



Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church

What does it mean to make a financial pledge?

A pledge is nothing more than a promise, and in this case, a promise to give. Year after year, we are asked, after prayerful consideration, to resolve what we will give – gifts of time, talent, and treasure – to Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church.

Why is pledging important?

Pledging is more than writing a check or clicking a box. Pledging is an essential spiritual exercise, allowing each of us to reflect on the gifts God has given us and to show our commitment to using those gifts for the purpose of ministry, mission, faith formation, Christian fellowship, and worship.

It also models to our children the importance of making a tangible commitment to our church, and allowing a more fruitful connection to our church family and faith experience.

More than ever, the church is needed for spiritual healing, for missional outreach, and for relational development. And to do these many things, we all must be willing to make a financial pledge to Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church.

Who should make a financial pledge to the church?

Everyone! We are all members of this great congregation, and it takes the gifts of all to make it what it is. Young and old alike are encouraged to participate. What a wonderful thing it is to know that we are all contributors to the success of our church.

Has the budget for 2026 been completed? And what is it?

The Finance, Administration, and Planning team is dutifully and prayerfully compiling a budget, which will be voted on by the Session and presented to the congregation at the annual congregational meeting. As in year's past, we will be examining the areas that we feel are in need of additional resources and those areas from which resources may be shifted. Session believes God is calling our church family to raise \$519,000 to sustain the current ministries needed in our community. That means we are asking all givers to increase their pledge by 18.6% in hopes of having a balanced budget.

What if I need to change my pledge amount?

In order to change a pledge, you simply phone the church office and speak with the financial administrator: Sarah Johnson / finance@chpres.org / 423.239.9194

What are the different methods for submitting my pledge?

You may return the pledge card in the stamped pre-addressed envelope, place it in the offering plate or in the locked boxes in the narthex or call the church office. Additionally, you may complete your pledge online through Realm which you can access through the church's website.

If my current pledge is set up on bank draft or recurring credit card payment, do I still need to fill out a pledge card?

Yes, please carefully consider what you are called to do in 2026 and complete a new pledge card so we will have an accurate record.

How much should I pledge?

There are many ways to decide how much to give. The most important thing is that we give in gratitude, remembering all that God has done and continues to do in our lives. As the Apostle Paul tells us, "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

Remember, this is a biblical practice—dedicating the "first fruits" of our labor right off the top, rather than offering what remains after all other expenses are taken care of.

For many, proportionate giving—giving a set percentage of our income back to God for God's work—can be very helpful in establishing an amount to give. If you currently do not pledge but contribute by putting money into the Sunday offering plate, you might consider pledging a percentage of that amount this year. If you've never tried proportionate giving before, why not start at 5% of your income? If you are already pledging, please consider increasing your pledge for the coming year.

What else am I being asked to consider?

We would like every member to consider how to use their unique gifts and grow in their faith through meaningful involvement at Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church. Each stewardship packet includes the opportunity for you to share your gifts with the various ministry opportunities through a Time and Talent survey.