



Love in Abundance

A GUIDE TO GIVING AT ERINDALE UNITED CHURCH

Welcome to Erindale United! We're so happy that you've walked through our door.

If you're coming to us from another church, the concept of making an 'offering' to the church will be familiar to you. But if attending church is something that is new to you, this can cause some uncertainty and maybe even anxiety. To head off those feelings, we want to share some information with you about stewardship and financial contributions to the church.

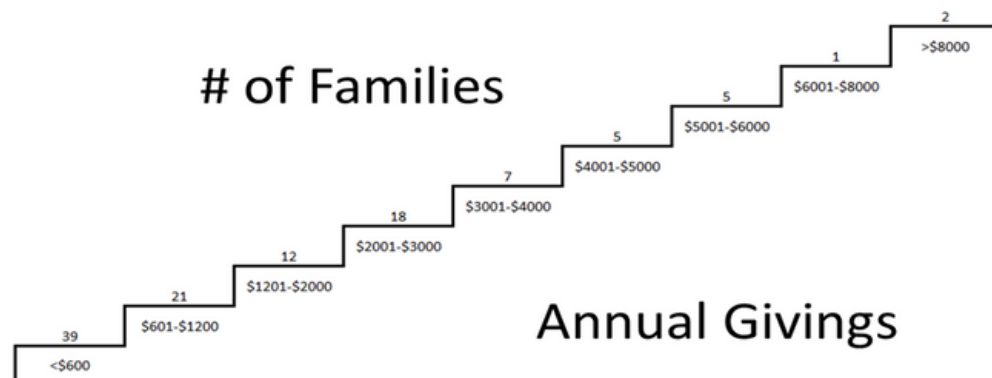
First of all, the concept of 'stewardship' is rooted in our faith.

At the very beginning of the Bible, when God creates human beings, they are entrusted with the care of God's Creation. Later, Paul will suggest to the church in Corinth that people ought to see us as "servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries" (1 Cor 4:1). As people of faith, we believe that all of our gifts and blessings have their origins in God. They've been entrusted to us so that we might care for God's world and God's people. When we give our time, talent, and treasure to the church, we work together on caring for God's creation in this little corner of the world where we find ourselves. Our time is transformed into visits with those who are lonely or sick. Our talent is transformed into planning worship, educational, and fellowship events that support and engage the community. Our treasure, our financial offerings, is transformed into aid for local agencies combatting hunger or organizations around the world that support those impacted by disasters, for instance.

What we give and how we give is unique to all of us and may vary at different stages of our lives. But we believe and are thankful that our gifts, when shared, combined, and blessed by God, can do much more than any one of us could alone.

How much should I give?

How much you give is a personal choice, based on many factors, but to give you some context, here is some information on how much our members give on an annual basis:



If you would like to see how our givings are spent, please ask for a copy of our budget by emailing churchoffice@erindaleunited.church.



How do I give?

There are many ways to give funds to help support the good works at Erindale United Church.

All gifts where the donor can be identified, over \$20, will receive a tax receipt.

1. Cash can be left in the collection plate; however, without having a way of identifying the donor, tax receipts cannot be issued for cash.
2. Cash, or cheques (made out to Erindale United Church) can be left on the collection plate in an envelope that clearly identifies the donor, including a mailing address.
3. Weekly envelopes are available to all donors, where cash or a cheque can be inserted, and left on the collection plate. If you'd like to receive a year's supply of weekly envelopes, please speak to an usher, our Church Secretary, or a member of the Stewardship committee.
4. Donations by cheque can be mailed to our Church Office, Attention: Church Secretary.
5. Donations can be made Online through Canada Helps (www.CanadaHelps.org) - (although this is the least cost-effective method for the church).
6. The church is set up to receive e-transfers of funds. Donors using this method often set up the transfers to make a monthly, recurring amount. Please speak to our Church Secretary or a member of the Stewardship Committee for details.
7. The preferred method of giving is to set yourself up on PAR (pre-authorized remittance), so that funds are automatically withdrawn from the donor's bank account, in a pre-set amount; most donors set up their PAR to make donations monthly.
8. A small but growing number of our congregation give their donations annually through a gift of publicly traded securities. This is often the most tax-effective way of giving but does require a few easy steps. Please contact a member of our Stewardship team to get more information.
9. Finally, a number of our congregation have left a gift the Erindale United in their wills. Please contact a member of our Stewardship team to get more information.

If you have any questions about at all, please don't hesitate to reach out to our church office for answers.

And thank you for considering how you can exercise your stewardship and contribute to the Erindale United Church family.

