

"A Question of the Level of Giving"

Hebrews 13:16 And do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for God is pleased with such sacrifices.

2 Corinthians 9:6-7: The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

At Immanuel Presbyterian Church, we believe that our standard of giving should reflect our standard of living. And one should give at a level that is both responsible and significant based on individual financial situation.

But, bear in mind, every pledge, no matter the amount, makes a valued contribution to our mission and ministry.

The tithe has long been held as the standard of Christian giving. The Old Testament (Deuteronomy 14:22-29) underlies the tradition of giving back to God 10 percent of one's annual harvest or income right off the top.

For some however, such a level of giving could be daunting and at best a goal to be reached gradually over time. Consider committing to "proportional giving" -- pledging a certain percentage of your annual gross income (beginning, say, 2 or 4 or

6 percent), with the intention of growing it over time to 10 or more percent. The below chart will help quantify this.

Here is a frequently-asked question: When should I pledge? Beginning in the fall, members hear from others about what Immanuel has meant to them and their families, as well as from those in the community who have benefited from Immanuel's ministries. Then, on Pledge Dedication Sunday in mid-November, members bring their pledge cards to church or mail them to the church office.

Nonetheless, pledges are accepted any time during the course of the calendar year. For example, if you are ready to pledge for the first time you are encouraged to do so right away. In that case, please contact Mary Ann Vaughan, Business Administrator at 703-356-3042 x 202 and/or <u>mvaughan@ipcmclean.org</u>. There are different ways to give (More about that in a future column). She will assist you with selecting the best option for you.

Please reach out to us on of the Stewardship Committee members with your questions and suggestions or your desire to join. Our contact information is:

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	The Suggested Fair Share Contribution Guide													
			Supporter 2-6% of Income			Sustainer 3-7% of Income			Visionary 5-9% of Income			Transformer 10% of Income		
Adjusted Monthly Income	Approx. Adjusted Annual Income		Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge		Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge		Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge		Suggested % of Income	Monthly Pledge	
\$1,000	\$12,000		2%	\$20		3%	\$30		5%	\$50		10%	\$100	
\$1,500	\$18,000		2%	\$30		3%	\$45		5%	\$75		10%	\$150	
\$2,000	\$25,000		2%	\$40		3%	\$60		5%	\$100		10%	\$200	
\$3,000	\$36,000		2%	\$60		3%	\$90		5%	\$150		10%	\$300	
\$4,000	\$50,000		3%	\$120		4%	\$160		5%	\$200		10%	\$400	
\$6,500	\$80,000		3%	\$195		4%	\$260		6%	\$390		10%	\$650	
\$8,500	\$100,000		3%	\$255		5%	\$425		6%	\$510		10%	\$850	
\$10,000	\$120,000		3%	\$300		5%	\$500		6%	\$600		10%	\$1,000	
\$12,500	\$150,000		4%	\$500		5%	\$625		6%	\$750		10%	\$1,250	
\$17,000	\$200,000		4%	\$680		6%	\$1,020		7%	\$1,190		10%	\$1,700	
\$25,000	\$300,000		5%	\$1,250		6%	\$1,500		8%	\$2,000		10%	\$2,500	
\$40,000	\$500,000		6%	\$2,400		7%	\$2,800		9%	\$3,600		10%	\$4,000	