



Owosso Church of the Nazarene

*Our mission is to attract and lead people to Christ,
develop them toward maturity in Christ,
equip them for ministry, and empower them through
the Holy Spirit for a life mission in the world.*

June 2, 2008

Dear Family & Friends,

Greetings in the strong name of Jesus! How blessed I am by your commitment to be a vital contributor to the *Forward in Faith* campaign. By participating, you are sharing in a defining moment in the life of Owosso Church of the Nazarene. I believe we have taken our first "baby steps," by faith, through the open door.

In Deuteronomy 26:1-11, God gives instructions to the Israelites regarding what they should do after they entered the open door into the land He had given them. In verse 2 we read,

Take some of the firstfruits of all that you produce from the soil of the land the LORD your God is giving you and put them in a basket. Then go to the place the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his Name.

Verses 5 through 10 provide instructions about what the people were to say as they placed their *firstfruits offering* before the priest. Verse 11 tells them to join the Levites (worship leaders) and aliens in a time of rejoicing.

The *firstfruits offering* was an expression of thankfulness to God for His faithfulness in the past and a testimony of faith for what He was going to produce in the harvest to come. In the same manner, I believe God is calling us to bring Him a *firstfruits offering* this Sunday. Now it is time for us to bring our *firstfruits offering* to the "dwelling place of God."

In practical terms, I am suggesting the following:

- If you have pledged to give a *weekly* gift, consider giving at least that amount.
- If you have pledged to give a *monthly* amount, give at least that amount.
- If you have pledged to give *three annual gifts* or a *one-time gift*, give at least one thirty-sixth of that amount.

Sunday is going to be a day of celebration. I look forward to worshipping with you!

You are loved!

Pastor Rodger D. De Vore

Hearing from God Question:

How would God have me be involved in support of our Capital Campaign

Rodger D. De Vore, Lead Pastor
Marlene Webster, Community & Family Formation Pastor
Murphy Gill, Worship Arts Pastor
Craig Moore, Student Life Pastor
Deidre Marks, Office Manager
Julie Semans, Office Secretary

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TEN CREATIVE WAYS TO GIVE

Many people hear a phrase like “Not Equal Giving, but Equal Sacrifice” and say, “If they only knew how little money I have” or “I’m giving all I can; I can’t give anymore” or “I’m single, going to school, I’m in debt up to my ears, I can’t give much” or “I’m a single parent and I can barely feed my kids, there’s no way I can give to the campaign.” Believe me, we understand the concerns and empathize with you. That is why we have developed a list of creative ways to give you may have overlooked. Each one requires sacrifice, but as King David said, “I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God which costs me nothing” (2 Samuel 24:24, NASB). You may want to combine one or more of these to represent your commitment, or come up with some of your own!

- No. 1** Be a coupon clipper! Food is probably the largest discretionary expense we have. Taking the time to do this could save \$10 to \$20 per week. Ten dollars a week for three years is \$1,560.
- No. 2** Skip a meal a week. Skipping one meal a week at an average of \$10 per meal to devote to prayer and fasting is \$1,560 over a three-year period.
- No. 3** Give up a habit. Easier said than done, but not impossible. For example, a mocha almond latte plus tax daily for three years costs nearly \$2,400!
- No. 4** Commit your annual income tax refund check to the Lord for the three-year period.
- No. 5** Commit an estimated raise in salary to the Lord for the next three years.
- No. 6** Put off a discretionary major purchase and redirect the money to the campaign.
- No. 7** Adjust your vacations. For one or more of the years, do something close-to-home and inexpensive like day hikes, picnics, or take a three-day vacation instead of a week-long and save on the airfare and hotel costs. This can easily provide \$1,000 to \$2,000 for the campaign.
- No. 8** Make a commitment to drink only water at restaurants. One person could save \$5 a week or more. That’s a minimum of \$780 just for drinking water!
- No. 9** Continue a bill payment. If you will be paying off a car or school loan in the next year, commit to continue to “pay the bill” by redirecting the money to the stewardship campaign after the bill is paid off. A \$100 monthly payment over three years is \$3,600.
- No. 10** A dollar increase per week. This is a great idea for those who have never given or do not see a way to increase current giving. Start by giving one dollar the first week, then two, then three, and so on, praying all along that the Lord will show you a way to add that next dollar and increase each week. If you keep this up for three years, you will give \$12,000!

These are just a few ideas that can turn a \$1,500 commitment to \$3,000, or a \$3,000 commitment to \$5,000, or an \$8,000 commitment to \$10,000, and so forth. A little creative thinking and adjustments in our lifestyles can go a long way toward providing for God’s work.

(Source unknown)

GIVING IDEAS

The following are items that God may bring to your mind. Some things might be sold, transferred, or liquidated. Others may be hobbies or pursuits that might be set aside for a season and the savings donated. Still others might be ordinary skills you possess that God can use in extraordinary ways. Let God direct you as we move *Forward in Faith*.

Acres	Garage treasures	Piano
Annuity	Garden produce	Power tools
Antiques	Gems	Property
Appliance	Generic brand savings	Quadrupled investments
Artwork	Gold	Quarterly income
Attic treasures	Golf games/clubs	Quick assets
Automobile	Grant money	Real estate
Bad investments	Guitar	Recreational equipment
Bank accounts	Guns	Retirement funds
Basement treasures	Health club membership	Rings
Bicycle	Horse	Royalties
Birthday money	House sale	RV
Boat	Hunting equipment	Sailboats
Bonds	Inheritance income	Savings
Bonus check	Insurance proceeds	Sculpture
Books	Inventory	Second income
Cable TV	Investments	Silver
Camera	Jacket	Ski boats
Cash	Jewelry	Snowmobile
CDs	Keyboards	Sports equipment
Clothes	Kitchen appliances	Stashed cash
Coins	Kitchenware	Stereo
Collections	Land	Stock
Computer equipment	Lawsuit proceeds	Stuff
Condo	Livestock	Swing set
Cottage	Loose change	Tax refund
Cows/cattle	Luxuries	Tax-deductible donation
Crafts	Marketable skills	Tickets to sporting events
Crops	Mechanical items	Toys
Diamonds	Metals	Trailer
Dishes	Money	Truck
Drums	Moonlighting income	Trust fund
Earthly treasures	Motorcycle	TV or VCR
Easy income	Musical instruments	Used vehicle/equipment
Electronic equipment	Necklaces	Vacation home
Equipment	Notes (treasury)	Vacation plans
Estate sale proceeds	Odds and ends	Volunteer labor
Excess income	Office equipment	Wardrobe
Farm	Oil well	Watch
Fasting proceeds	Organ	Woodshop equipment
Fine china	Oriental rug	Xerox machine
Fishing equipment	Original painting	Yacht
Food savings	Ounce of gold	Yard equipment
Frequent Flyer tickets	Outboard motor	Zero-based bonds
Furniture	Outlet mall savings	Zoom lens
Furs	Overtime pay	

(Source: Christian Stewardship Association)

Commitment Card Instructions

This form was built using Text/Drawing Objects in Microsoft Word. To enter your specific church information, just click the mouse in the "Church Name" area, below, and type normally. Print as many copies of this page as you need, insert the printed paper into your printer to print on the back side, and then print the "Commitment Card Back.doc" file. The gray cut marks have been placed to minimize the number of cuts that must be made. The resulting card is 3^{3/8} x 7^{1/4} inches, and should fit into a standard #10 envelope.



Owosso Church of the Nazarene
1865 South M-52, P.O. Box 1020
Owosso, MI 48867
989-723.2229

I believe God is working through His people to achieve the goals of *Forward in Faith*. I/we will be a part of this program and plan to give to our Lord accordingly.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

The giving I/we record below represents an amount over and above regular tithes and offerings.

- \$ _____ Weekly for 156 weeks
- \$ _____ Monthly for 36 months
- \$ _____ Annually for 3 years
- \$ _____ One-time gift

This section is to be completed by persons making commitments other than cash:

Description: _____

Approximate value of assets: \$ _____

Signature: _____

Cut here to save this pledge reminder.

Forward in Faith

In faith, I have pledged to give
\$ _____
_____ Each week
_____ Each month
_____ Each year
_____ One time
for a total of
\$ _____ .

Date: _____



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Please see the instructions in "Commitment Card Front.doc" for editing and printing directions.

Forward in Faith Gift Schedule

<u>3-YEAR TOTAL</u>	<u>Given Weekly</u>	<u>Given Monthly</u>	<u>Given Annually</u>
\$ 1,248.00	\$ 8.00	\$ 34.67	\$ 416.00
1,560.00	10.00	43.33	520.00
2,340.00	15.00	65.00	780.00
3,120.00	20.00	86.67	1,040.00
3,900.00	25.00	108.33	1,300.00
4,680.00	30.00	130.00	1,560.00
6,420.00	40.00	173.33	2,080.00
7,800.00	50.00	216.67	2,600.00
9,360.00	60.00	260.00	3,120.00
11,700.00	75.00	325.00	3,900.00
15,600.00	100.00	433.33	5,200.00
23,400.00	150.00	650.00	7,800.00
31,200.00	200.00	866.67	10,400.00
46,800.00	300.00	1,300.00	15,600.00
78,000.00	500.00	2,166.67	26,000.00
156,000.00	1,000.00	4,333.33	52,000.00

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6,420.00	40.00	173.33	2,080.00
7,800.00	50.00	216.67	2,600.00
9,360.00	60.00	260.00	3,120.00
11,700.00	75.00	325.00	3,900.00
15,600.00	100.00	433.33	5,200.00
23,400.00	150.00	650.00	7,800.00
31,200.00	200.00	866.67	10,400.00
46,800.00	300.00	1,300.00	15,600.00
78,000.00	500.00	2,166.67	26,000.00
156,000.00	1,000.00	4,333.33	52,000.00

My Forward in Faith Prayer List

1. _____ 4. _____

2. _____ 5. _____

3. _____ 6. _____

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1. _____ 4. _____

2. _____ 5. _____

3. _____ 6. _____