



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Why do we need a special offering?

The MORE BLESSED Special Offering is an invitation to sacrificial giving for the dual purposes of reaching more people in 2018 and helping us grow in our faith as we see God work mightily through what we offer Him. As part of God's plan to increase the faith of His people, He calls all of us to sacrificial giving from time to time so that we can learn to trust Him more. Additionally, this special offering positions us to make an even greater impact in our community, in our church, and around the world in 2018. We are NOT presenting this special offering because we are behind budget. In fact, we are ahead of budgeted contributions. Praise God!

What's the difference between the regular offering and this special offering?

Giving to the regular offering at VRBC is the proportional amount (the full tithe of 10%) that we set apart on a systematic basis and give throughout the year. From time to time, there are opportunities to give in an increased, sacrificial way. The special offering is intended to be over and above what you regularly give.

How much should I give?

Since the goal is \$300,000, this special offering will need to involve everyone. Please prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift that will stretch your faith. The precise amount you give is between you and God. Many in our church can give a \$5,000, \$10,000, or even a \$50,000 gift. Others will be able to give between \$500 and \$1,000. The issue is not about equal giving, but equal sacrifice. What amount can you give that will stretch your faith?

Why is the goal so big?

We worship a big God, and we believe He has called us to do big things. Big dreams require big faith and big funding. The ministries supported by this offering are big and important, like funding our global missionaries, sending our students on mission, serving the poor, funding the Christmas Store, equipping our leaders, and supporting our benevolence ministries. The accomplishment of all these ministries will be determined by your gifts to this special offering.

When should I give?

The best time to give will be the first Sunday after you receive this packet. Please pray about making your best gift on that day. However, you can continue to give until January 14, 2018. Also, remember that consistent gifts over time really do add up. For example, a person giving \$75 per week over a ten-week period will give \$750 to this special offering.

How do I give?

You can give by using the postage-paid envelope in the worship folder or by marking your checks and online gifts with "MORE BLESSED."

Can I give online via bank check or credit/debit card?

Yes. When you give online at www.vrbc.net, just click the red "Give to VRBC" button in the top, right-hand corner of the homepage. After logging in, simply select "MORE BLESSED" Special Offering under the "Fund" drop-down menu to designate your gift. Likewise, you can use your bank online bill payment option to send a check directly

to the church office. It's a free and simple way for us to receive the funds. Again, simply mark in the memo area that your gift is for the MORE BLESSED Special Offering.

Can I give in-kind gifts of stocks or bonds?

Of course! Since VRBC is a 501(c)(3) organization, there can be tremendous tax benefits for you by giving in-kind gifts. For information on this type of giving, simply call 972-304-8722 to speak with Donna Blankenship, Church Business Administrator, or email her at dblankenship@vrbc.net.

Are my gifts tax-deductible?

All gifts to VRBC, whether via the regular offering or the MORE BLESSED Special Offering, are completely tax-deductible. Your gift will be deductible in the tax year given (i.e., gifts given in 2017 will be deductible on your 2017 taxes). Please be sure to include your name and address when you give so that a receipt can be sent to you for your tax preparations. You are not required to utilize a tax deduction for your gift, but it is available for all gifts.

How did we arrive at a \$300,000 goal?

The \$300,000 goal was prayerfully set by VRBC leadership. It is almost equal to one month of our regular, monthly congregational contributions. It is a God-sized goal that can only be accomplished through 100% participation and sacrificial giving by all those who call VRBC their church home. Since we are hoping and praying that God blesses this special offering in a big way, it has been determined that any amount over and above our goal will be used to expand the purposes of the offering and the operating budget.

How will I know if we reach our goal?

Please pray for God's provision as we all give sacrificially. You will be updated on our giving progress through eNews and during the Sunday worship services. Reaching this goal will be a celebration of what God can do through us as we together stretch our faith in accordance with His grace and goodness. To God be the glory now and forever. Amen.

Have any additional questions?

Please contact Jordan Schumacher at jordans@vrbc.net or Donna Blankenship at dblankenship@vrbc.net.