



Guide to Generosity

“Now there are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same God; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

-1 Corinthians 12:4-7

WHY WE GIVE

At Lake Oswego United Church of Christ, we give not because we must, but because we may. God has gifted each of us with amazing resources through our skills, talents, energies, passions, finances, and time. Every day, we have the joy and responsibility of choosing how we use these resources. Through our generosity with these gifts, we nurture our vocations, avocations, family, relationships, creation, church, community, and world.

At LOUCC, we believe that part of how we honor God, live out our faith, and transform the world is by the sharing of our gifts to support the missions and ministries of the church. This includes offering our time, talent, and treasure for the good of our community and wider world.

Our generosity enables the diverse missions and ministries that we offer—transformational worship each week, visits at hospital bedsides, intentional faith development, nurturing small group connections, supporting a transitional shelter for people leaving homelessness, building an interfaith partnership with Beit Haverim, dismantling racism, caring for our environment, and so much more. These ministries happen because of countless volunteer hours, the sharing of our passions, and the gifts of our money.

WHAT WE GIVE

As you consider your own faith and involvement at LOUCC, consider what resources God has given you and how you may use your unique resources to transform LOUCC and the world. We encourage you to consider gifts of time, talent, and treasure:

Time—Is Sunday morning your main experience of the church? Then consider volunteering for a special project, such as pulling ivy or changing banners in the sanctuary. Doing lots of special projects already? Then consider an ongoing commitment to a ministry team or praying regularly for people in the congregation and community.

Talent—Love to garden? Then consider helping care for our church gardens and grounds. Love kids? Then sign up to teach in our church school one Sunday. Have a knack for numbers? Then consider volunteering for our Trustees Team. Do you play guitar but haven’t strummed the strings in years? Take a risk and offer special music one Sunday. Have a passion for immigration justice? Help teach a class at LOUCC or represent our church at the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice.

Treasure—Our missions depend on the financial generosity of our members and friends. Every prayer offered, meal fixed, sermon preached, child taught, and ministry conducted is made possible because we share financial resources that equip our mission in the world. Choose the method easiest for you. Many people make regular gifts by having an automatic withdrawal (Electronic Funds Transfer) each month. Others prefer making weekly or monthly gifts by check or by using a credit card through our online donation page. Some prefer annual gifts, including major gifts of stocks or bonds. Already giving? Consider giving a little more.

HOW TO GET STARTED

We start our giving by prayerfully considering what we have been given and how we are being called. Then we jump in. Sign up for whatever special activity you'd like to do. Have something new in mind or want to know more about specific activities, teams, or ways to get involved? Contact our Pastor (Jennie Ott, pastor@loucc.org) or Moderator (Vicki Sparks, dlvs@comcast.net) to discuss how to incorporate your time, talent, and treasure into wider ministries of the church. Choose whichever method of financial giving works best for you, and talk to our Financial Secretary (Bob Calo, bobcalo2@gmail.com) if you would like information about specific giving vehicles.

What and how much you offer is between you and God. Prayerfully consider your time, talents, and treasure. Offer what feels generous to you, given the season and circumstances of your own life. There are times in our lives when we have many talents and little treasure, or lots of treasure but no time. Pray about what God is asking of you at this season in your life, and then take the plunge!

THANKS!

Our gifts enable the ministries of this church, so THANK YOU for being part of this congregation and sharing your gifts with all!

**LAKE OSWEGO
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

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