

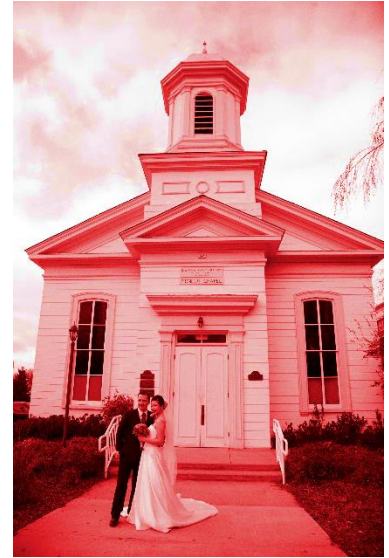
Frequently Asked Questions about Pledging to Eden Church

Why give to Eden Church?

One of the responsibilities of being a member is to support the Church and its ministry by giving of one's time, talent, and treasure. Only with the generous support of members and friends, Eden Church is able to offer weekly worship, Christian programs and community service, and maintain the Church campus.

What is "pledged" giving?

Each year, members and friends of Eden Church are asked to provide an estimate of their financial support to the Church for the coming year. The amount pledged is typically paid in weekly or monthly payments, although some prefer to contribute in a single lump sum or in two installments. Payments are received by cash and check via the Sunday offering plate, handed to the Associate Treasurer, or dropped off or mailed to the Church Office. For logistical information about contributing securities, please contact Associate Treasurer Jan Bass: 510-508-1427.



How much do Eden members and friends typically pledge?

Pledging is a spiritual act. We don't assess a fee or propose set amounts for congregants. Annual pledges to Eden Church this past year ranged from \$5 to \$40,000. Over half of all members pledge \$3,000 or more. At Eden, we often quote 2 Corinthians 9:7, in which the apostle wrote, "God loves a cheerful giver." We encourage everyone to give an amount that they feel good about.

What is a tithe?

Biblically, a tithe is a financial gift reflective of 10% of a person or household's annual income. Tithing or giving 10% is a spiritual practice, like prayer or coming to church, that many chose to adopt as an act of devotion to God and discipleship to Jesus Christ.

How much did I pledge last year?

Jan Bass, Associate Treasurer, can answer any questions you have about your pledge or pledge history.

How much should I increase my pledge each year to keep current with inflation?

The majority of the church's expenses are fixed and increase annually with the cost of living. Over the past 12 months, the Consumer Price Index has increased by 3.2% so gifts that help us keep up with inflation are definitely needed. Gifts that exceed inflation help us address the additional costs associated with our growth plan. Attend a budget meeting or the Annual Meeting to learn about the progress being made in fulfillment of our strategic plan.

How can I find out more about next year's budget and the Church's current needs?

Budget Information Sessions will be held following morning worship on Sunday, May 6, and June 10. The Budget will be voted on by the membership at Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 24.

How can I make a planned gift by including Eden Church in my will?

If you have questions about planned giving, please contact Rob Parrish, Chair of Eden's Planned Giving Committee, Moderator Keith Smith, or Pastor Arlene.