

TITLE: Loose or Plate Offerings	NUMBER: C-4
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LOOSE OR PLATE OFFERINGS

BACKGROUND:

Plate offerings, also known as loose offerings, are undesignated monetary offerings placed in the service collection plate. Loose offerings are differentiated from other contributions placed in the plate including pledge payments or monetary gifts given for a designated purpose. It is the intent of the Vestry to foster an environment wherein all giving to the church is a recognized act of worship in response to God's generosity and presence.

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

1. Loose offerings on the first and fifth Sundays of each month are set aside for the Clergy Discretionary Fund.
2. The Rector is authorized to designate the loose offering on the occasion of visits by the Bishop of the Diocese of East Tennessee to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.
3. For other Sundays, loose offerings will fund Outreach ministry. The Outreach Committee will determine and communicate which and when their ministries will receive loose offerings.
4. On any Sunday, designated gifts and pledge payments will go to their intended use.
5. Special collections (i.e., other than those noted above) are not to be made without the advance approval of the Vestry and the prior knowledge of the congregation.
6. In unusual situations, the Rector may designate the loose offering for a special purpose after consulting with Outreach.