

You can change the World

Leave a gift in your Will to Divine Word College Seminary

No other document is more personal than your Will. Through it, you can provide a gift of lasting value to assist the work of Divine Word College Seminary.

Since Divine Word opened in 1964, hundreds of generous benefactors have remembered the College with a gift in their Will. Their gifts help educate students as they prepare to share God's Word around the world.

Through your Will, you can assist the College in our special mission of educating Catholic missionaries - young men and women who will serve the poor, immigrants, the homeless and bear witness to Christ. *Through your Will*, you can provide a gift for the College in your name or in the name of your family or a loved one. Nancy Burds, a local Epworth resident, is doing just that.

Nancy and her deceased husband Tom, became familiar with Divine Word by attending Masses, cultural events and bringing their kids to use the swimming pool. Nancy even taught swimming lessons to Epworth children in the

Divine Word pool. Nancy, Tom and their kids especially enjoyed the variety of foods from around the world served at the events. And over the years, the Burds family became friends with many of the students, priests and brothers.

"I still see some of the students and enjoy visiting with them. Some students visited Tom in our home when he was very ill and they always left him smiling," Nancy said.

Nancy and Tom decided to leave a gift to the College in their Wills because they want to help students with their education without any financial restraints. Nancy is also grateful for all of the Divine Word priests who celebrate Masses at the local parishes.

"This really helps our parish. Without them, there would be fewer Masses. We truly love and appreciate our Divine Word neighbors," she said. It's not necessary to do so, but if you have no objection, we would like to know if you have remembered Divine Word College Seminary with a gift in your Will. We would like to thank you personally for your kindness and thoughtfulness.



Nancy Burds

If you have any questions or would like more information about leaving a gift in your Will to Divine Word, please contact Mark Singsank at 563-876-0097 or singsank@dwci.edu

Message from
Development

God dwells among us



Fr. Linh Pham, SVD
Development
Office

There is one verse from the Gospel of John that truly speaks to the heart of the Church's Mission: "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us" (John 1:14). Besides testifying to God as the Originator of creation, this verse attests to God's mission being constantly at work in humanity. In this sense, every being and every life has been touched by God's creating hand.

All we have to do is look around to see proof that God dwells among us. The evidence is in the breath of a newborn baby, the quiet resilience of an elderly person, and the alertness of a young person in pursuit of learning. You can see proof of God in the perseverance of workers who produce goods for the world, the patience of companions who assist loved ones in need, and the courage of people who stand up for the truth

amidst opposition. These are all manifestations of God being in our midst.

God is undeniably at work in the world through the Body of Christ, the Church. It is within the Church that the ongoing miracle of the Word becoming flesh is visible. As a missionary seminary, Divine Word College actively participates in this effort, offering concrete witness to the presence of the Word. In mid-December, eight students graduated and embarked on the Church's Mission in Uganda, Cameroon, Nigeria, and Vietnam. Then, in the new year, we welcomed 13 new students to the college and to the task of establishing new dwellings for the Word. Life continues, and God is ever-present! Thanks be to God for bestowing upon us the gift of salvation!