



Cash Gifts: An Overview

Fulfilling one’s desire to give a gift to the Church that offers financial support to its activities is often accomplished through gifts of cash. In fact, most United States citizens who give to charitable or religious organizations simply write checks or charge gifts to credit cards. Cash gifts have many advantages, including the fact that they are immediately available for the Church’s work, or may be used to establish planned gifts with the Church.

Benefits extend beyond the immediate joy of knowing that a gift of cash supports the worldwide activities of the Church. In the United States, if an individual itemizes deductions on their federal tax return, there may be additional tax benefits.

- Tax savings are not the reason individuals make gifts to The Mother Church, but due to the potential tax benefits, it may be that both the Church and the individual are benefited by the individual’s gift.
- Every dollar given in support of The First Church of Christ, Scientist is tax deductible, if one itemizes his or her deductions. In effect, this means that a gift of \$1,000 this year, after itemizing and taking the charitable tax deduction, actually “cost” the individual only \$670 if that individual is in the 33% tax bracket (see the table below).
- The maximum deduction allowable for gifts of cash is limited to 50% of one’s adjusted gross income. Any amount given in excess of this limitation can be carried over and deducted in the year of the gift, and for up to five subsequent years.
- In the United States, many states allow state income tax charitable deductions that can make charitable gifts even more economical.

The following table illustrates how itemizing a charitable gift to take advantage of the allowable charitable tax deduction may be a benefit to the contributor:

Gift Amount:	After-Tax “Cost” of a Gift if Your Income Tax Bracket Is:				
	25%	28%	33%	35%	39.6%
\$ 100	\$ 75	\$ 72	\$ 67	\$ 65	\$ 60.40
\$ 500	375	360	335	325	302
\$1,000	750	720	670	650	604
\$5,000	3,750	3,600	3,350	3,250	3,020



How to Proceed

If you are interested in making a gift by check, credit card or electronic transfer, please e-mail, call or write our office.

We would be pleased to provide you with:

1. A tax receipt, for a gift of any amount
2. Specific information on how to make a wire transfer into our account
3. Instructions for making a gift by credit card

Please contact us with any questions you may have regarding other forms of giving, such as gifts through your estate plan or gifts that provide you with lifetime income. You can contact our office at philanthropy@csp.com, by phone at 1-800-288-7155, extension 3288, or write to us at the address below. We look forward to hearing from you.

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