

Why do Christians practice proportional giving?

They are thankful for God's love and abundance.

It is biblical.

It helps to build disciplined financial management.

It is an active participation in a faith community.

It gives life to the vision and mission of the church.



More ways to give...

PLANNED GIFTS

- a bequest to the church in a will or trust
- naming the church as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or IRA
- arranging an annuity that provides income to you for life

MEMORIAL GIFTS

- in memory of a friend or loved one

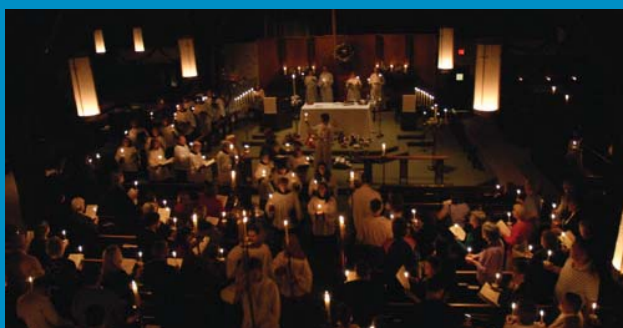
TRIBUTE GIFTS

- in honor of a special person or event

ENDOWMENT GIFTS

- to general church operations of a particular area of ministry

Please contact the church office for more information.



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REFLECT... REJOICE... & RESPOND

The Practice of Proportional Giving

ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
POTOMAC, MARYLAND



What is proportional giving?

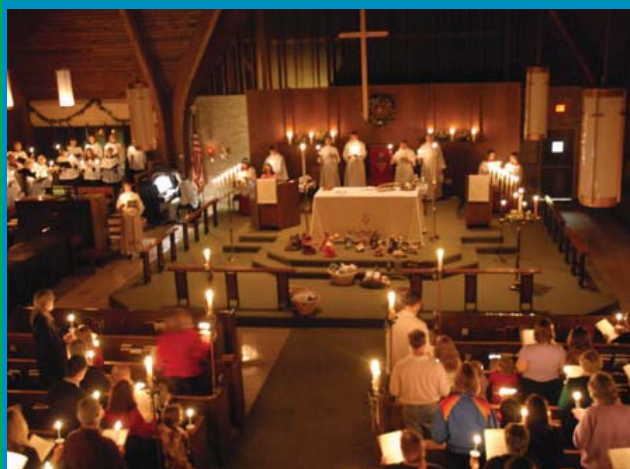
- Giving in relation to income.
- Giving in response to blessings with thanksgiving

What is a tithe?

- 10% of total gross income

Why is it important to pledge?

- It is an important part of your faith journey. It is making a commitment and building a growing trust in God.
- It is a commitment to your faith community.
- It is active witness.
- Practically for the church it makes possible a more accurate vestry plan for the church year.
- Practically for the donor, it provides the necessary record of donations for tax deduction.



St. James' 2008 Goal

100% RESPONSE

Everyone returns a pledge form whatever your pledge may be.

100% PLEDGING

Everyone pledges consistent with proportional giving



Some guidelines

The Bible says that we should set aside our “first fruits” —that our offering to God should be the first portion we set aside, not what remains.

- Pray for guidance about your response.
- Consider your total gross income. How much is a tithe?
- If tithing is too financially challenging, what portion of the tithe is possible to pledge in 2008?
- Does the chosen amount reflect a percentage increase over 2007 giving? Is it equal to the growth in your gross income? Does it reflect a tithe or progress toward a tithe in the future?
- Can you pledge more than a tithe?
- Does your pledge reflect a heartfelt expression of gratitude to God for life's abundant blessings?

