



PLANNED GIVING – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Do I have to participate?

No. Each person is **invited** to participate as they feel comfortable.

2. Can I participate if I am not a member?

Absolutely.

3. Do I have to participate if I am a member?

The choice is up to you. Each person is **invited** to participate as they feel comfortable.

The MCC Sydney Constitution defines a “Member in Good Standing” under Article 5.7 as:

A Member who –

- a. Registers his/her attendance (or submits an apology) at Congregational Meetings and/or is seen at worship services of the Church on a regular basis, and, in addition,
- b. Provides either identifiable financial support; or
- c. Makes a definite service contribution, or
- d. Demonstrates interest and loyalty; and
- e. Is approved by the BoD.

4. What is ‘planned giving’ all about?

Planned giving is prayerfully considering what blessings you have received from God and how you intend to recognise those blessings in the coming year.

5. What can I do if all this focus on giving and stewardship is making me feel uncomfortable?

Speak with Rev Greg or Pj. If you can, try to understand why you are feeling uncomfortable. We want this to be a positive experience for everyone.

6. Why are there 4 forms for the same purpose?

Each one of us is on a different journey so it is only right that choice be made available. Please send any feedback to iamproject@mccsydney.org.

7. Do I have to complete all 4 forms?

No. If you choose to participate, pick the form that you feel most drawn to.

8. How do I know how much to give?

Be realistic. Doing a personal budget of your time and resources is a great way to start. Think about what you already do now. For example you may read the Scripture once a month. If you intend to continue this over the next year, then record 1 hour per month.

9. I don't want others knowing how much I am tithing.

What information you put on the form is up to you. If you are not comfortable in disclosing a particular amount, then don't. Alternatively you may disclose a partial amount. Say for example that you tithe \$10 every week and you intend to continue tithing this amount. Rather than writing \$10, you may choose to write \$5 or \$1 or even leave it blank. One reason for running this program is to help the Rev Greg and the Leadership team plan for the future.

Please understand that individuals will be collating and using the information. It will be treated sensitively and stored securely.

10. What kind of other resources are you talking about?

Without trying to limit the possibilities, you may have something that the church could use. For example, you may have a holiday house that could be used to host a retreat or property that could be used by the church to offer safe haven to a refugee. Maybe you have music recording equipment or an instrument that the church could use. Maybe you can donate frequent flyer points to assist in getting people to Network Gatherings or General Conference. The possibilities are endless. Record what you think could be beneficial and someone will be in touch to discuss.

11. What do I do if there is a ministry I am interested in but it is not on the form?

Please record it in the space provided. We don't know what God has planned for MCC Sydney. Recording what you are interested will help make God's plan clearer.

12. Do I have to be held accountable?

No. Each person is invited to participate as they feel comfortable.

13. Why should I be held accountable?

For some, receiving feedback is important in their journey as they want to know how they are going.

14. How will I be held accountable?

If you elect to be held accountable with your time and talents, this information will be provided to the Leader of that ministry so they can follow up with you. For example, you nominate to read the bible once a month at a service. Let's say you were unable to attend that service and did not let anyone know. The worship leader could contact you to let you know that you were rostered on and is contacting you to check that everything is ok.

In terms of tithing, there is no formal system to provide individual statements. However, this may change in the future.

15. Who do I contact if my question is not answered by this document?

Send an email to: iampoint@mccsydney.org

Ring or sms Pj on 0402 121 814

Speak to one of the Leadership team.