

# Online Giving

Visit [ibcbellingham.org/give](http://ibcbellingham.org/give) and click "Give Online"



## OVERVIEW

Immanuel receives an offering during each Sunday morning service. Members and regular attenders are encouraged to give. Visitors are not expected to give, and in fact, are encouraged not to give.

A Sunday-morning-pass-the-bag offering works well for many families, but what also works well, in an increasingly cashless society, is the use of scheduled online giving.

So, Immanuel has selected EasyTithe to do the processing of online offerings (the deacons will continue to process all other offerings) EasyTithe is an established company with reasonable transaction fees.

This document answers a few common questions about giving in general and online giving in particular, and also describes some of the particulars with regard to EasyTithe.

## What does the Bible say about money and giving?

A lot, actually. Jesus spoke more about money than any other single topic, which should tell us something about its pervasiveness, importance, and proper use. God cares how we use our money.

Some of you might have been raised to think that "ten percent" is the Biblical standard for giving. Actually, that's not completely true, because the Biblical standard for giving is sacrificial giving, which might be less or more than 10%.

So, for some of you it is wrong to give less than 10%, and for others, it would be wrong to give more. Only you can decide what the right amount is after study and prayer, and maybe, a conversation or two with an elder to help you think through things.

## What is the money used for?

The operation and ministries of the church. The money received in the offering pays salaries, keeps the lights on, supports missionaries, pays for supplies, funds events, buys books, and covers the check when one of the pastors takes you out for coffee.

The ministries of the church, and the church itself, would simply not exist without the giving of the church body.

## Why does Immanuel offer online giving?

As technology changes, so do we. Remember that cash, paper checks, and banks were all innovations at one point or another in human history. Cash meant you didn't have to carry gold, paper checks meant you didn't have to carry cash, and online banking means you don't have to worry about cash or paper checks.

In fact, a significant amount of financial transactions are now, and have been for some time, handled electronically.

Also, online giving is convenient for the church itself. Fewer checks and less cash means that offerings can be counted more quickly and handled more safely.

## Do I have to use online giving?

No; there is no requirement to use online giving.

## What about credit cards?

This question is for those of you who are concerned about using a credit card, with the associated interest, to give money.

EasyTithe accepts credit cards as well as debit cards. But, the issue is not the mechanism of transfer, but the wise stewardship of funds. Many people use their credit cards as debit cards and do not allow interest charges to accrue.

## **How do I teach my children how to worship through giving if they never see it?**

Children need to know that is happening, but also children need to be giving themselves.

Allowances, and giving on the allowance, is a great way to teach your children to give to the Lord first, and to give sacrificially. You can teach this reality with even very small children.

## **I have more questions. To whom should I speak?**

Feel free to ask any of the elders, or direct your questions to [info@ibcbellingham.org](mailto:info@ibcbellingham.org).

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## INSTRUCTIONS

### Getting Started:

- Would you like to give without setting up a donor account? Click “Quick Give”.
- First Time Donor? Click “First Time” and setup your Donor Profile.
- Already a registered donor? Simply enter your Email and Password.
- Did you forget your password? Click “Forgot Password”.

### Setting Up Your Donor Profile:

- Enter your email address and password.
- Password must be at least 8 characters and must contain a combination of letters and numbers.
- Remember these login credentials! You will need them to access your Donor Profile.

### One Time Gift - Debit or Credit Cards:

- Login by entering your email address and password.
- Select which fund you would like to donate to from the drop down list.
- Enter your donation amount.
- Add your card information and billing details.
- Click “Submit” to process your donation.

### One Time Gift - eChecks:

- Login by entering your email address and password.
- Select to “Use Check” located at the top right of your screen or select ACH/eCheck from the drop down menu.
- Select which fund you would like to donate to from the drop down list.
- Enter your donation amount.
- Add your bank account information.
- Click “Authorize” to submit donation.

### Automatic Recurring Donations:

- Login by entering your email address and password.
- Select “Scheduled Giving” on the left side of the screen.
- Select which fund you would like to donate to from the drop down list.
- Enter your donation amount.
- Select the frequency, number of installments and start date.
- Add your card or e-Check information and billing details.
- Click “Activate Schedule” to start your recurring donation schedule.