

South Church Financial FAQs 2023

Introduction

Every year, at this time, South Church reaches out to its members to request financial support for the upcoming year through its Annual Pledge Campaign. Unlike some religious denominations, South Church is completely self-funded and relies on the generosity of its member families and individuals to provide for its financial support. These pledges support our pastoral and administrative staff, youth, music, and a variety of other programs, including community and mission outreach as well as the maintaining of our historic church. This FAQ is meant to address some basic questions regarding giving; however, members of the Giving Team will be reaching out and are available to answer any questions.

Q: Where exactly does South Church get its money and where does it go?

South Church is 100% self-funded. Money is received from multiple sources (2021, last full year available):

• Monthly Mission contributions	\$ 63,157	7.6%
• Contributions from the Trust Fund	\$ 44,408.00	5.3%
• Annual Pledging	\$ 661,076.00	79.1%
• Annual Giving from members who did not make a pledge	\$ 54,497.00	6.5%
• Miscellaneous	\$ 12,665.00	1.5%
• Total	\$ 835,803.00	100.0%

Where does it go? (2021, last full year available)

• Missions (monthly and annual mission partners)	\$ 119,402.00	14.3%
• Programs (including Youth and Children, Music)	\$ 27,600.00	3.3%
• Salaries, benefits, and employee expenses	\$ 521,157.00	62.4%
• Building expenses (operating and annual capital expenses)	\$ 82,034.00	9.8%
• Insurance	\$ 59,211.00	7.1%
• Miscellaneous	\$ 22,920.00	2.7%
• 2020 Surplus	\$ 3,479.00	0.4%
• Total	\$ 835,803.00	100.0%

Additionally, South Church has various reserve funds that have been built up over several years through specific fundraising efforts and dedicated contributions.

Q. What is a pledge?

A pledge is a good faith promise by church members to contribute an amount of money on a weekly, monthly, or annual basis to support the mission of South Church.

Q. How do I know what to give?

This is an individual decision for each family or individual. Those who are long term givers have a history of giving and will continue their generosity consistent with their means and desire to support the mission of South Church. Others that are newer to South Church and perhaps coming from other religious denomination will need to determine their ability and desire to give. Members of the giving team will be reaching out to address any questions.

Below is a simple chart that may assist in helping you think about giving, what might work given your family financial obligations and your desire or calling to support the mission of South Church. This information is not a recommendation but just one method to consider.

Annual/Monthly Income	Annual/Monthly Pledge		
	<u>2 Percent</u>	<u>4 Percent</u>	<u>6 Percent</u>
\$36,000/\$3,000	\$720/\$60	\$1440/\$120	\$2160/\$180
\$60,000/\$5,000	\$1,200/\$100	\$2400/\$200	\$3600/\$300
\$96,000/\$8,000	\$1,920/\$160	\$3840/\$320	\$5760/\$480
\$150,000/\$12,500	\$3,000/\$250	\$6000/\$500	\$9000/\$750
\$180,000/\$15,000	\$3,600/\$300	\$7200/\$600	\$10,800/\$900

Q. How do I submit my pledge?

It is easy. You have several choices, they include:

- Look under the How to Pledge tab on southchurch.com/give..
- Go to SouthChurch.com/give and there is a link to a Google Form for pledging.
- Fill out the pledge card included in the enclosed instructions and deliver it to South Church.
- For those who are 70 and ½ years and own an IRA, there are significant tax advantages to donating directly to South Church (or any qualified 501(c) 3 charity) from your IRA. Contact your IRA custodian for more information.