

ELECTRONIC GIVING INFORMATION

Vasa Lutheran Church has an electronic giving program which would enable you to make your church offering using electronic funds transfer (EFT). It's possible that you are already using EFT to pay your mortgage, car payment, or other bills. Giving to the church could be that easy for you also.

There is no cost to you for this giving option. You can choose the amount to donate—it's totally up to you. This electronic payment would be deducted from your savings or checking account automatically either per week or per month—your choice. To participate in electronic giving, please complete and return the enclosed authorization form to the Church Office. Include a voided check if you want your offering to come out of your checking account.

Electronic Giving

Open your heart without opening your checkbook

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.

Frequently Asked Questions About Direct Debit Giving

Q. What are the major advantages of electronic giving by direct debit?

A. Direct debit is all about convenience for you and consistency for the church. Electronic giving eliminates frequent check writing and helps members stay on track with pledges 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 does Direct Debit Giving work?

A. Contributions are transferred automatically from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Q. How are my automatic contributions deducted and transferred?

A. First, you sign and return an authorization form to the church indicating the amount you wish to contribute on a regular basis. Contributions are then transferred 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.

Q. When will my contribution be debited from my account?

A. A debit to your account will occur weekly, bi-weekly or monthly according to how you indicate on your authorization form. Please use Monday as the start date for weekly and bi-weekly donations. Monthly on the 1st or 15th is also an option.

Q. How will I keep track of contributions in my check register?

A. Since your contribution is made at a pre-established time, you simply record it in your check register on the appropriate date. Electronic contributions will appear on your bank statement.

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

A. Your bank statement will show an itemized list of electronic transactions that can be used as proof of your contributions.

Q. Is giving by direct debit risky?

A. It is certainly less risky than writing checks or carrying cash to church. To process electronic donations, the church 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.

Q. How much does direct debit 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 by direct debit and don't like it?

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

Q. How can I sign up for electronic giving by direct debit?

A. Complete, sign and return an authorization form (with voided check for checking account withdrawals) to the church office.

AUTHORIZATION FORM

Name of the organization: Vasa Lutheran Church

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	ENVELOPE/DONOR #	DATE
Effective date of authorization: ___/___/___		
Type of authorization: <input type="checkbox"/> New authorization <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation amount <input type="checkbox"/> Change donation date <input type="checkbox"/> Change banking information <input type="checkbox"/> Discontinue electronic donation		
Last Name	First Name	
Address		
City	State	Zip
Email Address		
Date of first donation: ___/___/___	Frequency of donation: (please check one) <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 1 st <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly on the 15 th <input type="checkbox"/> Bi-Weekly (every other week) <input type="checkbox"/> One Time	Amount of first donation: \$ _____ Amount of last donation (optional): \$ _____
Date of last donation (optional): ___/___/___		
CHECKING / SAVINGS	Please debit my donation from my (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Savings Account (contact your financial institution for Routing #) <input type="checkbox"/> Checking Account (attach a voided check below)	Routing Number: _____ <i>Valid Routing # must start with 0, 1, 2, or 3</i> Account Number: _____ ⑆ 123456789 ⑆ 123 1234567 0001 └──────────┬──────────┬──────────┘ Routing Number Account Number Check Number
	I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.	
Authorized Signature: _____		Date: _____

If using a checking account, please attach a voided check at the bottom of this page.