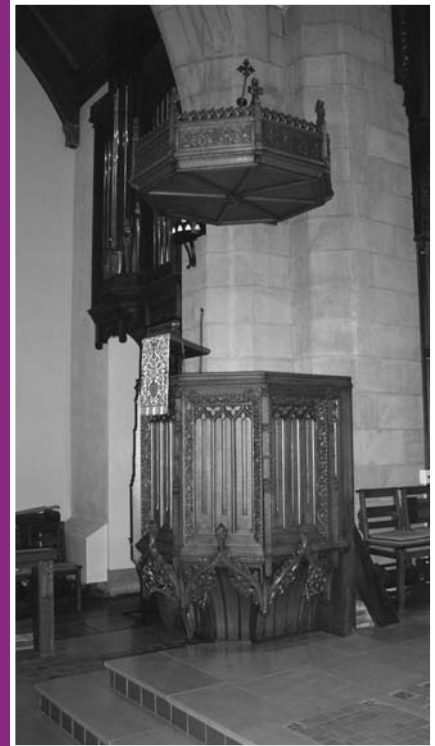
When the Society for the Increase of the Ministry was founded 150 years ago, the bishop of Connecticut was the Rt. Rev. Thomas Church Brownell. He served as diocesan until his death in 1865. Bishop Brownell, however, was in very poor health and, in 1851 the diocese had elected the Rev. John Williams as assistant bishop. Bishop Williams' tenure (1851-1899) turned out to be the longest of any bishop in the history of the Diocese and one of the longest in the history of the American Church. Bishop Williams had served as assistant at Holy Trinity, Middletown, Connecticut, and St. George's, Schenectady, New York, before returning to Connecticut to become president of Trinity College.

Bishop Williams might be called the "education bishop" of the Episcopal Church. Although the burdens of the episcopate forced him to reluctantly resign as president of Trinity (Brownell's poor health forced Bishop Williams to act as diocesan almost from the day of his consecration), his interest in education, particularly the training of clergy, did not cease. In 1854 he opened Berkeley Divinity School in Middletown. Bishop Williams spent the remainder of his life in Middletown not only administering the diocese but teaching at the seminary. It is not surprising, therefore, that he was an enthusiastic supporter of the Society for the Increase of the Ministry which was founded in 1857. The President of Trinity College, David Raynes Goodwin, was the first president of SIM, and Bishop Williams praised the Society in the highest terms in his address to the convention of the Diocese of Connecticut in 1859.

In the portion of his address dealing with ordinands, he said, "In this connection I would call attention to the "Society for the Increase of the Ministry," organized about a year ago, but lately incorporated by the Legislature of this State, and now commencing its labors under flattering auspices, and with every prospect of eminent success. The favor with which it has already been received by the Clergy and Laity of the Diocese, may, I trust, be regarded as only the beginning of an ever increasing interest in the important duty which it has undertaken. Let the heart of the Church be fully roused to the real grandeur of the work which is here opening before her, for the increase of a well-trained and educated Ministry, and it will afford the best of all possible endowments; an endowment the income from which will be made living in prayer and love, and bless alike the givers and receivers to the glory of their God and Saviour."

John Williams' interest in the Society was unflagging, and when he became Presiding Bishop in 1887 he did not cease to commend the work of SIM to the national church.

--Robert G. Carroon



*Lest our pulpits be  
empty or our preachers  
and pastors be poorly  
educated and trained,  
we ask your generous  
support of the  
Society for the  
Increase of the Ministry.*



*For Your Information*

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## MAKING A CHARITABLE GIFT OF LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance has long been accepted by spouses and parents as a responsibility in the protection of the financial well-being of loved ones.

Life insurance is also a means of making a planned gift to a charity of your choice, such as the Society for the Increase of the Ministry or your parish. There are three distinct ways in which to use life insurance as an instrument for making a planned gift.

The first is simply to notify your insurance company that you wish to list the Society for the Increase of the Ministry (924 Farmington Avenue, Suite 100, West Hartford, CT 06107) as a beneficiary of an existing policy. You may specify an exact amount or designate that the Society receive a percentage of the policy's value at the time of your death.

A second is to designate the Society (as above) as the sole beneficiary and owner of a policy you currently own. While this may seem like an extraordinary action early on in life, as circumstances change, you may no longer need the policy as you once did.

Finally, you may wish to purchase a new policy, making the Society the owner and beneficiary. Payments for such policies are deductible and, in the end, the Society may benefit far beyond the payments you made on the policy.

For further information, please contact the Society or return the form below.

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 Please send me information on making a gift to the Society through life insurance.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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