

Electronic Giving to the South Newbury Union Church

Our church has been growing in many ways in the past few years: in grace, in service, and in our vision for mission and ministry. In support of that growth, we have also been evolving in our stewardship of the resources entrusted to us, as well as our financial practices. We are writing to you to let you know of a new initiative we've embraced in our finance ministry: *electronic giving*.

Very simply, electronic giving is a way for people who financially support our church to do so on a regular basis, whether or not you are present in worship or even living in Newbury. Through the United Church of Christ's *Stillspeaking Money* program, we have contracted with Vanco Payment Solutions to process transactions on our behalf. The person who wants to give in this way completes an authorization form and mails it to the church. This form allows the giver to specify the amount and frequency of gifts, and identifies the checking or savings account from which the giver wants the gifts to be transferred. We provide that information to Vanco through secure channels. The gifts are automatically deposited in our General or Diaconate Funds, and we receive reports of people's electronic gifts from Vanco. Only the givers can authorize any changes in their amount or frequency of giving, and must do so in writing.

This approach to giving works for many different kinds of people, especially those who live away from New Hampshire all or part of each year and people whose busy lives keeps them from regular attendance. If you made a pledge in our recent Stewardship campaign, you can use this approach to complete that pledge. If you did not pledge, you can use this approach to make a regular gift.

The authorization form (a separate link on the "ways to give" page) allows you to donate on a regular basis to our General or Diaconate Fund. For the sake of efficiency, we ask that you give either monthly or quarterly. The form also provides an opportunity to you to contribute to our two major annual mission appeals: One Great Hour of Sharing, which we receive in March of every year, and our Christmas Offering, which benefits retired clergy with limited incomes. We hope you will give this approach to your support of our ministry serious and prayerful consideration. All you need to do is complete the form and mail it to us. If you have any questions, please contact our pastor, David Keller, who is overseeing our relationship with Vanco. You can reach him by email at snunionchurchinfo@gmail.com, or through his cell phone, (603) 848-0313.