

Make a New Year's Resolution about Your Weekly Offering to God's Ministries here at FLC!

With 2016 just underway many people will be resolving to make New Year's changes in habits. Now is a good time to take a look at your financial giving to the church's ministry and perhaps make some resolutions for 2016!

The Bible lays out some directions for the giving of offerings in such passages as:

- Malachi 3:10 – “Bring the full tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house; and thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing.” (A tithe is 10% off the top of what we've been given.)
- II Corinthians 9:6-8 – St. Paul writes, “The point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work.”

As 2016 arrives it is a good time to take a look at how we use what God has gifted to us in time, skills, and treasures. Later in this year the Finance/Stewardship Ministry Team will be giving “Time and Talent” Sheets to all members for them to consider their use of those two God-given gifts in the life of our congregation.

Right now as the year begins perhaps is a great time for each of us to look at our financial giving to God's ministries here at FLC. Some good questions to ask as we review our financial stewardship might be:

- Is giving to my church a regular discipline with high priority? Am I a regular giver? Have I developed a consistent giving habit?

Offering envelopes are a tool to help develop disciplined giving. It is up to each person to develop the habit of being a regular giver.

- Is my giving sacrificial? The biblical goal for giving is the tithe. A tithe is 10% of what we've been given. Below is a chart that lists weekly income and weekly giving based on a tithe. Here at FLC we have many “tithers” as well as many who are working toward the tithe. The amount we each give is to be determined by personal and prayerful thought with God. However, tithers will tell you that the blessings received far outweigh the tithe given.

Check out where you fall on the percentage of giving chart. A New Year's resolution for 2016 might be to raise your giving by 1% OR 2% toward the tithe.

Across the country January is a time to take stock of all kinds of personal habits – ie. weight, diet, job, etc. So perhaps it is also a good time for us to look at our use of the gifts God has given to us – time, skills, and money. In taking an inventory perhaps it is time to make some New Year's resolutions!

If you give WEEKLY to the church

Income Level			Percentage of giving for each income level											
Weekly Income	Monthly Income	Annual Income	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	12%	15%
\$200	\$607	\$10,400	\$2	\$4	\$6	\$8	\$10	\$12	\$14	\$20	\$18	\$20	\$24	\$30
\$300	\$1,500	\$15,000	\$3	\$6	\$9	\$12	\$15	\$18	\$21	\$24	\$27	\$30	\$36	\$45
\$400	\$1,792	\$20,800	\$4	\$8	\$12	\$16	\$20	\$24	\$28	\$32	\$36	\$40	\$48	\$60
\$500	\$2,167	\$26,000	\$5	\$10	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30	\$35	\$40	\$45	\$50	\$60	\$75
\$600	\$2,600	\$31,300	\$6	\$12	\$18	\$24	\$30	\$36	\$42	\$48	\$54	\$60	\$72	\$90
\$700	\$3,033	\$36,400	\$7	\$14	\$21	\$28	\$35	\$42	\$49	\$56	\$63	\$70	\$84	\$105
\$800	\$3,467	\$41,500	\$8	\$16	\$24	\$32	\$40	\$48	\$56	\$64	\$72	\$80	\$96	\$120
\$1,000	\$4,533	\$52,000	\$10	\$20	\$30	\$40	\$50	\$60	\$70	\$80	\$90	\$100	\$120	\$150
\$1,200	\$5,200	\$62,400	\$12	\$24	\$36	\$48	\$60	\$72	\$84	\$96	\$108	\$120	\$144	\$180
\$1,400	\$5,067	\$72,800	\$14	\$28	\$42	\$56	\$70	\$84	\$98	\$112	\$126	\$140	\$168	\$210
\$1,600	\$5,033	\$83,200	\$16	\$32	\$48	\$64	\$80	\$96	\$112	\$128	\$144	\$160	\$192	\$240
\$1,800	\$5,800	\$83,600	\$18	\$36	\$54	\$72	\$90	\$108	\$126	\$144	\$162	\$180	\$216	\$270
\$2,000	\$6,667	\$104,000	\$20	\$40	\$60	\$80	\$100	\$120	\$140	\$160	\$180	\$200	\$240	\$300