

Giving Talks

If we expect our congregations to be consistent with their tithes and offerings, we must be consistent with our communication about giving; say SOMETHING each week that relates to funding; even if it's not directly asking for money.

With 52 Sundays to plan for we have to get creative to keep it fresh, and one way is to create "GIVING TALKS" that are relevant to the season.

A "*Giving Talk*" is

- a short explanation about how the offering works
- a call to action
- a one-to-two minute talk from a pastor, volunteer or staff member
- an intentional, planned moment in the church service that connects the dots for your congregation and encourages them to give

It's *Seasonal*

- the fall stewardship drive (tied in to the harvest season)
- coordinated with setting the budget for the following year
- year-end giving: double benefit—gift to the local church and tax benefit for the givers
- a proportionate gift from an income tax return to support the ministry

It's *Critical* for Summer Months

- giving while on vacation
- on-line giving
- direct-deposit giving

For some ideas, here's a free "Giving Talk" from Shelby Systems that you can use right away to prepare your church for summer giving. Click on the link below to see the talk and feel free and get creative!!

Pre-Summer Giving Talk:

“In just a few minutes, we’re going to have what we call the offering. Every Sunday, we take a couple of minutes and invite people to financially support the mission of this church. The reason why we do it is not to put pressure on people. It’s to encourage people to move from spectators to participants *in* the vision. We are SO GRATEFUL for all the things your gifts allow us to do!

As we approach summertime, our kids are getting more and more excited. Why? Because they no longer have to sit in classroom and learn for several hours a day. Who can blame them?

As you’d expect, this also causes some of their learning to go backwards. Here’s a fun fact. According to onlinecollege.org, **“On average, students lose about 2.6 months worth of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills during their summer break.”**

So for all of you parents out there, you should be multiplying fractions with your kids on the way to Grandma’s house in July!

I’m kidding, of course. **But just like kids’ Math skills go down in the summer, so does church funding.** And it’s not because anybody says, “I just don’t feel like supporting the mission of the church this summer.” It’s because people forget. They’re out of town. There’s a lot of other stuff going on.

As a church, we have a lot of exciting things we want to accomplish this summer. But they also require money and resources. That’s why your decision to continue giving is such a big deal. So I want to invite you to give today. But I also want to invite you to *continue* giving this summer. We will work diligently to be good stewards of your donations.

Thank you so much for your faith in this area, and for supporting this church!

Let’s pray together.”