

**WHY SHOULD I TITHE?** We believe that God is a generous God - having been recipients of that generosity - we are then called to be generous to those around us. Scripture tells us that one way we are to do that is to bring the tithe (or 10%) into the church to further the Kingdom of God in the local church, and global church.

Leviticus 27:30 says: "Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of the trees, is the Lord's; it is holy to the Lord." This passage shows us that God owns everything, and we are to give the best of it back, because it is holy. It shows we put God first, and trust God first in our lives. 1 Corinthians 16:2 says: "On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income." This passage shows us we should give individually, regularly, methodically, and proportionately. 2 Corinthians 9:7 says: "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." This passage shows us that giving is matter of worship - freely we have received from God, so freely we can give back. Luke 2:21-1-4 tells the story of a poor woman who had nothing, but gave what she did have with joy and sacrifice. This passage shows us that sacrificial giving is seen, honored and worthy before the Lord.

The matter of your giving is between you and God, and He always takes into account our circumstances. He knows when they are beyond our power to direct and control. The important thing is that we see giving as a privilege and not a burden. It should not be out of a sense of duty, but rather out of love for the Lord and a desire to see His kingdom advanced.

**WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A TITHE AND AN OFFERING?** The word tithe means 10%. This is the Biblical base for giving - the foundation for all gifts to the church. First and foremost you give the first 10% to the Lord. As the Lord leads you, a tithe could be more than 10%. An offering is anything above and beyond your regular tithe. An offering can go to missions, or to the general fund of the church, or a special cause. An offering can even be in the form of canned food for a food drive. However the offering is giving it is something that is more than your regular tithe.

**CAN I STILL GIVE ON SUNDAY MORNING?** Absolutely! Online giving is simply another way by which people can give a tithe or offering. Some families will find it useful for their regular giving, others may want to avoid it completely. Yet others may find it a good way to give while on vacation for two weeks; simply log in and give that way. We recognize that there is no one particular way to give that is better than another. It's not the 'how' of giving that matters - the 'heart' of giving. We simply want to offer you the opportunity to be generous whenever and wherever you are.

**HOW DOES THIS HELP THE CHURCH?** Online giving - specifically recurring giving- allows the church to steward finances and ministries better. When we know what will be coming in each week (regardless of church attendance) it allows for more steady planning and stewardship of the funds.

**IS ONLINE GIVING SAFE?** Everything you enter and everything you do on our Online Giving page is encrypted so it can't be spied on by anyone else. It's encrypted with 256-bit SSL (also known as HTTPS). Sensitive information is stored only when necessary - for example, when a you set up a recurring transaction. That information is also encrypted (essentially scrambled) using an algorithm called AES-256 in "cypher-block-chaining mode". The servers are behind hardware and software firewalls, which serve to protect your data and from hackers and intruders. Clover Donations is also PCI Compliant as service provider, which means they have been certified to follow a comprehensive set of rules created by the credit card companies to ensure that security precautions are held to the highest standard.

**WHO CAN SEE MY INFORMATION?** The pastor and church treasurer/bookkeepers are the only ones who can access the information on donors. Special permissions are granted to each user based on their need for information. The treasurer will see your name, and your tithe or offering amount. The pastor will be able to see what was given, and sum totals - but never who gave it.

**DO I NEED TO REGISTER?** The first time you give through our Online Giving page you will register for an account. This means that you enter your name, and some basic contact information. Registering for an account allows us to

give you giving credit at the end of the year. If you choose to set up an recurring tithe or offering then your bank account information will be included in the registration information. That way you can log in and give without having to re-enter those numbers again and again. This makes giving simple.

**CAN I SET UP A RECURRING TITHE OR OFFERING?** Yes. When you set up an account and give for the first time you can choose to give a recurring tithe or offering.

**WHAT IF I RECEIVED AN INSUFFICIENT FUNDS NOTIFICATION?** If it was a one time offering/gift - simply retry when the funds are available. If it was a recurring gift/offering the system will not retry your offering so you will need to go back in a manually give again.

**WHAT IF I NEED TO CHANGE THE DATE/AMOUNT?** You can log into your account at any time to change the recurring offering, stop it, add one, adjust the dates etc. You can also change your bank account if you need to.

**CAN I GIVE FROM MY PHONE OR TABLET?** Yes. Online giving is designed that you can give when you are using any internet connected device.

**WHO CAN I CONTACT WITH OTHER QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?** If you have a question or concern that wasn't answered here...please contact our treasurer. Contact info is located on the leadership page of the website.