

WHY WE GIVE OUR OFFERINGS

1. As an act of worship

Like our Old Testament ancestors, we express our love, devotion and honor to God by sacrificing something of value. Like the ancient people of God, we bring into our congregation the “first fruits” of our labor. As they brought grain and animals, today we bring money to offer, and we make our offering right in the middle of the worship service.



2. As an act of liberation

We break the hold of money by releasing it — lightly, freely, with joy.



3. As an act of community

This is about ministry that is beyond “me.” My offering is released into the care of the wider congregation, and so my offering becomes part of our ministry, an expression that my identity is now part of the Church.

4. In imitation of Christ

We are generous because Christ is generous, in his work and in laying down his life. We bear the baptismal cross on our foreheads, in memory and in imitation of the cross that Christ bore. We bring our generous offering, in memory and in imitation of the generous offering that Christ is.

5. To work together in ministry

When we work in partnership and share our contributions, we accomplish great things together!

Adapted from “Making Christ Known” by Bonnie Peterson of the synod Communications Committee.
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