

Follow the Money: Where Does My Offering Go? Video

It's been said that Generation X (born 1961-1980) and Millennials (born 1980-2000) are more generous in their financial giving when they can "follow their money." This means we (I'm Gen X!) want to see what our money is doing and what difference it's making in the lives of those the organization serves. "Following the money" is in contrast to previous generations who gave, in part, to support institutions and because giving is a good and "right" thing to do.

Let's be honest: regardless of your generation, you likely want to follow your money, too! Perhaps you want to see the life-changing things that are happening with your dollars or maybe you just want to know the money is being used wisely. That's why it's so important to talk about what happens to the gifts people give through their congregation, whether it's in cash in the plate, a swipe of the card or electronic giving.

For years the churchwide office of the ELCA has distributed handy posters called "Where Does My Offering Go?" Now there's another way to get that information out: this informative and fun video from churchwide on the same topic, which you can view and download here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bftRz1uTpdU>

Some ideas for using this 4 ½ minute video include: during worship, at a congregational council meeting, in Confirmation class, at annual meetings, as part of stewardship education, at women's/men's gatherings and on a "loop" at a laptop during fellowship/coffee hour.

If you're unable to download the video or play it from the internet for any reason, you can get a copy of this video as a DVD or on a thumb drive from the synod office. Please call or email Rev. Lisa Smith Fiegel at 907-272-8899 or alaskadem@gmail.com to request a DVD or thumb drive no later than Sept. 26 and we'll send one to you.

This is a great tool to launch a conversation about stewardship and how our money makes a difference in this world for the sake of Christ's mission. Share it!