

FAQs About Using E-Giving For Contributions To St. Thomas

What is e-giving? E-giving is short for electronic giving. It is an automatic transfer program which allows you to make contributions without writing checks.

What is the advantage of e-giving? It saves time! It saves work! It simplifies your life! You also help St. Thomas plan and stabilize our budget.

How is my electronic contribution automatically deducted from my account? You may log onto St. Thomas' e-giving site [here](#), and give via credit or debit card, or read the agreement and check the box for ACH (Automated Clearing House) transactions to make donations via checking or savings account at the site. Once you authorize the transfer, your specified contributions can be taken out one time, or on a regular basis as you choose. The contribution is transferred directly from your checking or savings account to St. Thomas' account.

When will my contribution be deducted from my account? Within 24 hours for credit and debit card transactions; 72 hours for ACH (checking or savings account donations). If you choose to give on a regular monthly basis automatically, you can designate when the donation should be processed.

Can I put amounts in different funds and special offerings, and have them all withdrawn from my account at different frequencies? You can set up to contribute to different funds at different frequencies; HOWEVER, you will have to do each one separately. There is no way possible to split a single transaction into different amounts and frequencies. When you have completed giving to one fund for a certain frequency, simply go back in to complete another. You will receive separate receipts for each.

What do I use when I do my taxes? Will I get a statement of everything I gave online? You will receive a paper statement from your St. Thomas with all your record of contribution information (online and in person) on a quarterly basis, however, you may print out a statement from the e-giving site for all transactions that were made online through e-giving, using the time period you designate. This can be used for tax purposes.

Can I look up all my donations online, even those that I gave while at church? No. The only transactions you can view online are the ones that were completed online. Please contact the church office for complete donation information.

Can anyone who works at the church see my account number? No. no one at the church has access to your account/credit/debit card numbers. Only a couple employees at the E-giving service have access to this info.

What do I do if I forget my username or password? If you forget your password, click on the "forgot password" link. You can then enter your username, and your password will be emailed to the email address you registered with. If you have forgotten your username, click on the appropriate link. This will bring up an email message that goes straight to your organization. Let them know you have forgotten your username, and give them information with which to identify you with. You will receive an emailed message back with your username, or, a request for more information in order to verify your identity. Please allow 2 business days for username retrieval. You may also email E-Giving at egiving@envelopeservice.com.

What can I use to put into the collection basket when it comes around to me? You may print out your acknowledgement page or the email that you receive when your transaction is processed. You will see that the information is inside an envelope shape - this is to make it easy for you to cut it out and put it in the collection plate. You may also write "I gave electronically" on your regular weekly envelope if you have those.

Without a cancelled check, how can I prove I made my contribution? You have the option of printing or saving either the payment acknowledgement page, or the emailed acknowledgements. In addition, your credit card or bank statement shows an itemized list of electronic transfers. Your organization also has proof of your donation. Any of these can prove your contribution.

Is electronic giving risky? Electronic giving is less risky than check contribution. It cannot be lost, stolen or destroyed in the mail. You may choose in your profile to turn off account number save. With this option, you will have to enter your account number each time a transaction is made, but it will never automatically show on the page.

What if I change bank accounts, or get a new credit or debit card? Update the information at the e-giving site under the section "member profile". If you have set up recurring transactions and you do not update your account information, you may be deactivated until you update your info. This is to prevent your account from being declined over and over.

How much does electronic giving cost? It costs you nothing and saves you time. St. Thomas pays nominal transaction fees...the lowest available.

What if I try it and don't like it? You can cancel your automatic deductions anytime via the e-giving website.

What if I only want to give on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis? You can choose these frequencies on your own when completing your egiving info on the site. You also have the option to have your automatic deductions run for only a certain period of time if you attend more than one organization through the year.