

AUGUST Is Legacy Fund Month

Why does Kings Crossing Prison Ministries have a “legacy” fund? The “Legacy Fund” was started in 1993 to build a stronger foundation than depending entirely on month-to-month contributions. The ministry started in 1977 and evolved into a much more organized effort with numerous “arms” over the years like the Little Angels, CTS, Baptistries Around the World, Christians Against Substance Abuse, and others. There were “lean” months and years of financial support. Even after the start of the legacy fund, patient faith was required to avoid dipping into it to meet what appeared to be *emergency needs* at times. Determination and discipline has allowed it to grow to where it is today.

How did the Legacy Fund start? A dear sister in Christ, Rachel N. Kolb, pledged to donate \$10,000 annually for three years as “seed” money. Other donors jumped on board. Soon, funds were moved from a “savings” account at the bank to establishing an investment account with a money management firm. Although with our “conservative” approach, the funds grew (like our generous donors) faster than we imagined. This was very encouraging to us so we *stayed the course*. Even in her passing (2012), Sister Kolb contributed significantly more. To honor her life and generosity, the fund has been referred to as “The Rachel N. Kolb Legacy Fund.”

What has helped the Legacy Fund grow the most? It was difficult to give the needed attention to grow the fund 365 days a year. We decided to use one month – AUGUST – to draw attention to raising gifts specifically for the legacy fund. Donations are welcome at “any” time, but it helps to laser-focus on it during the 31 days of August each year. In more recent years we have been blessed to have friends remember us in their estate planning, direct their IRA “Required Annual Distribution” to us, and all this has pushed the total higher and higher. And with the addition of the *Buck & Janet Griffith Legacy Fund*, the totals are now at an all-time high of \$1,191,863.99.

What is “The Buck & Janet Griffith Legacy Fund for Prison Ministries”? In March (2021), Brother Kenneth Rich asked to begin this fund to honor his friends, Buck & Janet, for their lives of dedication and commitment to prison ministries. It was begun with an initial gift of \$25,000 and with support of many other friends, it is already nearing \$200,000. Buck first became involved in Dallas County Jail in 1971 and never stopped. Recognizing the inevitable, he officially resigned as the “Director” of Kings Crossing Prison Ministries on December 31, 2021, and welcomed Dr. Dale Underwood as his successor on January 1, 2022. Dr. Underwood is leading the ministry to greater heights and doing much to grow both the “Kolb” and “Griffith” legacy funds.

What is the difference between these two funds? There is “practically” no difference between them. While the two are *accounted for* separately, the purpose is identical: to insure the long-term stability and fiscal strength of this ministry. The two offer donors an opportunity to express their gratitude and honor individually, but in the end, either fund helps accomplish the same goal.