



Significance

CHANGING THE WORLD THROUGH CHARITABLE GIFT PLANNING

Ruth and Brad Hill: Fanning flames of faith

It's a good thing Ruth Terpsma Hill '72 wasn't pining for a car. Assuming a private college was financially prohibitive, that was the offer her parents made if she went to a state school near their Lynden, Washington, farm. Instead, Ruth set her sights on Jesus — and Seattle Pacific.

"Despite growing up in a Christian home, and becoming a Christian myself at age 13, I was very concerned about losing my faith in the college environment," she said. "I only applied to SPC, believing my small flame of faith would be nurtured there."

And it was, launching a series of yeses that impacted lives far beyond her own. Yes to following God. Yes to a date with that nice boy from English 101. And yes to a call to missions and a life of service and giving.

For that "nice boy," Brad Hill '72, the social tumult of the late '60s and early '70s tested his convictions. "I never lost my faith, but it felt like an unanchored buoy bashing against the rocks," he

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Ruth and Brad will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in July.



PLANNED AND UNPLANNED



When I started working at SPU in 2001, I didn't plan to succeed Marlon Sandlin as the director of Endowments and Gift Planning. Even as I began working with him in 2017, there still was nothing certain

about what the future would hold. So I'm humbled and excited for this opportunity to serve my alma mater, and I'm grateful to Marlon for his training and investment in me and for the ways he cared for and stewarded so many SPU supporters.

Although my wife, Kristen Goetz Jones '02, '05 MSN, and I did not set out to be Wellspring members (donors making a planned or deferred gift to the University), we included SPU and a few other charities in our first will as percentage beneficiaries of our estate. We were a young couple with a new baby, living on a modest income in a one-bedroom apartment while Kristen attended graduate school. We certainly didn't feel like we had an estate or anything worth gifting! But we were, and still are, exceedingly grateful for our SPU educations, so a gift made perfect sense. As I think back, it wasn't the amount that mattered. It was the act of gratitude and support that has continued to inform our philanthropy.

If you've included SPU in your estate plans, please let us know, as we want to thank you and assist you with your gift. And if you have questions about a bequest gift, please don't hesitate to contact me; I would love to help.

Sincerely,

Bryan Jones '99
Director of Endowments and Gift Planning
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said. "The SPC environment helped me find my way through."

Their freshman-year, boy-meets-girl tale nearly wasn't. Snow canceled their Sadie Hawkins date. She agreed to go to the movies, but the call to finalize plans didn't come. Turns out Brad was scrambling to learn Ruth's last name so he could find her in the school directory. A professor they had in common came to the rescue.

"What drew me to Ruth is what still draws me," Brad said. "A deep faith, an adventuresome spirit, a love for Scripture, a funny laugh, a warm, welcoming personality, and the fact that she loves me!"

"I admired his faith, his integrity, his great humor, and he was soon my best friend — and still is," Ruth said.

While growing in love, they also grew in faith. They often prayed together in the Alexander Hall chapel. Brad proposed their junior year, and they married that summer. This year marks their 50th anniversary.

Brad grew up in the Evangelical Covenant Church, and at just 10 years old, he felt God's call to become a missionary in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Ruth experienced a pivotal surrender to Christ's leading her sophomore year of college, but didn't immediately embrace Brad's plans as her own.

"I needed to be sure God was calling *me*," she said. "I couldn't go simply as Brad's wife on *his* call. God graciously, abundantly, confirmed I was to go with him."

Psychology degrees and teaching certification in hand, the Hills spent 19 years as missionaries in Congo, raising their two daughters there. They initially taught high school, but were drawn to evangelism and pastoral care. During furloughs, Brad pursued graduate studies, earning his master of divinity and doctor of missiology degrees.

They focused on pastoral training and church planting. Ruth led women's ministry and trained the wives of seminary students to read and write. They returned to the States in 1991.

Brad spent decades as a senior or interim pastor in churches throughout Washington and Illinois. They moved to Chicago for 12 years, where Ruth served as the denominational executive minister of women's



ministries. During her tenure, she launched Advocacy for Victims of Abuse, Educate the Girls to provide schooling for Congolese girls, and Break the Chains, an anti-trafficking initiative. She earned a master's in social justice and later worked for two anti-trafficking nonprofits. Ruth was awarded an SPU Medallion Award in 2011 for her service and leadership.

They can't quite seem to retire — Brad is still an interim pastor and Ruth helps seniors downsize — but they find time to walk their dog, Brady, work in their Normandy Park, Washington, yard, volunteer at church and with hospice programs, and enjoy their five grandchildren.

Last year, the Hills updated their will to include a bequest to the University. "SPU has remained close to our hearts, and we are glad to contribute to the ongoing vision and ministry of the school," Brad said.

Ruth agreed: "If I had not gone to SPU during those all-important formative years, my life would certainly have taken a different path. SPU made it possible to attend a school my family could not afford, and I pray that our small gift will help other young people in the same situation. It just might lead to someone else receiving amazing assignments from God!"

PHILANTHROPY SPOTLIGHT

Ted and Carol Kibble:

**Savvy
investors
in SPU**



In 1962, Ted Kibble earned an insurance degree from the University of Washington and had no idea he would spend the next year working 12-hour days to earn \$5,672.67. So he broadened his emphasis.

In 1972, he co-founded Kibble and Prentice, which began as a small firm offering life insurance and estate and business succession planning, as well as private client services. Today, KPI employs nearly



Glenda Shepard: Learning and healing

“Me” time often brings to mind relaxation

... a soak in the tub or watching a favorite TV show. For Glenda Shepard, it meant pursuing her doctorate.

She’s worked in health care for 35 years as a nurse and as a nurse practitioner, in roles ranging from a labor and delivery to manager to community liaison.

“I knew I would one day pursue a doctorate, but I had to patiently wait on God’s timing,” said the Tacoma, Washington, resident. “When my daughters were settled into their adult lives, I knew it was ‘my’ time.”

Glenda began her doctor of nursing practice studies part time at SPU in 2019, eight years after earning her post-master’s nurse practitioner certification from SPU.

“When I was here the first time, I was happily married and we were raising our two daughters,” she said. “My husband was diagnosed with cancer in 2010, the year prior to my graduation. I was torn between quitting school to tend to his needs or toughing it out and completing school. He demanded I tough it out, so I did.” Glenda’s husband died in 2013.

She says returning to SPU has been healing. “I was still carrying a ton of unresolved grief. My first class in leadership was life-changing,” she said. “After that first quarter, I knew God had strategically guided my steps. The weight that was pulling me down dissipated, and I felt renewed to embrace this new season of life.”

This season includes four 10-hour shifts weekly in palliative and hospice care — work Glenda sees as her God-given ministry — at CHI Franciscan Health. Evenings and weekends are devoted to schoolwork.

“I love keeping in learning mode,” said Glenda, who has a 4.0 GPA. “SPU not only feeds my mind but also my soul and spirit.”

In her limited spare time, Glenda cuddles her pup, Lola, engages with her church community, provides wellness coaching/mentoring, works out six days a week, and competes in bodybuilding competitions.

As determined as she was to earn her DNP, Glenda resolved to do so without student loans. “At my age, acquiring additional debt is not the goal,” she said.

So Glenda reorganized her finances, sought tuition assistance from her employer, and gratefully received the Robina M. Walters Nursing Scholarship from SPU, endowed by the brother of an SPC nursing alumna. “The scholarship was amazing,” she said.

Glenda is excited to put her education to work: “I am empowered to improve advance care planning and advance directives, and to reduce social injustices and health disparities.”

“

SPU not only feeds my
mind but also my soul
and spirit.

”

300 people and is now a subsidiary of USI Holdings.

Ted became nationally known in financial planning and as a shrewd and successful business leader. He served on the Seattle Pacific Foundation board from 1989 until 2009, and on the SPU Board of Trustees from 1998 to 2007. He and his wife, Carol, were proud parents of three daughters, including Cara Kibble Moon '85, MEd '92, who

graduated summa cum laude.

With appreciated Starbucks shares, Ted and Carol established a two-life Charitable Remainder Unitrust in 2001, thus bypassing the capital gains tax they would have incurred had they sold the stock. The trust provided an income for them for the remainder of their lives. In 2019, when the trust matured upon Ted’s passing, 50% of the generous charitable remainder was used

to establish the Doris and Bruce Kibble Nursing Scholarship Endowment (in honor of Ted’s parents) to benefit undergraduate and graduate nursing students.

Ted and Carol believed in the importance and value of a robust endowment and demonstrated their confidence in the Seattle Pacific Foundation through their generous investment in a Charitable Remainder Unitrust and a Testamentary Endowment.

NATIONALLY RANKED — For the fifth year in a row, Seattle Pacific has been recognized as a “Best National University” by *U.S. News & World Report*.



Spotlight on new endowments

We are grateful to the generous donors who have chosen to invest in the lives of our students and help endow the future of Seattle Pacific for generations to come. The following are recently established scholarship endowments (having received the minimum required \$30,000):

Patricia W. Blumenthal Scholarship Endowment — for students pursuing a master of education in literacy degree

Charles B. Chiu Scholarship Endowment — for students studying physics, mathematics, chemistry, or biochemistry

Summit Seekers Scholarship Endowment — for students whose parent(s) are current or former Christian missionaries in a developing country

Doris and Bruce Kibble Nursing Scholarship Endowment — for students studying nursing

Richard B. Steele SPS Compassion Scholarship Endowment — for American-born African American Seattle Pacific Seminary graduate students with a strong call to ministry



Ray and Gay Brook (pictured center) established the Summit Seekers Scholarship Endowment. Recent recipients (left to right): Bethany Houser '20, Daniel Houser '18, Erkin George '19, and Lydia Megalaa '17.

Lt. Colonel (Ret.) Milton J. and Gwendolyn K. Koch Veterans Scholarship Endowment — for students who are military veterans

David O. and Helen H. Moberg Scholarship Endowment — for students studying sociology

Professor Chong Jin Park Gateway to America Scholarship Endowment — for international students from underserved or developing countries who are studying mathematics, foreign languages, or music

Dr. Bruce R. Wallace Nursing Scholarship — for students studying nursing

Susan Werkema Memorial Art Scholarship Endowment — for students with a declared minor offered by the Art Department and a declared major in a discipline other than art

Katherine Agnes Karine “Kay” Fisher Meyers Master of Business Administration Scholarship Endowment — for students pursuing a master of business administration degree

To learn more about creating an endowment or giving to any of these or other endowments, contact Bryan Jones, director of endowments and gift planning at 206-281-2250 or bryan@spu.edu, or visit our website at legacy.gift.spu/endowments.

Benefits of a charitable bequest to SPU

Leaving a final gift to Seattle Pacific through a will or trust has long been favored by our loyal supporters since our earliest days as an institution. With a sense of love and appreciation for who we are and the values we represent, it is only natural for many to want to leave a bequest to the University just as they would want to leave a final estate gift to their own family.

So, what are some of the benefits of leaving a bequest to SPU? Here are just a few to consider:

- It is easy to do and is revocable, meaning you can change your bequest plan at any time.
- You can make a gift to SPU of a specific property, amount, or percentage of your estate.
- It avoids estate tax and, if the gift is made by designating SPU as a beneficiary of an IRA account, it will also avoid income tax.
- Your bequest to SPU may be unrestricted or designated for endowments or programs you care about most. In either case, it will help future generations of SPU students receive the highest-quality Christian education.

To assist you as you consider a bequest gift to SPU, request your free Estate Planning Guide or Legacy Bequest Planning Guide by returning the enclosed envelope, or by contacting Bryan Jones at 206-281-2250 or bryan@spu.edu.

