

Arie Wheeler Jones Bequeaths Major Endowment to Holman



Since the creation of the Holman Permanent Endowment Fund over 11 years ago, Holman has received many contributions, both great and small. Recently, Holman received its largest endowment ever - \$363,080.00 - from longtime Holman member Arie Wheeler Jones.

Holman Permanent Endowment Committee (PEC) Chairman Wayne Moore was selected to be the executor of Mrs. Jones \$1.7 million estate. The bulk of Mrs. Jones estate was bequeathed to the four institutions that had the most impact on her life: Huston-Tillotson University, University of Southern California, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and Holman United Methodist Church.

Having grown up in the depression era in Houston, Texas, Mrs. Jones, the daughter of two teachers, knew that the only way out of poverty was education. She attended and graduated from Huston-Tillotson University with a bachelor's degree in education in 1936. It was there that she joined the Delta Sigma Theta sorority and made lifelong friends. After graduation Mrs. Jones worked in the Houston Public School system until relocating to California in 1946. Mrs. Jones attended the University of Southern California, where she received her Master's degree in Education in 1951. There again, Mrs. Jones was active in the Los Angeles chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. Her passion for education and teaching was demonstrated throughout her 32-year career in the Los Angeles Unified School District. She also became a life-long member of Holman United Methodist, where she raised her son, Ronald.

Arie Wheeler Jones passed away in May, 2010 at the age of 96, having led a full life of public and community service. Her legacy of generosity and caring will continue through her gifts that will sustain many generations to come. Of the \$363,080.00 unrestricted gift bequeathed to Holman, \$300,580.00 will go into the Permanent Endowment Fund, \$50,000.00 will go the Building and Maintenance Fund managed by the Board of Trustees and \$12,500.00 will be put in a matching grant to upgrade technology on the Church campus.

In February 2014, the Arie Wheeler Jones matching grant campaign officially launched. To maximize the Arie Wheeler estate \$12,500.00 matching grant contributed by the Permanent Endowment, the Board of Trustees voted to contribute an additional \$12,500 to the matching grant. With the matching gift now totaling \$25,000, the Board of Trustees and Permanent Committee invited Holman members to mobilize in a dollar for dollar matching drive of up to \$25,000 by the end of March 2014. This will establish a fund of up to \$50,000 earmarked for long overdue upgrades in audio visual and communications technology in the Lawson Multipurpose Building including the Crocket Library, classrooms and LL White Hall. Technology upgrades will also be made in the Edgar Love Education building including classrooms and meeting rooms, as well as eventually the main Sanctuary.