

**Star of Bethlehem Ev Lutheran Church – Simply Giving Program
Frequently Asked Questions**

What is the Simply Giving Program?

Simply Giving is an electronic giving program and a convenient way to make regular offerings. You can easily set up a recurring giving schedule in which your offerings are automatically withdrawn from your bank account and deposited into Star of Bethlehem's account.

Why would I want to enroll in the Simply Giving Program?

There are several good reasons to participate in the Simply Giving Program

- No more worry to remember to bring your offering envelope to church each week
- Opportunity to time your offerings in a way that best matches your income, your budget and your pay cycle
- Opportunity to help balance your personal budget and enable consistent support for God's work at church through consistent offerings
- Opportunity to more easily bring first-fruits offerings to the Lord

Do offerings have to be withdrawn from my checking account?

You may designate a checking account or a savings account for your offerings.

How often will my offerings be withdrawn from my account?

You have several options for automatic withdrawal from either your checking or savings account. You may select the option that best fits your budget, paycheck cycle or preference.

- Once each week on Friday
- Once every other week (bi-weekly) on Friday
- Monthly on the 1st of the month
- Twice a month (semi-monthly) on the 1st and the 15th of the month

May I pick a different day of the week or month than those listed on the Authorization Form?

Not at this time. This may be considered in the future but keeping the process more standardized was felt to be a better way to start. The dates were selected to match common pay cycles.

What if I want to change my offerings?

Complete another Authorization Form, check the box that indicates "Change donation amount" and enter the new amount or frequency for the General/Operating Fund or the Gifted & Growing Capital Campaign as needed.

Why do I have to attach a voided check to the Authorization Form?

The bank recommends this to be sure your offerings are properly withdrawn from the correct account and to avoid errors.

Will I stop getting offering envelopes if I sign up for the program?

You will continue to receive a box of offering envelopes in case you want to use the envelopes for special holidays or other offerings. Some members also prefer to have an envelope to place in the offering plate during the church service. If you prefer to do so, just write "SIMPLY GIVING" on your envelope.

If I sign up will I be locked into the program for a certain amount of time?

You may discontinue the program at any time by submitting another Authorization Form and checking the box to "Discontinue electronic donation".

Will these offerings be reflected on the Contribution Statements the church distributes annually?

Yes. All gifts received through the Simply Giving Program will be included on the annual statements.

May I use Simply Giving for General Fund and Gifted & Growing Capital Campaign offerings?

Yes! Simply indicate which fund that you want your offering to be credited to.

Do I need to use the same frequency/dates or amounts for both the General and the Gifted & Growing Fund?

No. You may indicate different amounts and frequencies for each.

Must I first use Simply Giving for the General Fund before I can use it for the Gifted and Growing fund?

No. You may use Simply Giving for either fund or for both.

Who may I contact if I have questions?

Please contact Nancie Urban at 262-784-5273 if you have questions.

Where should I put the completed Authorization Form?

Completed forms should be placed in Nancie Urban's mailbox.