

- We have been warmed by fires we did not build; we have drunk at wells we did not dig. In acknowledgement of our many blessings and many needs, if you are able, and if you have not already done so, you may place your contribution in the basket provided.
- We come to this place because we love what exists here. This church is a living entity, and like all living things, it must have nurture and sustenance. Its breath and its heartbeat...its life itself, can only be derived from its living components -- us. An offering will now be made by the willing, and received in love.
- What will you take from this place today? Will it be the message....the music....the inspirational words? And will you...can you... leave a symbolic part of yourself? An offering of the willing will accepted with love and reverence.
- It is indeed a noble act to share with others the excess blessings of our lives. Those things we feel we can give in comfort. But....it is a godlike act to share with others the necessities of our lives...those things which we need for ourselves. An offering of the willing will now be accepted in the loving spirit of this season.
- This church is a community of ourselves.
Its energy and resources are our energy and resources.
Its wealth is what we share.
As we contribute to the life of this community,
we affirm our lives within it. (Mary Allen Walden)
- The purpose of the church is to encourage all who gather there to grow more generous in spirit and in action. This is the great end of all the world's faith traditions: to bring the human being closer to the divine by acts of creation and compassion. We now take an offering that allows us to exercise that all-important generosity of spirit, an offering that will support this self-supporting church and its many ministries. The gifts of the congregation will be most gratefully received.
- May we know -- once again -- that we are not isolated beings
But connected, in mystery and miracle, to the universe,
to this community and to each other.
May our gifts now grace this Fellowship.
- Every week in our church we take up an offering. It's good to remind ourselves from time to time that the offering is symbolic as well as practical. We know that it is through pledges that we build our budget and fund our yearly programs and ministries of worship and religious education, pay our staff and professional religious leaders, and finance the comfort and beauty of our buildings. And we know that we could easily submit those pledge checks to the church at any convenient time.

But we pass the plate during our worship service to make a community expression of thanks for the blessing of abundance; to visibly bring in the harvest at this most cherished hour of our week. Our Offering says that the act of giving is as essential to our spiritual well-being as anything else we do here on Sunday mornings.

The morning offering will now be given and received in the spirit of grateful fellowship.