

FAQs about Electronic Giving at Hyde Park Mennonite Fellowship

1. Why are we using online giving?

We want to give our members a variety of ways to donate to HPMF.

Many people no longer use checks and cash and have moved to cards and electronic payments. By providing online giving, we hope to make giving to HPMF more convenient for you.

We are also providing a way to give on a regular basis, regardless of travel schedules or inability to attend.

2. Are we going to stop using the offering plate in the Sunday service?

No. Online giving is one additional source that people can use for giving. Offering ourselves, our gifts, our time, and resources, and reflecting on sharing is an important part of our service.

You may pick up an offering plate card at the back of the church to put in the offering basket as it passes by. This is a symbolic act of worship and also models to our children that our offerings are a part of our worship.

3. Are my donations with credit card, online giving, or electronic transfer of funds still tax deductible?

Yes. You will receive a receipt for tax purposes at the end of the year.

4. Is this online giving a secure system?

Yes, HPMF takes your information and financial security very seriously. We worked with our local US Bank, the Planning Center which is a church management software company, and Stripe to set up the site and provide security for every transaction.

5. What are the associated fees HPMF has to use electronic giving? In fact, why are there fees at all?

The fees are not charged to you but come from the church's bank account. If you wish, you may make your donation larger to help offset that cost.

Credit card users are charged a fee for every transaction. Most businesses include that in their costs. For debit and credit cards for HPMF, there is a 2.3% + \$0.30 fee per transaction. In addition, there is a \$0.25 per ACH bank transfer donation.

The Planning Center and Stripe charge a monthly fee to host and maintain the website and services.

6. What ways may I donate to HPMF?

Cash and checks can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to HPMF 1520 N. 12th St Boise ID 83702

Credit card giving at church – see the church treasurer for use of the credit card reader. May not be available every Sunday.

Online giving – The church website www.hydeparkmf.com has a “donate” button which provides giving by credit card or debit card.

You may make a one-time donation or use the site to set up recurrent, weekly or monthly, giving from your credit card or debit card.

Texting – Enter any amount and text to 84321

Recurrent donations from your bank account – Check with your bank for electronic transfer of funds or regular mailing of checks. HPMF incurs no charges for this method.

Donate from your DAF, Donor Advised Fund, if you have one set up. Notify the fund to transfer to HPMF. You do not receive a tax deduction for this since you received the tax deduction when you established your DAF.

7. How do I use the website?

Here are a few things to note. Donations will go to the General Fund unless you select “Other” and then you must designate if it is for a specific fund or to pay for something else, such as a rental fee.

8. We will continue to customize and review the options for giving to HPMF.