

# Generous Community

Loving God, Loving Each Other

“ Why give? Sometimes in the hustle and bustle of our lives it’s so easy to think that someone else will cover it, that someone else will be there. That is, until that moment that we realize that our expectation didn’t quite work the way we thought.

At times in my life I have rushed back to prayer, back to Christ, back to church, back to that sanctuary that has sustained me through my troubles. In doing so I realize that there is so much more that has been made available for me. That others have made available to me through their work, their charity, their sacrifice, and that their gifts provided me those opportunities.

It’s through gifts that we as a church continue to survive, and the why is that it supports so many in our community, the why is it’s how we continue to reach those in need, and the why is it’s who we are.



**John Hazlett**

St. Raphael Vestry Member

Mark 10:45 puts it very succinctly: The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. What gift can we ever give to thank Him for His incredible gift to us? Living life as a steward and disciple, and following the Lord’s examples and teachings is certainly a good place to start!



Make your 2025 pledge at [sreclex.org/pledge](https://sreclex.org/pledge)

## PROPORTIONAL GIVING

The Bible presents the concept of a "tithe", which is giving back to God one-tenth (10%) of what has been received from God. Various Bible verses refer to giving according to one's means.

The concept of "first fruits" is referred to several places in both Old and New Testaments. We are to give thankfully out of our abundance. Financial advisers recommend "paying yourself first" to build wealth. Paying God first of our "first fruits," even before we pay ourselves, builds up treasures in Heaven.

Refer to this chart to find your current approximate proportion of giving. Can you accept God's challenge to give a little more, working up to, or beyond a 10% tithe?

Annual Income	Light giving			Moderate giving			Strong giving			Tithe		More than tithe	
	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	12%	15%	
\$20,000	200	400	600	800	1,000	1,200	1,400	1,600	1,800	2,000	2,400	3,000	
\$30,000	300	600	900	1,200	1,500	1,800	2,100	2,400	2,700	3,000	3,600	4,500	
\$40,000	400	800	1,200	1,600	2,000	2,400	2,800	3,200	3,600	4,000	4,800	6,000	
\$50,000	500	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,500	3,000	3,500	4,000	4,500	5,000	6,000	7,500	
\$75,000	750	1,500	2,250	3,000	3,750	4,500	5,250	6,000	6,750	7,500	9,000	11,250	
\$100,000	1,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000	9,000	10,000	12,000	15,000	
\$125,000	1,250	2,500	3,750	5,000	6,250	7,500	8,750	10,000	11,250	12,500	15,000	18,750	
\$150,000	1,500	3,000	4,500	6,000	7,500	9,000	10,500	12,000	13,500	15,000	18,000	22,500	
\$175,000	1,750	3,500	5,250	7,000	8,750	10,500	12,250	14,000	15,750	17,500	21,000	26,250	
\$200,000	2,000	4,000	6,000	8,000	10,000	12,000	14,000	16,000	18,000	20,000	24,000	30,000	