

Elfinwild Presbyterian Church

Introduction to ACH Giving and Frequently Asked Questions

Giving is an active expression of our faith. It recognizes God as our True Provider. It affirms our confidence in His ability to supply all we need and is an act of gratitude and dependence. When we trust God in our giving, it allows us to partner with God and His work through our church and in the world.

Giving requires the highest standard of personal integrity and discipline. In 2 Corinthians 8:9, the Bible teaches that we are to give willingly, generously and cheerfully. In Malachi 3:10, we learn God's standard of the tithe or first tenth being set apart in all of our earnings as a gift of God. Through our tithes and offerings, we prove faithful in the stewardship of all God has provided for us.

A new opportunity for giving is being provided by the ministry of Elfinwild Presbyterian Church. ACH giving is a new and simple way to prioritize and expedite your personal plan for giving. Giving is a vital part of spiritual formation and maturity.

What is ACH giving?

ACH giving is a method of giving using an automatic transfer program that allows you to make contributions without the inconvenience of writing checks. In our evolving society, some people do not have checkbooks, but also do not want to handle cash for all transactions.

With ACH giving, the church member completes a form determining the amount of the contribution on a weekly or monthly basis, sets the account to be debited such as checking or saving, and then the church's bank does an automatic transfer from the member's account to the church account.

What does ACH signify?

ACH stands for Automated Clearing House. It describes the system that banks use to move money from one entity to another based on the account owner's instructions.

When is the contribution reflected in my bank account?

Transactions usually take 2-3 days business days. Each month the money will move from the member's account to the church account within a few days; the transaction occurs on the 1st day of the following month. This is very similar to putting a check into the collection plate on Sunday and having the member's financial giving statement reflect that contribution a day or two later.

Can I donate to various funds in the church?

Yes, your contribution will reflect your distribution of monies to the operating fund, missions, and/or any special fund that is currently active, such as a building fund. Contributors designate their wishes on their pledge cards.

Is my financial information secure?

All ACH financial information is handled with strict attention to protecting privacy by the Financial Secretary, Business Manager and one (1) designated Trustee.

Are there fees associated with online giving?

The member's account is not charged a processing fee of any amount. The church is paying a nominal fee to the bank for the ACH service.

Is this the only automated way to contribute to Elfinwild Church?

No, we have also made Paypal available to our congregation. The Paypal option can be found on our web page under the LINKS button. Also, your bank may offer ACH service to you through them. In this way, the transaction is also done automatically but initiated by your bank rather than the church's bank. You should contact your own bank if you want to explore this option.

Will this mean we will not have an offertory component during Sunday services?

No, we will continue to worship God in many ways during each church service, including an offertory. No member is required to contribute by using this new method. ACH giving is being offered simply as an option.