

# First FRUIT OFFERING



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: First Fruit Offering...What's that?**

**A:** First Fruit Offering is a direct payment program that allows your offering to the church to be debited (withdrawn) automatically from your checking or savings account.

**Q: But why?**

**A:** First Fruit Offering provides the means by which gifts to the church can be given by a preauthorized, scheduled electronic transfer of funds from your personal bank account to the church's bank account.

**First Fruit Offering provides both you and the church greater security and efficiency because:**

**For you:**

- Don't have to worry about remembering to bring checks or cash to church
- Cannot lose or misplace your offering envelope
- Have peace-of-mind knowing that the church is receiving your offering even if you are unable to attend worship services

**For the church:**

- Simplifies cash flow forecasting
- Reduces staff/volunteer time spent processing checks (helps our environment)

**Q: How does First Fruit Offering work?**

**A:** Once you complete and sign an

authorization form and return it to the church office, the contribution amount you specify will be automatically be transferred from your bank account electronically to the church's bank account. You select one of the three dates (either every Monday, the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month or the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month).

**Q: But will it cost me anything?**

**A:** No, First Fruit Offering will cost you nothing, and it will save the church staff the time now required to handle paper checks.

**Q: How do I keep track of withdrawals?**

**A:** Since your offering is made at a pre-established time, you will know when transfers will be deducted allowing you to record your gift at the appropriate time.

**Q: How do I keep track for tax purposes?**

**A:** Your First Fruit Offering contributions will appear on your quarterly statement, plus be recorded as a withdrawal on your bank statement.

**Q: What if I need to change my contribution or my bank?**

**A:** Changes can be made at any time by contacting the church financial secretary, \_\_\_\_\_ All matters are handled confidentially.

Memo \_\_\_\_\_

|: 045600789|:                      456654834 || 1230 Check Number

Routing Number
Account Number

**Sample** (use the actual numbers from your personal check for this authorization.)