



ELECTRONIC GIVING AT OBUMC

The Safe, Secure, Easy way to Give

Electronic Giving is the term used to describe automatic methods for making contributions on a regular basis without the need to write checks, carry cash or prepare envelopes. At OBUMC, we offer two forms of electronic giving: Direct Debit (or electronic funds transfer; EFT) and Credit Card Payment. You can set up recurring payments or make a one-time donation.

Q. What are the major advantages of electronic giving by direct debit or credit card payment?

A. Electronic giving is all about convenience for you and consistency for the church. Electronic giving eliminates frequent check writing and helps members stay on track with tithes and offerings even when they are unable to attend services. The church in turn benefits from much-needed donation consistency and a reduction in the volume of check and cash contributions that must be handled and manually processed in the church office.

Q. How are my automatic contributions deducted and transferred?

A. To set up electronic contributions, (1) fill out and return an authorization form to the church office indicating the amount you wish to contribute on a regular basis (forms on the Information Desk) or (2) visit www.obumc.org, click on "Giving," and follow the directions to donate.

Direct debit contributions are transferred automatically from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) network—the same network already used by families to make mortgage and utility payments or to receive payroll earnings and Social Security income. Direct debit goes by other names including Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT), automatic payment, or simply, ACH.

Credit Card/Debit Card payments are processed through your credit card service, as in other online credit card payments.



Q. What can I use to prove I made a contribution?

A. Your electronic contributions will appear on your OBUMC giving statement just as your cash or check contributions appear. For Direct Debit, your bank statement will show an itemized list of electronic transactions that can be used as proof of your contributions. For Credit Card Payments, contributions will appear on your monthly statement.

Q. For recurring contributions, when will my contribution be debited from my account?

A. A debit to your account or credit card charge will occur each month on the date you specify on your authorization form.

Q. Is electronic giving risky?

A. To process electronic donations, OBUMC uses Vanco Services, LLC—an established and highly-regarded company that moves funds directly from church members to the church on the same day without any delay. Vanco processes contributions for more than 10,000 churches and nonprofit organizations. Vanco is a Payment Card Industry (PCI) Level 1 Service Provider – meaning it has implemented PCI security standards for all types of transactions.

Q. How much does electronic giving cost?

A. It costs you nothing and it costs the church very little. It is the lowest cost method of transferring funds.

Q. What if I try electronic giving and don't like it?

A. You can cancel your authorization at any time by notifying the church.