

# Faith, Family & Friends

Summer, 2011

A publication of Westminster Ministries Foundation and Westminster Towers

## Hugh Barnett Lives to Serve

Many people know and recognize one of Westminster Towers' resident celebrities. His taller stature, distinguished white hair, and keen memory with intelligent processing skills are not the only characteristics that set this man of talents apart from the rest.

Hugh Barnett was born August 14, 1912. Those who knew young Hugh realized that he was on his way to adventure when during high school he laid out a nine hole golf course on the clay and sand street where he resided in Melrose, Florida. After being drafted in 1941, "Mr. B.", as he is now affectionately known, attended Officer Candidate School. During his military service, he attended electronics school at Harvard and MIT, which prepared him for his later career in teaching and supervising the use of Western Electric equipment for the Army, Navy, and Marines. While there, he became involved in the development of radar, sonar, and guided missile control for the military.

On April 11, 1953, Hugh married Judy and the rest is family history. Their daughter Ann followed in her mother's career path and served in the nursing field. Ann's marriage brought another dimension to the Barnett's journey as their son-in-law, Rev. Ray Mohrmann, and in years to follow, two grandchildren were welcomed around the family table.

Then on August 6, 1997, the Barnetts began calling Westminster Towers home. Although many know "Mr. B." as a world traveler, avid golfer, ball room dancer, and fitness model, it is his faith and spirit of giving to others that helps to set this soon-to-be 99-year old gentleman "heads above the rest". He has learned, and is eager to teach, that having a fulfilled life includes sharing a faith-filled positive attitude, appreciating God's beauty, making wise daily choices, and having a strong desire to offer assistance to those in need. Mr. Barnett's continued financial commitment to the Westminster Towers Endowment Fund, through frequent gifts "in memory" and/or "in honor" of friends and family, demonstrates his belief that age shouldn't define us, rather it should teach us what is really important in life! After 99 years of living well, Hugh Barnett gives us advice we should all want to hear ... Serve God by serving others!



## Giving by Beneficiary Designation



There is an easy way to make an estate gift to your church, Westminster Towers or your favorite ministry.

Rather than make a change to your will or trust document, you can simply name one or more churches or ministries as a beneficiary of *your 401(k), IRA or life insurance*. (In the case of a gift from your 401(k) or IRA, there may be tax savings involved.) And if you are a Towers resident, you can name the Towers, your church, and/or another ministry as a beneficiary of *your Residency Deposit Refund*. The church or ministry can be the primary or secondary beneficiary, or the sole or a partial beneficiary.

For more information, please contact Edwin Barnes at Westminster Foundation (803-366-8880) or Tony Fountain at Westminster Towers (803-328-5000).

## Elvin and 'Rene Walker Apply Biblical Teaching to Their Stewardship Planning

Elvin and 'Rene Walker have been members of Westminster Presbyterian Church since November 1983. Elvin became a WPC Elder in the late 1980's. Elvin began serving on the Westminster Towers Board of Trustees in 1986 and served as Board chair from January 2004 until December 2010.

Elvin was also one of the early leaders of Westminster Ministries Foundation, becoming one of the founding members of the Board of Directors in 2004. Elvin retired from the board in 2007, but he and 'Rene continue to use the Foundation's services. The Walkers use a Donor Advised Fund at the Foundation for their annual giving, each year making a single contribution of stock to their fund and then directing that specific distributions be made from their fund to the particular ministries that are on their heart. (*The article to the right describes how you can accomplish this.*) One of the ministries the Walkers support is the Westminster Towers Endowment Fund, which provides Resident Grants to eligible Towers residents. Elvin and 'Rene are convinced that a Donor Advised Fund is a great service of the Foundation. It allows flexibility in the timing of their investment transfers and giving and also aids in tax planning.

After Elvin retired from Bowater in 1996, the Walkers drafted a new estate plan that reflected the many years of good, solid Biblical teaching on stewardship at WPC. The Walkers realized that their estate would likely include appreciation and other income that had not been tithed on. Thus, in addition to a proper will, they established a trust to provide for certain designated ministries. (An old saying goes: "You cannot take it with you, but you can pay ahead!"). The Westminster Towers Endowment Fund is included among the designated ministries. Elvin points out, "If Westminster Foundation and its services had been available at the time, our estate planning would have been done earlier and very likely at less expense".

Elvin feels blessed to continue serving on the Towers Board, to have served on the Foundation Board and to be a part of these two companion ministries that serve the Towers residents, the entire Westminster family, and the larger community of believers in York County and beyond.



Westminster Towers, an extension of the ministry of Westminster Presbyterian Church, is a not-for-profit Senior Living Community promoting Lifestyle, Location, Innovation and Value! The Westminster Towers Endowment Fund offers financial support to those Towers residents who have economic barriers to continued residency at the Towers. Gifts to the fund will be placed in the endowment for such restricted use.

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Westminster Ministries Foundation exists to assist God's faithful with their stewardship planning and to facilitate Kingdom funding. To this end, the Foundation offers donor advised funds, assistance in estate design and other resources.

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## Do you own stock or mutual funds that have recovered some of their value?

You may have noticed that the stock market has recovered fairly well since 2008 and 2009. Over the years, many faithful stewards have taken advantage of this by giving stock or mutual funds, rather than writing a check, for their tithe or other giving.

Here's how it can work for you ...

- At least once a year, call your investment advisor and ask: Do I own any stocks or mutual funds that you think I should sell? Have they increased in value?
- Ask your advisor to transfer to Westminster Foundation an amount of stock or mutual funds equal in value to the amount of money that you plan to give in the upcoming year. The Foundation will then sell the stock *tax-free*.
- Ask the Foundation to write checks to your church and other ministries that you support, each check in the amount that you would have given anyway.

So what's the catch?

There isn't one. You have, more than likely, *avoided paying income taxes on the gains in the stock*, and you have been able to accomplish your regular support of the church, missionary families, other ministries, etc. using the services of Westminster Foundation.