

Q&A

about Tithe & Offerings

Questions:



- What is tithe?
- What are offerings?
- Why return tithe and give offerings?
- What happens to the tithe that I return?
- What happens to my “Conference Faith Advance” offerings?
- What happens to my “Local Church” offerings?
- What happens to my “World Church” offerings?

Understanding the Tithe and Offering puzzle in the Central California Conference



Central California Conference
Treasury Department



Answers:

What is tithe?

Tithe is 10 percent of what God has blessed us with. (Hebrews 7:2, Genesis 28:22)

What are offerings?

Offerings are expressions of gratitude, beyond tithe, that we choose to give. (Deuteronomy 16:17)

Why should I return tithes and give offerings?

We return tithe and give offerings because God asks us to and it is our acknowledgement that everything is God's and that we are His stewards. God also says He will bless abundantly when we give out of thankfulness and love for Him. (Malachi 3:10-12, Psalm 24:1, Psalm 8:6, Deuteronomy 26:10,11)

What happens to the tithe I return?

All tithe is sent by the local church to the Central California Conference where it is distributed according to the "CCC Tithe Usage" graph.

What happens to "Local Church" offering?

Your local church board decides how to use your offering in the ministry of your church. Most churches use offering for expenses such as: utilities, Sabbath School supplies, church school subsidy, student aid, church ministries, community services, evangelism and local projects.

What happens to "Conference Faith Advance" offering?

One hundred percent of your offering for Conference Faith Advance benefits you and your church by providing monies for education (50%), evangelism (25%) and camp meeting (25%). See the Faith Advance graph on the right. All funds exceeding \$600,000 annually will be divided equally between Camp Wawona, Monterey Bay Academy and the Soquel Conference Center.

Tithe and Offering Usage Charts

The graphs to the lower right show how tithe and offerings are used in the Conference. The list below gives examples of uses in the tithe categories.

- **Church Programs** include pastors' salaries and benefits, expenses for Conference departmental leadership such as children's and family ministries, evangelism and personal ministries.
- **Education and Youth** include assistance to elementary schools, senior academies, PUC and La Sierra University, Summer Camp and Youth Ministries.
- **Supporting Services** include plant services, administration, Planned Giving and Trust Services.
- **Special Services** include communication, Camp Meeting and Volunteerism.
- **Other Services** includes contribution to the defined benefit retirement fund.

What if I have more questions?

The Treasury personnel at the Central California Conference office are helpful, friendly people. You are welcome to call or visit anytime. (559) 347-3196

- **Nelson Tabingo**, Treasurer
- **Keith Scott**, Assistant Treasurer

