

# FAQ Continued...

## **CAN MY COMMITMENT BE CHANGED, IF NECESSARY?**

Making a significant commitment after much prayer is something we believe God will help you honor. However, there will be annual opportunities throughout the three-year giving period to renew or adjust commitments to Free to Serve. If God has blessed you financially, a commitment could be increased. If challenges have made one's financial situation more difficult, a commitment could be reduced. Such decisions should only be made after much prayer.

## **WILL I BE BILLED MONTHLY FOR MY COMMITMENT?**

Bills will not be sent for your commitments. We will count on you to meet your commitments in a timely manner. As usual, giving statements will be sent annually, or as requested. We highly recommend you automate your giving through Electronic Funds Transfers (EFT) from your bank to Pearce, or through debit or credit card by our commitment form. Gifts may also be given through the mail, the weekly offering, or through our online giving portal. If giving by check, please be sure to designate your checks by writing "Free to Serve" on the memo line.

## **CAN I DONATE NON-CASH GIFTS TO THE CAMPAIGN?**

Yes, the ownership of non-cash types of assets (stocks, bonds, life insurance, real estate, personal property) can be transferred to the church for the campaign. By donating long-term, appreciated assets before the sale, you can potentially reduce taxes and provide more to the campaign. The Free Methodist Foundation will guide you through this process. For more information call the church office at 585-594-9488.

## **WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME?**

Most importantly, seek God. The Free to Serve Campaign is a spiritual endeavor, more than a financial one. Prayerfully consider what kind of sacrifice God is asking you to make. Exercise your faith by participating in the effort with joy, hope, and love for Pearce and our mission. We can do together what we cannot do alone by dreaming big, trusting God, and doing our part.



**FREE**  
*To Serve*

# **GIVING GUIDE**

Helpful Information for the  
Free To Serve Campaign

For more information:  
[pearcechurch.org/freetoserve](http://pearcechurch.org/freetoserve)



## COMMITMENT PROFILE

It can be difficult to imagine how your sacrificial gifts add up. This chart gives you an idea of how it might work.

**Heritage Level** 4.5% of Donors (9 total)  
35% of the Campaign

Number of Commitments	Gift Level	Cumulative Total
1	\$200,000	\$200,000
1	\$100,000	\$300,000
2	\$75,000	\$450,000
5	\$50,000	\$700,000

**Cornerstone Level** 15% of Donors (30 total)  
32% of the Campaign

Number of Commitments	Gift Level	Cumulative Total
5	\$40,000	\$900,000
7	\$25,000	\$1,075,000
8	\$20,000	\$1,235,000
10	\$10,000	\$1,335,000

**Foundation Level** 80.5% of Donors (161 total)  
33% of the Campaign

Number of Commitments	Gift Level	Cumulative Total
10	\$8,000	\$1,415,000
21	\$7,500	\$1,572,500
25	\$6,000	\$1,722,500
30	\$5,000	\$1,872,500
35	\$2,500	\$1,960,000
40	\$1,000	\$2,000,000

## CREATIVE GIVING STRATEGIES

Deciding what and how much to give is a choice to be made between you and God. All things belong to God and He wants us to use wisely what He has given. Prayerfully consider what God would have you give. The following list may generate some creative ideas for giving.

### GIFTS IN KIND/APPRECIABLE ASSETS:

Transferring ownership of stocks, bonds, real estate, life insurance or estate gifts, etc. Tax codes are generous towards this form of giving. Giving the asset to the church, then allowing the church to sell eliminates potential capital gains taxes and can increase the after-tax proceeds, providing significant tax savings.

### INCOME-PRODUCING ASSETS:

Interest income, payments from rental properties, or monies from other income-producing assets provide sources of increased giving.

### SALE OF ASSETS:

Sales of major assets such as a house, car, land, or business provide sources of increased giving.

### INCOME RAISES/BONUSES/TAX RETURNS:

Donating raises, bonuses, and tax returns are also avenues to increased giving.

### FREEDOM FROM DEBT:

As debt obligations are fulfilled, additional revenue may become available for increased giving.

### UNIQUE SKILLS INCOME/SPECIAL SALES:

You may have marketable hobbies or skills, which enable you to give from those profits. Or, maybe you can hold a garage sale and donate the proceeds to the Free to Serve Campaign.

### GIVE UP SOME LUXURIES:

Lifestyle adjustments can help make extra money available to give to the FREE TO SERVE Campaign. Consider canceling online streaming subscriptions and frequent trips for coffee, or scaling back on entertainment and eating out.

## FAQ

Answers to questions about Free to Serve

### HOW SHOULD I HANDLE MY REGULAR TITHES AND OFFERINGS IN LIGHT OF THE FREE TO SERVE CAMPAIGN?

Please continue giving your regular tithes and offerings, which are necessary for the church's ongoing ministry needs. Free to Serve is a special, sacrificial commitment to give above and beyond your regular giving. If you have been giving extra to Building Debt Retirement, that giving should be redirected to Free to Serve as part of your 3-year commitment.

### HOW DO I MAKE MY COMMITMENT TO THE FREE TO SERVE CAMPAIGN?

The vision for Free to Serve is fully dependent on God: with God's help Pearce will be set free to serve by meeting needs beyond Pearce through compassion first, retiring our debt, and providing for necessary capital projects. Everyone is encouraged to prayerfully seek God's direction and make a commitment, over and above your regular giving, for the next three years. We will come together as a church family on Sunday, November 24, to celebrate God's blessings, make our commitments, and give our first fruits offering. Commitment Cards that indicate how God is leading you will be submitted at that time.

### WHAT IS A FIRST FRUITS OFFERING?

In the Bible, God's people brought the first and best of their crops or herds as an offering to the Lord (e.g. Proverbs 3:9-10). Our First Fruits offering will take place on November 24 at the same time as we make our commitments. The First Fruits offering is an act of worship and trust in God's provision, and is the largest possible gift toward your three-year commitment. Commitment Cards and First Fruit offerings may be presented before or after November 24 if you are not able to attend that day. Online options for making and giving toward your commitment are available and encouraged.



## GIVING FORMULA

Need help figuring out how much you can give towards Free to Serve over a three year period? Here is a formula to assist you.

$$\frac{\text{\$ you can give each month}}{\text{months}} \times 12 = \text{Gift for 1 year} \rightarrow \times 3 = \text{Total Gift!}$$