

REFORMED CHURCH POTCHEFSTROOM THE BULT OFFERINGS OF GRATITUDE : 2018/19

Purpose of this form

Our offerings of gratitude/regular giving is used to plan our budget for the new financial year so that we can make sure we are good stewards of the financial resources which God has given to us. This form provides a guideline to help you make an informed and responsible decision regarding your offering for 2018.

“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Corinthians 9:6-15).

Gratitude offerings – 2018/2019

Our offerings are ultimately about our relationship to the Lord and our ownership of the mission which God has given to our church. Therefore, every member is encouraged to give to the Lord with **enthusiasm**:

(The gifts)... *“are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God”* (Philippians 4:18b).

According to the Bible, Christian giving is:

- an expression of the grace of God (2 Corinthians 8:1-6)
- a gift of the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 8:7, Romans 12:8)
- inspired by the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 8:8-9)
- proportionate to what one has (2 Corinthians 8:10-12)
- a contributor to equality in the churches (2 Corinthians 8:13-15)
- something that should be carefully supervised (2 Corinthians 8:16-24)
- resembling of a harvest (2 Corinthians 9:6-11a)
- symbolically significant (2 Corinthians 9:11b-15)
- promoting to our thanksgiving to God (2 Corinthians 9:11b-15)

Our offerings as Christians are part of the thankfulness which we give to God for our deliverance and show that we trust God to be the provider in our lives and that we are committed to God's mission for his church. God is a living God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit and he is daily at work in us to change and renew us into the image of his Son, Jesus Christ. He is at work in our hearts and minds, helping us to offer everything we have, our whole being, to God as a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1) in response to the mercy which God has shown to us.

God blesses and provides for us (Psalm 67:1) so that we might be a blessing to others (Psalm 67:2) and so that we might adorn the gospel with good deeds (1 Peter 2:12). In this way we are witnesses to this world of God's grace and love. By abundantly offering our gifts to God, we practically show our commitment to God and recognition that God seeks to use us as instruments in his kingdom and has provided us with all the resources we need to continue the task of proclaiming the gospel and caring for those in need.

Application/use of the gratitude offerings

Our church is part of the Reformed Churches in South Africa (RCSA) and each year we contribute R800 per member towards the Administrative Bureau of the RCSA. This money is used *inter alia* to help other churches in the RCSA (who may not be financially independent) continue the task of gospel proclamation as well as to provide for the pension of retired RCSA ministers.

The majority of our offerings are used to provide for our ministers, missionaries and other ministries within the church. The offerings are also used to pay our sexton, organists and administrative manager as well as for the care and upkeep of church buildings and property.

2 Corinthians 8: 12 – 14:

For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have. Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that there might be equality. At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need.

Suggestion for offerings by income:

Example: Combined yearly income for member/family and monthly contribution (5%)

Yearly	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly	Yearly	Monthly
R 20,000 - R 83		R 100,000 - R 417		R 200,000 - R 833		R 450,000 - R 1,875		R 700,000 - R 2,917	
R 30,000 - R 125		R 145,000 - R 600		R 250,000 - R 1,042		R 500,000 - R 2,083		R 750,000 - R 3,125	
R 40,000 - R 167		R 150,000 - R 625		R 300,000 - R 1,250		R 550,000 - R 2,292		R 800,000 - R 3,333	
R 50,000 - R 208		R 155,000 - R 645		R 350,000 - R 1,458		R 600,000 - R 2,500		R 850,000 - R 3,542	
R 90,000 - R 375		R 160,000 - R 665		R 400,000 - R 1,667		R 650,000 - R 2,708		R 900,000 - R 3,750	

Guideline for our gratitude offering

Please complete this form and return it by either giving it to your elder, dropping it off at the church office or placing it one of the brown tins in the church building. Alternatively, you can send an electronic copy to the church office at gkbult@gmail.com or the assistant bursar (Corrie Venter) at corriecventer@gmail.com.

- A: Family/non-student members - 5% of bruto income
 B: Student members - R900 per year

Member/family method of offering (choose one):

- (i) Debit order = R _____
 (ii) Amount divided by 12 times = R _____
 (iii) Amount divided by 4 times = R _____
 (iv) Single amount of R _____

Total for the year

= R _____
 = R _____
 = R _____
 = R _____

Student member method of offering (choose one):

- (i) 6 payments of R150 (February – October)
 (ii) 3 payments of R _____
 (iii) Single amount of R _____

= R _____
 = R _____
 = R _____

Name of member/family: _____

*Ward or small group no.: _____

Residential address in Potchefstroom: _____

Telephone/Cell no: _____

Email: _____

Signature member: _____ Date: _____

RCPB Banking details

Bank: ABSA

Account number: 670264661

Branch code: 632005

Please use your surname, initials and ward/small group number in the description if you choose to make an offering via ETF. E.g. SMITH, J, 03*

*If you are not currently a member of the Reformed Church Potchefstroom the Bult but a regular attendee at our services and bible study groups, you are also welcome to give to support our ministry. Please use the reference INT in the description of any ETF transfers.