

Options for Giving to Ebenezer

12/13/17

Over the past few weeks we have received a few questions concerning giving directly from IRA accounts and as we approach the end of the year we also wanted to provide a review of potential options for giving to Ebenezer. Below is a short summary of two options. If you have any specific questions please contact either Joe Meier, Treasurer (610-533-4429, treasurer@aplaceforyou.org) or Byron Roth, Chairman of Finance Committee (908-391-4776, rothbyron@yahoo.com). It is recommended for either of the below options that you discuss them with your tax advisor to obtain the best advice for your specific situation.

Contribution from IRA Accounts

For those in our congregation who are 70 ½ and are faced with a Required Minimum Distribution from your IRA account and are concerned about the potential tax implication there is an option available.

You can work with your broker or holder of your IRA and have them make the distribution directly to Ebenezer Bible Fellowship on your behalf. What you need to know is the following:

- It could be a way to reduce your tax liability by having the distribution be given to Ebenezer. The value of the deduction depends on the type of IRA and you may want to seek some advice on the benefits to you.
- You should notify the holder of your IRA and instruct them to make a distribution directly to Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church.
- Notify either the treasurer or head of finance committee that the distribution is being made so that we can be aware that it is to be coming to the church.
- Ebenezer will not provide a tax receipt but will send an acknowledgement that the gift has been received from your IRA account including the date it was received.
- The official tax receipt will need to be received from the organization that made the distribution on your behalf.

Contribution of Stock to EBFC

For others you may have stock that has experienced a gain. Giving appreciated stock you've held for more than a year is better than giving cash. What is the benefit?

- If you donate stock that has increased in value since you bought it more than a year ago – and if you itemize deductions -- you can take a charitable deduction for the stock's fair market value on the day you give it away.
- You'll also avoid capital-gains taxes on the increase in value over time, which you would have had to pay if you sold the stock then gave the proceeds to Ebenezer.
- You can deduct the fair market value only if you hold the stock for more than a year before giving it away.
- If you've held it for less than a year, your deduction is limited to your cost basis -- what you paid for the stock -- not the current value.

Ebenezer has set up an account with "Capital Planning Wealth Management.

- If you would like to consider this, contact Capital Planning Wealth Management in Center Valley (610-871-3500) and let them know that you have some stock that you would like to give to Ebenezer.
- Your broker or the individual will have some paperwork to complete.
- The church then sells the stock
- Ebenezer will not provide a tax receipt but will send an acknowledgement that the gift has been received including the date it was received
- It is up to the individual or your tax advisor to determine the value of the gift.