

Mission UpReach Newsletter

Stock donations are a good option

By Phil Waldron

Did you know that right now might be an excellent time for you to donate stock to Mission UpReach, Inc.?

First, the current stock market is at an all-time high.

On Monday, August 24th CNBC reported the following: "The past week was a big week for markets, with the S&P500 finally recovering its losses from the pandemic selloff and setting new all-time highs. Stocks have been big beneficiaries of the Fed's easy policies and low interest rates, and Fed officials are widely expected to sound dovish when they meet in the coming week."

Secondly, there is a big incentive for you to donate stock in lieu of cash.

On Fidelity's website they talk about donating stock that has increased dramatically in value and say this:

"Make a bigger impact by donating long-term appreciated securities, including stock, bonds, and mutual funds, directly to charity. Compared with donating cash or selling your appreciated securities and contributing the after-tax proceeds, you may be able to automatically increase your gift and your tax deduction.

It's simple and easy. When you donate stock to charity, you'll generally take a tax deduction for the full fair market value. And because you are donating stock, your contribution and tax deduction may instantly increase over 20%.¹ Would you prefer to donate bonds or mutual funds? The same benefits apply."

¹This assumes all realized gains are subject to the maximum federal long-term capital gains tax rate of 20% and the Medicare surtax of 3.8%, and that the donor originally planned to sell the stock and contribute the net proceeds (less the capital gains tax and Medicare surtax)

to charity.

Another analogy to explain the more technical one provided here by Fidelity might be to say that you have invested perhaps...\$5,000 in a stock originally, but now due to the incredible value in the current market it is worth say...\$15,000. If this is the case, you could donate all of the \$15,000 and immediately take the full value of the current market value (\$15,000) as a deduction on your income taxes.

It benefits both you and Mission UpReach to donate the stock because if you sell it and donate the proceeds, instead of donating the actual stock, you will pay income tax on the capital gains portions of the stock.

That would mean that you diminish your tax deduction on your income tax, and it also means that MUR would receive a smaller amount than it would if you donated the stock itself. **If you donate the stock, there are no taxes due on the transaction.**

If you would like to donate appreciated stock to Mission UpReach, Inc., here are the two very simple steps to make that happen.

First, you need to contact your Broker to verify delivery instructions on your Broker's side of the transaction.

And second, in addition to following your Broker's specific

instructions, you will need to provide them with the following:

- Our Corporate Account Name for our 501.c.3 non-profit: Mission UpReach, Inc.
- Our Tax ID No.: 45-5375339,
- Our Fidelity Account No.: Z40233150
- The Type of Account: Corporate Account
- Fidelity's Depository Trust Company (DTC) number: 0226
- Name and address of Fidelity:
Fidelity Investments
Attn: TOA Receives
PO Box 770001
Cincinnati, OH 45277-0036



Caring for others in these times

By Anny Tabora

A few days ago, I was reading an article published by the New York Times in which they talked about the concerns and difficulties that children are facing during the pandemic. Among the problems mentioned were the fear and anxiety of relating to other people, childhood obesity due to the confinement, and behavior problems due to excessive use of electronic devices. As I read it, I thought about how different the problems are that children in my country face. Childhood obesity? Well, that is very far from the reality we're living around here. Long before the pandemic, we already had serious problems of malnutrition. Excessive use of electronic devices? I wish the children here had a computer and could do their homework. The DESEO Project works with the most vulnerable children in western Honduras, all of whom come from disintegrated, impoverished families. The problems they have faced their whole lives have only increased during the pandemic.

It is true that we are all feeling the weight of the challenges that this time has brought, but for the children in the communities where DESEO works, that weight is even greater. Since this started, we have had to reinvent ourselves and find ways to stay in touch with the children in our program. Thanks to God and the generosity of our

donors, we were able to provide food to 240 families in the month of May. It has been difficult to be able to visit the children regularly due to the curfew, but we have confidence in the power of prayer! Praying for our children gives us renewed faith that God is taking care of them and that the word of God they have heard through our program remains in their hearts.

Caring for others has never been more important than it is today. Mission UpReach has always been characterized by taking care of others not only spiritually, but holistically through programs that focus on bettering individuals intellectually, physically, emotionally, and socially as well. These difficult times have provided the perfect opportunity to help others and show them God's love. **More than ever, the world needs to see Jesus through our actions.** *What we do* is more important than *what we know* about the Gospel. This is a historic time for the church



of Christ in general and for every believer. I am excited to see what God is doing in my country through Mission UpReach, and I am very grateful to be a part of it.

With the help of God and our faithful sponsors, DESEO will continue working hard to take care of our children. Our desire is to impact this generation with the love of God which gives them something that no one can ever remove from their hearts. Each donation means a lot to our program--whether large or small. We do not see it as a monetary amount, but we see it as a seed of hope and love that will grow and bear good fruit.

My life has been changed

By Madison Mayben

Last summer, through the generosity of my home congregation, I had the opportunity to participate in the DiscipleTrips short-term mission to Honduras. When we arrived, I was fully prepared to pour my heart out in service to the people there. What I was not expecting



was the enormous impact that the people left on my own life. I will forever remember the sweet smiles on every child's face, the joy that came from seeing a funny skit about the Prodigal Son, and that, even when there is a language barrier, laughter is a common language that can bring people together.

I saw how much I take for granted in life--especially something like air conditioning, which I considered a necessity. The children taught me more about being thankful and finding joy in everything than I ever knew before. **I returned home determined and worked hard to bless someone every day.**

This spring when I began receiving updates from Mission UpReach about the struggles they were facing because of COVID-19, my heart longed to be back in Honduras. I remember looking at the pictures I had taken there and felt compelled to help somehow. I

contacted Mission UpReach about their situation. **They told me the biggest need was for food baskets. Costing just \$25, each basket will feed a family for two weeks.** This was the moment I felt God telling me to take initiative to do something, and I decided to call my effort Hope for Honduras.

I set a target goal of collecting enough funds to feed 200 families, something I never thought I would reach, let alone exceed. It took a while to work up the courage to put my plan into action because doing something like this was completely outside my comfort zone. I created a short video and article to share with churches and individuals. I shared it on my personal social media accounts and with churches I am personally connected with. Southgate Church of Christ, my home church, was extremely supportive and willing to help the cause. Friends and family from across the United States contacted me about this effort and how they could help. All these people are supporting Mission UpReach through donations and prayers.

I prayed this fundraiser would make an impact on Mission UpReach and the people they serve. **In total, we raised enough funds to feed over 360 families!** None of this would have been possible without Him. God is good all the time! He continually shines through the smiles and laughter of young children and through the service of organizations like Mission UpReach. I pray that God will continually bless them and their efforts to change lives, just as they changed mine.



A note from Donna



I feel so hopeful and inspired by young women like Anny and Madison, whose excitement about God drives them to dedicate their time and energy to help Mission UpReach do more for others. I loved reading Anny's perspective,

having grown up in Honduras under difficult circumstances. The differences that children in Honduras face compared to children in the U.S. are many, but the need to be cared for and loved is universal. I also love reading about the impact serving in Honduras had on Madison.

They inspire me and encourage me for the future of God's church and its impact on this world. What a tumultuous time we are facing in the U.S. Some days, I desire to just return to Honduras where I feel most effective, and, fortunately, that day is fast approaching. However, while here, I am so moved by how lost our country seems to be and the divisiveness I see, which can only be attributed to the Enemy of peace.

I heard one man say, "we have to stop chasing ghosts and start fighting the demons." When I heard him say that, I was reminded of what Jesus said about certain types of demons. In Mark 9:29, Jesus tells his disciples that certain demons can only come out by prayer and fasting. I feel challenged to spend more time in prayer and fasting for our country.

I pray that as Christians we do not confuse our loyalty to country with that of our loyalty to God's Kingdom. May God bless us, in spite of the fact that none of us deserve to be blessed. May we, as Image Bearers, be true to His purposes for our time on earth, wherever that may be.

Mission UpReach Board

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Please contact us:

Our mailing address is as follows:

Mission UpReach, Inc.
3221 Dundee Road
Longview, TX 75604

Please send all checks, donations and correspondence to this address.

Other Giving

Mission UpReach is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. We can assist you to designate MUR in a corporations' matching gifts program, or giving through a United Way campaign, or as you prepare wills for your estate.



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