

FAQs (from most recent FAQ brochure)

Giving at Hancock Church

Hancock United Church of Christ

1912 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA 02421

+ 781-862-4220 + www.hancockchurch.org +

Inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus, we invite you to help us change the world through love, compassion, and courage.

If you are happy with the way you are giving now – please continue. If you have questions or would like to make a change, below is additional information:

Q: How do I give to Hancock Church?

A: You can give by check, cash, or electronically, or make arrangements for other types of gifts by contacting the church.

Gifts to Hancock Church support all of Hancock's vital programs, facilities, clergy, and staff, and can be made at your convenience, by any of these methods:

Give at the Church

Sunday Offering

During worship on Sunday place your gift to Hancock Church in the offering plate.

By Cash

All loose cash in the offering plate goes to the Mission Partner of the Week, so be sure to enclose your cash gift for the church by either

- using a pew envelope, marking the box for "regular offering," and adding your name, or
- using your personalized envelope

By Check

- make your check out to Hancock UCC and write "Hancock" or "church" on the memo line

Use the dropbox

Anytime the church building is open Sunday through Thursday you may drop your donation in the secure box outside the Financial Administrator's office.

Give Online

Use Hancock's Online Giving Portal

- go online to use a credit card or checking account on Hancock's secure online giving portal — www.hancockchurch.org — and click on the "Give" button at the top right

Text-to-Give on Your Smartphone

- text your gift amount to 781-386-0866 and click on the link to fill in your credit card information
- select "Hancock" or "Mission" to designate your gift

Make Arrangements with Your Bank

- gifts may be made electronically by bank transfer or ACH

Mail Your Gifts

- send your single or recurring gifts to the church office at 1912 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA 02421
- work with your bank to set up recurring gifts to be mailed directly

Q: What happens to our cash gifts in the weekly plate offering?

A: Each Sunday, Hancock gives the offering to a Mission Partner of the Week.

Inspired by the life and teachings of Jesus, we are changing the world through love, compassion, and courage. At Hancock Church, **we give away our Sunday cash offering to a Mission Partner of the Week.** When you place a cash donation in the offering plate, it will go to a select organization doing God's work in the world. Many partner organizations are local or regional, and we work with them throughout the year. The offering gifts are in addition to our annual budgeted donations.

- **all undesignated loose cash offerings** go to the Mission Partner of the Week
- if you write a **check, make it out to Hancock UCC**, and note on the memo line "mission" or the organization's name
- to have your mission gifts tracked, use a pew envelope, check the special offering box, and write your name

Q: Can I still put my gift to Hancock in the Sunday offering plate?

A: Yes, please do! Or use our easy online portal.

Gifts to Hancock Church are welcome in the Sunday offering plate, just designate your gift to the church:

- **you may write a check to Hancock UCC and add "Hancock" or "church"** to the memo line
- **if you give cash, use a pew envelope and check the box for "regular offering."** Contact the church office if you prefer a set of personalized envelopes to have the church track your donations. Or go online!

Q: How do I donate to Hancock Church online?

A: Go to www.hancockchurch.org to use a credit card or bank account to make a gift.

- click the "Give" button on the top right
 - next, choose "One-Time" or "Recurring" gift
 - on the dropdown menu select "Hancock Church"
- complete the requested information for a credit or debit card, or bank account

Q: Do I need to set up an account to give online?

A: No, you can make a gift as a guest.

Anyone may donate as a guest on our secure online giving portal. If you wish to make a pledge or establish recurring gifts, you will need to create an account.

- if you click "Create an Account" (top right) you can track your gifts, make a commitment, establish recurring gifts, make one-time gifts of any amount at any time, and **change settings or gift amounts whenever you wish**

Q: If we're giving the Sunday offering away, how are donations received by the church?

A: Gifts to the church may be made anytime to support all of Hancock's ministries and the ongoing work of the church.

We are blessed with talented and dedicated ministers and staff, exceptional spiritual, educational, and musical programming, a large, centrally-located church building, and a clear vision and mission. With all of Sunday's offering going to our Mission Partner of the Week, **gifts directly to Hancock are also still essential to**

- ✦ sustain the life of the church through worship, education, and community
- ✦ extend our vital programs and congregational care
- ✦ continue our important mission work to and with outside organizations
- ✦ ensure that the lights are on, the doors are open to all, and we have heat in the winter, and snow is cleared from the entrances

Your regular or one-time gifts allow Hancock clergy to minister to the congregation and the community, lead Hancock efforts and interfaith and community partnerships and missions, and provide worship and educational opportunities. Our skilled support staff faithfully work to make everything run smoothly behind the scenes. Your gifts to Hancock support

- + staff salaries
- + worship services
- + children's programs
- + music programs
- + our church building
- + mission and justice programs comprising approximately \$50,000

Maintaining the church building — our greatest physical resource — is also integral to the work we do.

We want to keep our doors open to all who seek community and wish to know God better.

Your gifts ensure that Hancock thrives, growing for good on the historic Lexington Green.

Q: What is recurring giving and why is it so important?

A: Recurring giving is regular, ongoing gifts members and friends make to support the work of Hancock Church.

Consistent, ongoing gifts make planning and cash flow easier for the church, and allows the work of the church to continue and grow. **Whether online or by another way, recurring can mean weekly, monthly, or annual donations.** The church will assume you will continue giving at your current level until you let us know of a planned change. Of course, any and all gifts are welcome.

Q: Who participates in recurring giving?

A: Everyone can participate!

Currently your ministers, your Giving Committee, and the members of Standing Committee are all supporting the work of Hancock with recurring giving. If you are currently giving to the church in an ongoing basis, whether using the online portal or by writing checks or by bank transfer, thank you for your commitment.

If you are new to recurring giving, we invite you to join the leadership of the church in committing to consistent gifts. Online recurring gifts are an easy and efficient way to maintain your pledge commitment.

Q: Can I give the church another type of gift?

A: Yes! All kinds of gifts are gratefully accepted.

Your gifts can come in almost any form and will be used to do God's work in the world. Contact the church's financial administrator at 781-862-4220 or financial.administrator@hancockchurch.org for questions or assistance with other types of gifts such as:

- stocks or bonds
- IRAs (QCDs)
- 401K funds
- other financial instruments
- establishing estate gifts

Q: What if I still have questions?!

A: Contact the Giving Committee at givingchair@hancockchurch.org.

Thank you for your support of Hancock Church!