

PLEDGE APPROACHES—Ways to Think About How You Pledge

By Lisa Marie Fuller, 5/7/19

There is no right or wrong way to pledge. Your pledge should be determined by your household budget and your current ability to support the fellowship financially. Some 'easy' ways to pledge include setting up automatic bank transfers or creating a monthly PayPal payment. For more information on how to do that see Harvey, or anyone from the BUUF Board.

Here are some ways to consider your pledge. Do any of these scenarios strike a chord with you?

"I decided to pledge \$100 per month to the Fellowship, because that's what I pledge to my public radio station, too."

"I realized I was spending \$7 a day on lunch. I decided that one day a week I would pack a lunch and use that money to support my Fellowship. Now I give \$30 per month."

"Our income changed a lot last year when my partner's job changed. Even though we are still giving 3% of our annual income, it's a much smaller contribution now because the new job doesn't pay as well as the old job."

"As a single mom, I don't have a lot of extra money, or a lot of extra free time. But because my church has a childcare worker, I can stay after service to clean up the kitchen and help with the bathrooms. The church calls that my 'in-kind' donation because otherwise they would have to pay someone for janitorial work."

"I just started pledging and I have no idea how much I can really afford. I pledged \$5 per month to be safe because I know I can make that payment, but if I can give a little more, I do."

"When I was working, I could be more generous with my pledge. My income is fixed now—it's just my social security check each month—but I still try to give to charities that are important to me, including my fellowship."

"At a budget meeting I found out my fellowship was spending a lot on staff payroll. I am pledging what I can but I also offered to help with some of the office work. Now I help with publicity so the office person doesn't have to."

"My fellowship suggested starting my pledge at about 2% of my monthly income. That's \$20 per \$1,000. Since my take home pay is about \$1,400 a month, I am pledging \$300 per year, which is \$25 per month."

"My church suggested starting my pledge at about 2% of my monthly income. That's \$20 per \$1,000. Since my take home pay is about \$8,000 a month, I am pledging \$160 per month, or \$1,920 per year."

“I didn’t feel like I could afford to make a pledge, so I was just putting a dollar or some coins in the offering plate each week. I found out that money could count as my pledge if the treasurer knew it was from me. Now I put a dollar in an envelope that says my name and ‘pledge.’ Not only am I fulfilling my pledge, I am a Voting Member now, too.”

“Last year when I got a cost-of-living raise at work I decided to just allocate that money to my church. Through my bank I was able to set up a monthly payment. I never see the money, and I don’t miss it.”

“I received a significant inheritance this year. I used some of the money for household expenses, but I also donated a big check to BUUF. This is my Fellowship. I want to support it.”

“When I learned that my Fellowship was paying \$30 a week for childcare, I offered to fill in once a week. The Treasurer says that is my ‘in-kind’ pledge. I get to be with the children, and also save the Fellowship the cost of childcare.”

“I am fortunate to have a well-paying job. As I’ve become more involved with my fellowship, I’ve committed to giving 10% of my take-home pay.”

Again, there is no right or wrong way to pledge. Your pledge should be determined by your household budget and your current ability to support the fellowship financially. Any pledge is deeply appreciated.