

SUPPORTING MY HOME CONGREGATION IN DIFFICULT TIMES

March 27, 2020

“Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” - Galatians 6:10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Due to circumstances well beyond our control, we find ourselves in a situation where we, as God’s people, cannot gather in our normal places of worship to receive God’s gifts. While Lutheran Church–Canada and many congregations have taken steps to provide devotional resources, sermons, bible studies, and even complete Divine services online, we are all faced with the challenge of how to continue giving our regular tithes and offerings to support the local ongoing Word and Sacrament ministry of our congregations, especially if we are not allowed to leave our homes.

An increasing number of jurisdictions have issued shelter-in-place orders, discouraging even those who may want to visit the church to drop off their offerings. Even placing post-dated cheques in the mail may prove somewhat difficult if they cannot be picked up at the church. Although we recognize that we may not be able to give as much at this time, we know that without our giving, we may put a great stress on our congregation’s finances and its ability to do its work.

If your congregation has already taken steps to receive your gifts online or through pre-authorized debit, that is a joy to hear, and they will be greatly blessed. However, if your congregation does not have this ability, please consider the following option:

Lutheran Church–Canada has enhanced its website to include the option of giving directly *to your home congregation*. When you visit www.lutheranchurchcanada.ca and click on the “Support My Home Congregation” link on the home page, you will be directed to a secure, online giving portal. You may also use this link to go directly there <https://lutheranchurch-canada.tng-secure.com>.

Once there, choose “Donate to My Congregation” under Featured Funds. Following the instructions, enter the amount of your donation/offering and select your congregation from the dropdown list. Enter the required information on the subsequent forms including your credit card information and complete your gift. Should you want to repeat this process weekly, you may find it easier to register once, although this is not necessary. You will receive an immediate donation receipt from LCC (not your congregation) and your congregation will receive a cumulative total once a month of all gifts it has received.

There may be other options available depending on your circumstances, however we hope the above option is helpful and a blessing to congregations.

If you have any questions please contact LCC Administrator Dwayne Cleave via email at administratorlcc@lutheranchurch.ca or call 800-588-4226 x219. May our gracious God continue to guide us through these difficult times and grant His peace and healing.