

“Give Before You Go!”

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I love summer vacations. It's so much fun to travel and see parts of our beautiful country—some new, some familiar—and to see family and friends. Breaking the habits of "ordinary time" invigorates us with a fresh sense of joy. For many parts of the Rockies, it also means that the snow is finally finished for a few months! It's time to travel!

You Want to Enjoy this Summer

Where are you going this summer? To some exotic adventure? To see family in Topeka? Will you simply sit in your hammock and wait for people to come visit you? Wherever you go and whatever you do, it's going to be fun!

The Church Wants You to Enjoy this Summer

Many congregations move to a "summer schedule" to allow its members to take a break from the "regular" meetings and obligations. Your congregation may adjust its worship schedule to one service or earlier services. Many committees will not meet this summer to free up extra time. Your church wants to help you enjoy your summer. The least you can do is return the favor!

Church Spending Continues—or Grows!

While church giving fluctuates with the calendar year (December is usually a large month and July is small), your church continues to spend money on a fairly regular basis all year long. We don't pay the pastor less in the summer just because giving is less! Many of your church's expenses actually increase in the summer as it prepares for fall programming and ministry. These expenses will put some churches in the "red" for the summer and force them to play "catch up" all fall. Don't put your leaders in this uncomfortable situation.

Give Before You Go

Wherever you go and whatever you do this summer, please remember that your church continues to meet and serve all year long—and depends on your contributions to make it possible. In the excitement of packing the clothes and car, don't forget to leave your pledges and offerings at the church before you hit the highway. And if you're able and inclined leave a little extra to cover those who forgot. This will help everyone to have a joyful summer. And you can enjoy your travels, knowing that your church will continue to serve in your absence. Happy Trails!

We're all in this together!