

WHY WE DON'T PASS THE PLATE

You do not have to attend Grace Community Church for long to realize that we do not pass the plate to collect offerings each week. The question comes up often enough that we thought we would address it.

POSSIBLE REASONS

- A. We are bankrolled by a benevolent benefactor.
- B. We are bankrolled by a malevolent benefactor.
- C. The local church has no expenses.
- D. We don't believe giving should be considered worship.
- E. We have strong convictions passing the plate is not Biblical.
- F. Passing the plate is not practical.

We do believe that our monetary gifts are an important part of worship, we do have expenses, and we do *not* have a benefactor. Neither do we have a conviction that passing the plate is somehow unbiblical.

The truth is that it is just not practical.

TODAY'S REALITY

ONLY 1 IN 5
PEOPLE CARRY A
CHECKBOOK.

1 IN 10
PEOPLE CARRY
NO CASH.

OF THOSE THAT
CARRY CASH, MOST
CARRY LESS THAN
\$20.

SO WE DON'T PASS AN OFFERING PLATE

As each year goes by fewer and fewer people carry a checkbook or cash and the trend doesn't look to reverse itself anytime soon. Imagine sitting in church when the plate are being passed. The fifth person over grabs their checkbook and begins to write. Half of the others fumble their purses or wallets for the pocket change they happen to be carrying and everyone watches the other put their offering in the plate. You could make a case that people should have thought that through before they came and we agree. Even so an increasing number of those who do prayerfully consider what they will give do not write checks or carry cash to church.

Because of this we have two ways we encourage people to give regularly to the local church.

Offering Boxes

If it was good enough in Jesus' day then it will work for us. People can give weekly. They can do so having prayerfully considered what they will give and why they will give it. They can give anonymously.

Online Giving

This is a recent trend that is growing rapidly. Most people pay all their bills electronically and more do so every day. Grace has two electronic ways to give: Text-to-give and online (web-based) giving. Both can be accessed through our graceb3 app or you can go online to give.