

GUIDELINES FOR YEAR-END GIVING MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Please keep the following in mind when making contributions.

These requirements must be met for the contributions to be tax deductible for 2021:

1. Weekly and year-end contributions can be left in the offering plates after worship or in the lock box on the office door across from the Welcome Center if you attend worship on 12/26/21.
2. Your cash or check must be received in the Church Office by 5:00 pm on Friday, December 31, 2021.
3. Your contributions can also be made from a smart phone or device by texting “Matthews” to 73256 and following the link to give. From a desktop, visit give.matthewsumc.org.
4. The Church Office will be **open Wednesday and Thursday, December 29-30 from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm**. The Office will be **closed on Friday, December 31**, but you may place your gifts in the **designated lockbox on the Admin. Hall door at the Church Office**. Please enter through **front doors by the exterior mailboxes** between **9:00 am – 5:00 pm**.
5. Your mailed check must be **postmarked** by **Friday, December 31, 2021**.
6. Online contributions **must be in transit** by **Friday, December 31, 2021**.
7. Contributions that do not meet these guidelines cannot be recorded on a church member’s 2021 giving record. Checks that are received after December 31 cannot be included on a member’s 2021 record even if the check is dated December 31, 2021 (unless it is **postmarked** December 31, 2021). These are IRS requirements and exceptions cannot be made.
8. Please do not file your 2021 income tax returns until you have received your 2021 church contribution record. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving your statement. The statements will be mailed out no later than January 29, 2022.

WHAT CAN YOU GIVE?

- **Give Check or Cash** - Both are popular and convenient ways to give by mail or by placing your gifts in the designated lockbox on the Admin. Hall door at the Church Office by 5:00 pm on December 31.
- **Give Electronically** - Go to give.matthewsumc.org for our OnRealm platform. You can give by credit/debit card or bank draft. You can text “Matthews” to 73256 and follow the link to give.
- **Give Appreciated Stocks or Property** - Giving appreciated property - such as shares of stock, bonds, or mutual funds - gives the donor a charitable income tax deduction and can avoid capital gains taxes. If, however, you own securities that are worth less than you paid, it would be better to sell them, report the capital loss on your tax return and contribute the proceeds. Gifts of securities take a few days to process so please plan ahead. Please contact the Church Office for assistance with gifting securities or other property.
- **Gifts from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA)** – The IRA charitable rollover allows persons 70 1/2 years or older to contribute up to \$100,000 of their required minimum distribution each year directly from their IRA to the church without paying income tax on the distribution. This can result in a “wash” for tax purposes, with no tax owed on the amount distributed and no contribution deduction received for the donation. Check with your tax advisor to see if this would be a beneficial way for you to make a year-end gift.

Please Note: These guidelines do not attempt to give any legal or tax advice. For advice in specific situations, the services of a competent legal, tax or financial planner should be obtained to help you decide what would be your best option.

Please Note: These guidelines do not attempt to give any legal or tax advice. For advice in specific situations, the services of a competent legal, tax or financial planner should be obtained to help you decide what would be your best option.



MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST

December 6, 2021

Dear Matthews UMC Family:

Here at Matthews UMC, we completed a wonderful service of Engaging in Commitment on November 14 as we shared in a united celebration of worship with our Spanish-speaking sisters and brothers. There is so much for which we can be thankful; generosity in committing to the 2022 ministry plan led by our children and youth; beautiful music from our marvelous choirs and accompanists, and a God Story from Roy Harrington.

We shared a wonderful season of Thanksgiving and gratitude for all of God's blessings and are moving toward the end of the year hoping to finish strong financially. Currently, we need \$399,107 to meet our financial commitments to our Operating Budget. Thank you in advance for doing whatever you can to help our church meet this goal. Our **Guidelines for Year-End Giving to MUMC** are above.

On November 28, we entered the season of Advent through worship in our beautifully decorated sanctuary led by beautiful music in both our traditional and contemporary experiences. As we approach the end of another year, let us make sure our priorities are aligned with God's plan for building this community of faith. In the joy of this season, let us take a moment to experience joy wherever we encounter it; rest and relaxation when we can find it; and make sure our gift-giving reflects our eternal building program!

Giving thanks for the privilege of being one of your pastors,

Pastor Paul