



# Giving Options

This handout is provided to help answer the many questions that can arise in deciding how to share your financial gifts to Lord of Life Lutheran Church and the missions we support. If at any time you have additional questions, please feel free to contact the church office. We will be happy to help!

Lord of Life Lutheran Church operates based on a promise offering. Your pledge is a promise made between you and God. If we do ask for pledge cards to be filled out, please know...

***THIS ENVELOPE IS NEVER OPENED BY THE CHURCH.***

When you join Lord of Life Lutheran Church, you will be assigned a "Giving Number" which is often referred to as an envelope number. This is your way of communicating to us who you are so you may get appropriate credit for your gifts on your charitable Giving Statement. Remember, regardless of the contribution option you use, include your Giving Number to ensure proper credit to your record.

## Envelopes

You can choose to receive envelopes. This option will provide you with an envelope for each Sunday of the year and a monthly envelope for our Gratitude Gift. In addition to the monthly envelopes, you will receive "special" envelopes for the special worship offerings such as Lent, Easter, Advent, Christmas, etc.



***HOW DO I ENROLL?:*** You are automatically enrolled to receive envelopes when you become a member of Lord of Life. **If you do not want to receive envelopes, please notify the office.** Please continue to use your Giving Number.

## Summer Address Change

If you are a member who "goes home for the summer" and you wish to receive your giving envelopes at your summer address, please look for the Address Change Form in January. Did you know it takes a minimum of 45 days to make address changes effective? Please give the office as much notice as you can in regard to your departure and return. This is important for either stopping your envelopes for the summer or having your envelopes follow you to your summer address.

## Simply Giving

You can choose to sign up for the Simply Giving program through Thrivent Financial. This automated stewardship program is a direct debit program designed to make your contributions to Lord of Life through a secure electronic banking transaction.



Upon enrollment your contributions are automatically forwarded to the church from the account of your choice. All recurring monthly contributions can be set up for this program – regular offering, mission support, gratitude gift, etc. With this option, you will only receive envelopes for the special worship offerings.

**HOW DO I ENROLL?:** Sign up in the office or visit [www.lolaz.org/donations](http://www.lolaz.org/donations)

## LOL Website

You may set up a single contribution or create a recurring contribution through our website. Create your account on-line and set up your profile. Your profile will be updated in the office with your Giving Number. You are able to use a bank account, a debit card or credit card for these transactions. All recurring contributions are through the Simply Giving program.



Direct debit and debit cards have the lowest fees charged to the church for their use. The church is charged the highest fees for credit cards.

**HOW DO I ENROLL?:** Visit [www.lolaz.org/donations](http://www.lolaz.org/donations) or stop in the church office for personal assistance.

## Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you invest with Thrivent, you can choose Lord of Life as a recipient of your Thrivent Choice Dollars. These funds can be designated to a mission or given to the operating budget, just let the office know where you would like your Choice Dollars to be designated. Choice Dollars are received from Thrivent and not the donor directly; therefore Choice Dollars will not be reflected on your Giving Statement.

**HOW DO I ENROLL?:** Watch for communications from Thrivent for this program.

## Stocks and Bonds

We are happy to accept the gift of stocks and/or bonds as a way to give to the church. Your broker will require our Broker's name and account number to process your request. We will hold the stock in our brokerage account until the stock gains enough to cover the costs of the sale. Your Giving Statement will reflect the net proceeds from the sale of the stock/bond.

**How Do I ENROLL?:** Have your broker transfer the stock to our brokerage account. **Scott Trade 52625532**

## Endowments, Annuities or Trusts

Lord of Life accepts endowments, annuities and trusts. Also, please consider remembering Lord of Life in your will. Please contact the church office for more information.

## Charitable Contributions

The pastors and staff of Lord of Life are not qualified to give tax or investment counseling. This flyer should not be construed as tax advice. Always consult with your tax professional.

Your Giving Statement will be mailed out to the address we have on file before the last week of January for the prior year's activity. If you want your statement sent to a different address, you must let the office know.

Your Giving Statement will only reflect contributions made by you, directly to the church, in support of the church or the missions it supports.

If you provide cash gifts to the church, you **MUST** include your Name or Giving Number in order to receive credit for the contribution. We cannot be responsible for correlating unidentified loose cash to an individual.

We have many folks with the same last name; please use your Giving Number or your full name to identify yourself.

Love Gifts given to the church for pastors, staff or congregation members are gifts to the individual with the church acting only in an administrative clearing capacity. These will appear on your Giving Statement. Love Gifts given directly to pastors, staff or congregations members will not appear on your Giving Statement.

Tickets or freewill offerings for events, books or concerts are not recorded as contributions; these will not be reflected on your Giving Statement.

Contributions made through a 3rd party, for which you receive a charitable contributions receipt from that 3rd party, will be reflected on your Giving Statement as a 3rd party donation and noted as a non-tax deductible contribution to Lord of Life. (Example: distributions from and IRA)

## Helpful Hints

Please do not fold cash, checks or envelopes. Please do not use tape, glue, stickers, staples or paper clips to close your envelopes or to keep items together inside your envelope.



Each contribution only needs one envelope, even if it is intended to apply to multiple weeks. Recycle those that you don't use.

Funds not designated to a specific ministry or mission will go to regular offering. If you wish to designate all or a portion of your contribution to a specific ministry or mission, simply note the recipient and the amount directly on the envelope, memo field of the check or comment section of the on-line donation.

Checks should be signed and dated with Giving Number on the memo line. The written and numeric dollar values must match. Debit and credit cards can also be used in the church office during regular office hours.

Office staff is often asked which giving method is preferred. Please know that we are grateful for (and are happy to process) ANY giving method, but the method that saves the most time and cost efficient is AUTOMATED MONTHLY ONLINE giving. We are happy to help you set this up.

*Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord.*

- Leviticus 27:30

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