

HERITAGE

Tax reform and charitable giving



Last year at this time, I wrote to you about likely tax reform in the United States in 2017 and its possible implications on charitable giving. There was considerable concern among some of us that these reforms could dramatically affect charitable giving or the incentive to do so. Well, at the very end of 2017, the U.S. Congress did pass a tax bill. How much effect does it have on charitable giving?

As it turns out, probably not much. Most importantly, the 100-year-old unlimited deduction for charitable giving remains intact. Of the “big three” deductions most valuable to individuals, charitable giving is the only one to remain unchanged. State, local and property taxes are capped at \$10,000, and while the home mortgage interest deduction remains, it’s slightly more limited than before.

In fact, the charitable deduction was expanded in that the current limit on cash donations to charity is 50 percent of adjusted gross income (AGI) and the new limit is 60 percent of AGI. If there is a year where you want to give very large gifts to charity or take out a sizeable life income plan, like a gift annuity, more of it will be deductible. And the carryover for unused

deductions for up to five additional years stays. The 30 percent of AGI limit remains for non-cash gifts like property or appreciated assets, such as stocks and mutual funds.

Finally, the IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) remains unchanged. With about 8,000 Baby Boomers passing age 70 every day, the QDC will play an increasingly important role in charitable giving. If you’re 70 ½ years old and have IRAs, you can enjoy powerful tax benefits by giving from your IRA, whether or not you itemize deductions.

— **Roger A. Nafziger**,
Director of Gift Planning
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or call **574.535.7797**

Our students are saying...

“I am learning valuable skills to be able to go out and influence social injustice issues that I really do care about. This school has had a significant impact on my life, on the lives of people around me... and the entire world.”



— **Clinton Stroble '19**

A peace, justice and conflict studies major from Newport News, Virginia



(Top left) Carl and Evelyn Kreider
(Top right) A small group of family and friends gather at Goshen College to plant two Frontier Elm trees to honor Carl and Evelyn Kreider.
(Bottom) From left: Evelyn and Carl's son Thomas Kreider, daughter-in-law Eleanor (Alan) Kreider and President Rebecca Stoltzfus.

Tree planting honors Carl and Evelyn Kreider

On Nov. 1, 2017, a small gathering of family and friends honored the life and work of **Carl '36** and **Evelyn Burkholder Kreider '36**, planting two Frontier Elm trees on the lawn on the west side of the Visual Arts Building (the old Memorial Library). The Kreiders were pillars of consistency, excellence, caring, guidance and hospitality for generations of Goshen students, faculty, staff and neighbors.

When Academic Dean **H.S. Bender** vacated the deanship at Goshen College in 1944, Carl, an extremely capable young Goshen alumnus with

a Princeton doctorate in economics who had joined the faculty in 1940, became the college's academic dean, a post he would hold for close to 30 years. Twice he served as acting president, in 1950-51 and in 1970-71, and in 1971-72 he was the college's first provost.

Evelyn was an understanding companion to Carl throughout his deanship, interim presidency and teaching. She graciously hosted many social occasions that refined into elegance the modest entertaining budget at her disposal.



For additional information regarding the Union renovation project, please contact Todd Yoder in the Office of Institutional Advancement (tyoder@goshen.edu or 574.535.7645).

Hunsbergers secure new home for Haitian artwork

In 1962, while Goshen College Director Emeritus of International Education **Arlin** and **Naomi Hunsberger '55** (at left, with President Rebecca Stoltzfus) were working in Haiti with Mennonite Central Committee, they became interested in the local art. As they became familiar with local artists and galleries, this interest turned into a passion, feeding a desire to learn more about a country that they had come to love. Over multiple assignments and trips to Haiti, they amassed a collection with more than 90 pieces of art.

Arlin and Naomi recently shared their intent to donate their Haitian art collection to Goshen College. This stimulated exciting conversations and plans to ensure that this collection, one of the premiere and significant

collections of Haitian art in the United States, would be accessible to the public and a catalyst to improve the Union Building, built in 1950.

A generous lead gift by the Hunsberger family will help make a Union renovation project possible, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the SST program in 2018-19. The main corridor of the Union and the Leaf Raker dining facility will become a collaborative commons, combining meeting spaces and a renovated dining facility, recapturing the Union's central role as the campus crossroads. The space will become a permanent home to this exquisite Haitian art collection, which will make the space colorful and expressive of Goshen's international engagement.

Donor endows Atlee and Winifred Beechy Peace, Justice and Reconciliation Lectureship

Atlee '35 and **Winifred Beechy '38** dedicated 34 years of their lives to counseling and educating Goshen College students while promoting peace and justice in our communities, our nation and our world. Atlee served as dean of students, director of counseling services and professor of education, psychology and peace studies, helping found the college's peace studies program. Winifred was a teacher, writer and coordinator of peace and social concerns for the Mennonite Church and served in numerous overseas relief and service assignments with Atlee.

Winifred and Atlee were co-leaders of the first GC Study-Service Trimester in Poland (1974) and then in China (1980). They traveled to dozens of countries in the interest of international education, relief work and peace and justice concerns under the auspices of

Goshen College, Mennonite Central Committee and other organizations.

Corinne (Rohrer) Dixon '66 initiated the fund with a gift in 2015, and it was established with the knowledge and consent of Atlee and Winifred's daughters **Karen '66**, **Judith '70** and **Susan '72**.

The goal of this endowed lectureship is to provide an annual opportunity for the college community to focus, re-examine and promote those ideals through a public lecture by a speaker knowledgeable and expert in peace, justice and reconciliation issues in current local, regional, national or international affairs.

At this year's Martin Luther King Jr. Study Day convocation, Leonard Dow, Stewardship and Development Specialist at Everence Financial, presented the first annual Atlee and Winifred Beechy Peace Lecture.



Winifred '38 and Atlee Beechy '35

The fund remains open for future contributions. If you wish to make a gift to build up this endowment fund, please make your checks payable to Goshen College and indicate that the gift is for the "**Beechy Peace Lectureship Fund**" either on the memo line or in a separate note.

THEN & NOW



Presidents and food: Feeding students' minds, bodies and souls

A year after current Goshen College President **Rebecca Stoltzfus '83** earned her degree in chemistry from GC, her father, **Victor Stoltzfus '56**, became Goshen College's 12th president. For both Vic and Becky, student-centeredness is a hallmark of their presidencies — and what better way to connect with students than through their stomachs? This is illustrated here with Vic sharing pizza with students in his home in November 1995 (left), and Becky sharing donut holes with students following chapel on her first day as president, Nov. 1, 2017 (below).

HERITAGE

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Heritage Newsletter, published several times yearly, is a service for friends of Goshen College on developments in planned giving and estate planning. Each issue also focuses on a small number of participants in the college's special and deferred gifts program. Information in *Heritage Newsletter* should not be considered an interpretation of the law or of federal tax rules and regulations. Your own lawyer, bank trust officer or financial adviser can help you select the most advantageous way to give or bequeath funds or property to Goshen College.

