### Giving Beyond the Offering Plate 101



# Unprecedented times call for unprecedented measures.



# Any church can offer ways to give beyond the offering plate.



# But first,

Make sure you have the structures in place to

- Receive the gifts
- Communicate about the options



#### Receive

- Make sure those responsible for your church finances understand that the church will be receiving gifts from a variety of sources.
- Decide who will have access to giving and bank accounts to authorize any transfers.



## Communicate

- Make sure you let your church know about your giving options
  - Letter, postcard, mass phone call, email, social media
- Website
  - Link on homepage, dedicated giving page
- Create a "boilerplate" statement and use in all communications. . .



"And don't forget, you can give to Wissihickon Creek Church any time through a variety of options. Please visit our website at <a href="https://www.wissihickonchurch.org/give">www.wissihickonchurch.org/give</a> to learn more."



# For churches of any size

- Bank account checks
- ACH or EFT transfer



### Churches with websites

- Create a giving page and prominent link on your home page
- Include a downloadable ACH or EFT transfer form.
- Check with your website provider about a giving plug-in
- Make decisions about responsibilities & gather needed information
- Choose an electronic giving platform/provider and create needed links or infrastructure



# Electronic Giving Platforms/Providers

- Generic vs. Church-Based
- DIY vs. what's provided
- Compare fees & costs for transfer
- Sometimes, not all credit/debit cards are created equal



# Electronic Giving Platforms/Providers

- SSL
- Cybertheft protection
- Communicate transparency to your church



## Other Giving Options – no website needed

- Mobile Apps
- Social Media
- Crowdfunding
- Text Giving
- Donations from Purchases



- If you really don't want to give up cash donations...
- Any church can—and should—offer giving options beyond the offering plate.
- Do your research & put responsibilities in place before initiating any new type of giving.
- Now is the time to put a process in place for a financial review



- Make sure it's not just about money.
  - Are we focused on funding, or are we growing generous givers?
- Now is the time to tell the story of your church's mission and ministry that goes on the other 167 hours per week besides the worship hour.



- Communicate.
- Communicate.
- COMMUNICATE.



- Say Thank You.
- Say Thank You.
- SAY THANK YOU.



#### More Resources

- White paper: <a href="http://media1.razorplanet.com/share/511272-2452/resources/1464586">http://media1.razorplanet.com/share/511272-2452/resources/1464586</a> GivingBeyondtheOfferingPlate.pdf or
- www.brethren.org/discipleshipmin/documents/giving-beyond-theoffering-plate.pdf
- Emails: <a href="https://stewardshipresources.org/contact-us/">https://stewardshipresources.org/contact-us/</a>





- Unlimited access to:
- Digital issues of Giving Magazine (solely focused on stewardship)
- Digital stewardship resource files (22 biblical themes)
- Video recordings of stewardship events

Provided free of charge for every church by the District Resource Development Committee



#### Sign up at

https://stewardshipresources.org/sokcob-generosity-365form/



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