First Lutheran Church

Options for Offerings

For members and visitors who have had questions about giving, we hope an explanation of these options is helpful. We are sincerely thankful for the generosity our church members have always shown.

1. **Envelopes Given in the Offering Plate or mailed to church.**
   - Individuals may get a box of envelopes from the office or use envelopes in the pews for General Giving.
   - "Special Monthly Giving" Envelopes are also available in the pews and in the monthly newsletter, featuring a different sponsored event or charity each month, for example, Walk for Warmth, Lakestates Industries, etc.

2. **Tithely**
   - Individuals can download the Tithely App, access the Tithely link on our Website, or use the Tithely QR code in the pews to submit an Estimate of Giving and/or to give offerings.
   - The Tithely system can be set up to automatically transfer your General Giving offering each week, biweekly, monthly, etc.
   - "One Time" offerings can also be given to the General Fund or to specific Church Funds such as a Memorial contribution, Sewing Fund, Altar Guild, Building Fund, Technology Fund, etc.
   - Soon, we'll be able to give donations to our sponsored "Special Monthly Giving" events and charities using the Tithely system.

3. **Bank Transfers**
   - Individuals may set up automatic bank or credit union transfers from an account which your bank would mail directly to church, or could be electronically transferred.
   - Depending on which bank or credit union you use, there may or may not be fees.
   - **Because of our association with Baybank, they can easily do automatic transfers *with no fee*.**
   - Some banks or credit unions may allow a transfer under their "Bill Pay" system.

4. **Investment Fund Transfers**
   - Individuals who have Investment Accounts with Thrivent, Edward Jones, etc., can set up Charitable Accounts to give directly to any charitable organization including church. These accounts can give directly to the church, pre-taxed/tax-free, without paying any fees.
   - Individuals may also be able to transfer funds directly from a brokerage account like Edward Jones, etc., once you are retired.
   - Individuals who have an account such as a 403b, 401k, etc., that have a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) after a certain age, can make donations to church or other charitable entities that are pre-taxed/tax-free.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Church Council