



Christ Church Cranbrook Pledging FAQs

Your commitment in response to God's blessings makes our worship, community life, and outreach possible. We hope these "frequently asked questions" will be helpful to you as you consider your pledge.

What is a pledge?

A pledge is your commitment to make a financial gift that supports the mission of Christ Church Cranbrook (CCC). Pledging is a response to God's abundance in our lives. It is both a statement of thanksgiving and a lived decision to give to others as God gives to us.

Why do we need annual pledges?

Your pledge supports everything we do — from paying the salaries of our clergy to supporting our outreach ministries, our pastoral care, our worship, our education programs, and our music. In order to know what we can do each year, we need pledge commitments to develop an annual budget.

Don't the contributions made in the weekly offering cover our expenses?

Weekly non-pledge offerings amount to 1% of our annual revenue. The single most important source of funding for our ministries comes from the pledges made during our annual stewardship campaign, which provide 62% of the church's income. The draw from our endowment provides an additional 20% of budgeted income. The remaining 17% comes from other contributions made throughout the year.

Can't we just rely on our endowment?

We do have an endowment generously left to us by previous generations of CCC parishioners. It would quickly disappear, however, if we relied on it as our primary source of parish support.

How much should I pledge?

At CCC, every pledge, no matter what amount, makes a valued contribution to our mission and ministry. We ask each parishioner to prayerfully consider making a pledge that is both responsible and significant based on their financial situation.

Our standard of giving should reflect our standard of living. A tithe (10% of your income) has long been held as the standard of Christian giving. For most it is a goal to be reached through incremental increases each year. To calculate your pledge or tithe, the following chart may help:

Annual Gross Income	2%	4%	6%	8%	10%	12%
\$10,000	\$200	\$400	\$600	\$800	\$1,000	\$1,200
\$20,000	\$400	\$800	\$1,200	\$1,600	\$2,000	\$2,400
\$30,000	\$600	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,400	\$3,000	\$3,600
\$40,000	\$800	\$1,600	\$2,400	\$3,200	\$4,000	\$4,800
\$50,000	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
\$75,000	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$9,000
\$100,000	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$12,000
\$150,000	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$9,000	\$12,000	\$15,000	\$18,000
\$200,000	\$4,000	\$8,000	\$12,000	\$16,000	\$20,000	\$24,000

When and how should I pledge?

Pledges are welcome throughout the year, but we would prefer to receive them before December 1st so we can plan for next year. You can make a pledge online (by credit card or electronic transfer), by bringing pledge card to church, by mailing it in, or by contacting a clergy person or member of the Stewardship Committee.

Do I have to pay when I pledge? Can I pay in installments?

A pledge is a promise to pay. You may fulfill your pledge with as many or few payments as you wish. Pledges are to be fulfilled on a calendar year basis, beginning January 1.

Can I pay by a gift of stock, a donor-designated fund, or through other means?

We welcome all kinds of pledge payments. You may pay by a gift of stock or financial securities, or through a donor-designated fund. To find out how, contact Kathy Doyle.

What happens if I can't give as much as I pledged?

While it's a commitment to your church and your fellow parishioners, God's grace abounds. If your circumstances change, let the church know that you need to change your pledge. If you receive unexpected additional income, you are always welcome to increase your pledge.

Who knows how much I pledge?

We hold all pledge amounts in the strictest confidence.

Thank you for all you do to support the mission and ministry of CCC. For more information, please contact our Stewardship co-chairs, Tom Post (248.225.7591, tpost@diversifiedportfolios.net), the Director of Finance and Administration, Gina Morgan (248.644.5210, gmorgan@christchurchcranbrook.org) or any of the CCC clergy team.