



We're doing it again!

One of our guiding values as a church is generosity. We want to be people that are generous in our giving. But we also want to be a corporate people who use less for ourselves, so that we have more to give away - especially to care for those in need.

As we prepare for Christmas, we've set aside \$1000 for each of our churches to give away to the needs in their community.

Instructions

Obviously, in keeping with the laws of Canada there are some stipulations we need to follow. In the end, our treasurer will need to approve all the expenses. But with some basic guidelines, everything should be straightforward:

1. Begin by praying. Take a week to pray on your own. Ask God to lay groups and/or persons on your heart. Keep the prayers local. We want to give into our city. Keep your heart on the Kingdom. What would make a kingdom impact? What would honour Jesus?
2. After praying, share your ideas at a church gathering - but hold them loosely. Not every idea will be fulfilled. In the end, you might need to "draw straws". There's nothing "unspiritual" about this.
3. If there's a mixture of organizations and individuals/families, it might help your decision making to split the funds evenly between the two. Then choose one (or two) organizations and split the rest among the families. With organizations, larger dollar amounts tend to be more helpful.
4. When giving to organizations keep in mind that simple churches cannot give monies to groups that are not charitable. When giving to individuals or families, cash cannot be given. Gifts can only be in the form of gift certificates or physical goods. Further, the dollar amount cannot exceed \$500.
5. When you've decided where the funds should go, send your short list (with dollar amounts) to Andy so he and Neto (treasurer) can double check them. CRA scrutinizes charities very carefully so we need to be extra cautious. If we have to deny one of your ideas, give us grace and let it go.
6. For all gifts to organizations, our accountant can forward the amount directly. For all gifts to families/individuals it's easiest if you purchase the gifts yourself and forward receipts to Andy or Neto. All funds will be reimbursed by cheque. **Remember to keep your receipts!** We cannot repay any funds without a receipt.

7. Finally, all gifts should be given in simplechurches name. This way the organization or person can learn more about us, and the kind of people we feel God calls us to be.