

## ADVENTIST GIVING

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SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST® CHURCH

## Frequently Asked Questions

Your local Seventh-day Adventist church offers a new way of giving that easily fits into your life. In fact, this secure, state-of-the-art giving option allows you to return tithes and give offerings anywhere, anytime with an Internet connection.

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## General Questions

### How does my church sign up?

AdventistGiving is accessible through your local church's website. To begin using AdventistGiving, have your church's pastor or treasurer apply to [help@adventistgiving.org](mailto:help@adventistgiving.org).

### Do my tithes and offerings still go through my local church?

Yes. 100% of the funds are routed through the local church.

### Do I have to use a credit card?

You may use either a credit, a debit card, or electronic check. AdventistGiving accepts debit cards with the Visa® and MasterCard® logos, and Visa®, MasterCard® and Discover® Network credit cards.

### Is my credit card/electronic check information secure?

As privacy and security are top priorities in this program, state-of-the-art security measures are in place. For more information, read our [Privacy Policy](#).

### Who will know what I am giving?

Your password, login and state-of-the-art security measures protect your privacy online. Only your church treasurer will have knowledge of your giving, as is the case with regular

cash and check contributions.

**What do I do if I don't see the fund that I want to donate to?**

AdventistGiving has more than 900 offering categories from which to select, and you will likely find the category you want. However, if you do not see an offering category listed, you can still give cash or a check at your local church. You may also contact your local treasurer if you wish to request a category be added to AdventistGiving.

**How long will it take for my church to receive the money I give online?**

The funds are sent to the church checking account electronically on a monthly cycle.

**How do the local church treasurers keep track of this method of giving?**

After receiving a monthly electronic report of all AdventistGiving transactions, the local church treasurer incorporates this group of givers into the monthly report to the church and conference. The local church treasurer then disburses the contributions in harmony with the givers' intentions.

**Who issues my receipt?**

Your local church issues the official tax receipts for all monies given through AdventistGiving. Although AdventistGiving sends an e-mail confirmation when you make a contribution online, you need the receipt issued by your local church to use for tax purposes.

**Who pays the credit card transaction fees and other banking fees?**

The overall cost is shared by the local conference, the union, the North American Division, and the General Conference to ensure you get full credit for your contributions.

**Can I still use the old familiar cash and check method of giving?**

Yes. AdventistGiving is simply another method available to you.

**Once I establish an AdventistGiving account, am I always required to give online?**

No. You can use all available methods at anytime.

**What if I make a mistake when completing my transaction?**

Contact your local church treasurer for assistance.

**Does this system give more money to the conference?**

No. All percentages and destinations remain the same as the regular system.

**Can I make tuition payments to my child's Adventist school through AdventistGiving?**

Not at this time. AdventistGiving accepts only tax-deductible contributions; school tuition is not tax-deductible.

**When can we start using the program?**

Churches in the U.S. can [sign up](#) now. Churches in Bermuda and Canada may wish to email [help@adventistgiving.org](mailto:help@adventistgiving.org) to receive notification when AdventistGiving becomes available.

## **Stewardship Questions**

**Isn't this new system rather worldly?**

In Biblical narrative, giving was based on the method of exchange current with the time, such as offerings of animals and produce. Today, we live in an economy that uses cash and checks as the primary method of payment and exchange. However, this method is giving way to electronic exchange. The AdventistGiving plan simply allows desiring individuals a chance to give in the same manner as they do when completing their other financial transactions.

### **What about the worship experience of giving?**

After your credit card is processed, you'll receive a Confirmation of Giving page via email that you can print for your records. If you wish to enhance your worship experience by contributing to the offering plate on Sabbath, cut off the bottom portion of this confirmation page to take with you to church.

### **How does the AdventistGiving option affect the Personal Giving Plan?**

The Personal Giving Plan, encouraged and promoted by the Stewardship Department, is still in place. The personal Giving Plan is now available for those who give online through AdventistGiving, as well as for those who place money in the church offering plate.

### **Is it acceptable to go into credit card debt when making a contribution?**

The program does not encourage debt. The AdventistGiving option is for the convenience of those who prefer to do their banking and financial transactions online.

### **Is this just a strategy to get more money from church members?**

No. Many church members are expressing an interest in online giving, and technology offers the means to do so conveniently and securely. Although we realize this option is not ideal for everyone, it is an instrument that serves the needs of many people.

