

Throughout the pandemic, deacons have continued to ask how to inspire faithful giving when churches aren't gathering in their usual ways and can't physically 'pass the plate'. As deacons equip their members to live stewardly with their finances, it's important to remember:

- **Disciples of Christ need to give.** Giving is an act of worship as well as a commitment to our community of believers. Most people want to give, but need new tools at this time.
- **The church and its ministries still need to receive.** The expenses of the church and particularly the other causes it supports are ongoing. Furthermore, the need for benevolence may increase as the economic effects of COVID-19 hit our communities.

Here are some online tools to enable church members to contribute generously and consistently:

CRCNA P.A.R. SYSTEM

Pre-authorized monthly bank withdrawals go to the CRCNA and then to your church. Gifts can be directed to the budget, benevolence, designated church funds, and second offering causes. No administrative fee. Individuals can register directly with their church treasurer or PAR administrator: See [PAR brochure](#) and/or talk to your church treasurer.

CRCNA - THE BRIDGE APP "GIVE" FUNCTION

No fees when donors give directly from their bank account. Credit card giving subject to 'merchant' fee (charged by the credit card processor). Supports multiple offerings (church budget, local causes) while maintaining security of information. Churches pay annual fee for the app, either directly or through their classis. The Bridge App includes other features to enhance congregational life. For more information, email bridgeapp@crcna.org.

DIRECT E-TRANSFER

Individuals can send offerings directly from their bank account to a designated church email address (eg. donations@ABCchurch.com). The treasurer will issue receipts and disburse money to external causes as usual. Second offerings must be indicated in the comment box on the e-transfer (eg. "75% budget, 25% food bank"). Bank fees may apply.

CANADAHELPS.ORG

All registered charities (including churches) can claim a landing page by providing bank information. Donor gives by credit card or through PayPal. CanadaHelps forwards money to the church and sends out tax receipts. Cost: 3.75% fee/transaction. Different funds within the church can be specified, but not external causes. For more information: [CanadaHelps website](#).

DONATE DIRECTLY TO MINISTRY

Like [Diaconal Ministries Canada](#), most agencies rely heavily on support from the local church and its members to cover the costs of ministry. Encourage members to donate directly to the ministries your church supports and/or become monthly donors. Tax receipts would be issued by the individual agency.

NOTE: Remember those without online access! Continue to accept mail-in donations OR offer a pick-up or drop-off solution.