

URAC 2025 GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

<u>Tithe</u>

The practice of tithing, which involves giving one-tenth of one's income to God, holds deep biblical significance and is a fundamental requirement for all who have received the gift of salvation, particularly those entrusted with leadership roles within The Upper Room Apostolic Cathedral. The roots of this sacred obligation can be traced back to the Old Testament, where Abraham, the father of faith, presented a tenth of his possessions to Melchizedek, the king of Salem and priest of God Most High, as a gesture of reverence and gratitude (Genesis 14:18-20). This act of devotion was later codified in the Mosaic Law, which mandated that the Israelites bring their tithes to the storehouse to support the Levites, who dedicated their lives to serving in the tabernacle (Numbers 18:21-24). In the New Testament, Jesus affirmed the practice of tithing (Matthew 23:23) while emphasizing the importance of giving with a pure heart and not neglecting justice, mercy, and faithfulness. The apostle Paul further elaborated on the principle of generosity, teaching that believers should give willingly and cheerfully, trusting that God will supply all their needs (2 Corinthians 9:6-8). For those who have embraced the message of salvation, tithing serves as a tangible expression of faith, acknowledging God's sovereignty and provision while fostering a spirit of obedience and humility. Moreover, for leaders within The Upper Room Apostolic Cathedral, faithfully tithing sets a powerful example for the congregation, demonstrating a commitment to biblical stewardship and a willingness to invest in the advancement of God's kingdom. By honoring God with their tithe, leaders cultivate integrity, wisdom, and spiritual authority, equipping them to guide the flock with grace and truth. Ultimately, the practice of tithing is not merely a financial transaction but a profound act of worship that aligns the hearts of believers with the heart of God, fostering a deeper relationship with Him and enabling the church to fulfill its divine purpose in the world.

(Giving a tithing assessment will be dispersed within our leadership communication platforms and is both a necessity and requirement to leadership at The Upper Room Apostolic Cathedral Headquarters)

Apostle Darren Farmer| Founder & Senior Pastor Lady Michelle Farmer| First Lady Sister Brittni Barbour| Executive Administrative Assistant Church Phone| 1-443-584-0406 (As it pertains to membership, please utilize envelopes and be sure to include accurate information as we have launched our #Thankyou initiative! Thanking those who sow into the ministry on a continual basis).

First Fruit Offering

\$100.00 gift every First Sunday

The biblical concept of offering the first fruits to God holds deep spiritual significance and meaning. In the Old Testament, God commanded the Israelites to bring the very first and best of their harvest - the "first fruits" - as an offering to Him. This was an act of worship, gratitude, and acknowledgement that all blessings and provisions ultimately come from God. It demonstrated trust that God would continue to provide for them and bless the remainder of their crops. In the New Testament, Jesus Christ became the ultimate first fruit offering, paving the way for believers to be reconciled to God. For Christians today, the principle of first fruits extends beyond literal crops and harvests. It is a heart posture of giving God our firsts - the first of our time, income, talents and resources. Giving a first fruits offering, such as a \$100.00 monthly financial gift to the church, is a powerful statement of faith, gratitude and dependence on God as our ultimate provider and source. It shifts our priorities, breaks the grip of greed and selfishness, and aligns our lives with the biblical principles of stewardship and generosity. Church leadership will model and encourage first fruit giving, it inspires the entire congregation to trust God more deeply and give more sacrificially, which releases God's blessings and provisions in every area of life. This is a requirement for all leadership at The Upper Room Apostolic Cathedral. The practice of first fruits giving builds our faith, transforms our hearts, and resources the church to fulfill its mission of reaching people with the gospel message and demonstrating God's love to the world.

Vision Fund

\$1 per day (totaling \$365 a year)

Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also, as Jesus taught in Matthew 6:21. Our deepest desires and priorities are reflected in how we allocate our financial resources. As followers of Christ, we are called to align our hearts with God's will and entrust our finances to His purposes. When we catch the vision of our spiritual shepherd and pastor, and unite with our church body in pursuing Kingdom objectives, our money naturally follows. Contributing to the mission of our local church is an act of worship, an acknowledgment that all we have belongs to God. It demonstrates our desire to see the gospel advanced, disciples made, and our community transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit working through our church. When we give generously, joyfully, and sacrificially, we affirm that our greatest treasure is not earthly wealth, but the surpassing worth of knowing Christ (Philippians 3:8). Our tithes and offerings express gratitude for God's provision, faith in His promises, and a longing to see His name glorified. As we invest in the eternal work God is doing through our church, we experience the blessings that come from a heart fully devoted to the Lord.

Global Outreach (Outreach/Mission & Benevolent Assistance) Inclusive of URAC KENYA & URAC PAKISTAN

\$25/month for the entire year

When you sow your money into global missions like URAC Kenya and URAC Pakistan, you are not only blessing those in need in other countries, you are also positioning yourself to receive God's abundant blessings in return. As Luke 6:38 says, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." When you generously give to spread the gospel and meet practical needs around the world, God promises to bless you in even greater measure. Your gifts help provide food, clean water, education, medical care, and most importantly, the good news of Jesus Christ to people who are struggling in poverty and hopelessness. In addition to the joy of knowing you are making an eternal difference, you will experience God's provision and favor in your own life as well. As Proverbs 11:25 declares, "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." So don't hold back - invest in heavenly treasure by giving to trustworthy ministries reaching the unreached in Africa, Asia and beyond. Watch expectantly for how God will pour out blessings on you as you bless others around the globe.

Freewill Offering

\$40.00- weekly for the entire year

The biblical concept of a freewill offering holds immense spiritual power and significance. In Scripture, a freewill offering refers to a voluntary gift given to God, above and beyond any required tithes or offerings. It is an act of worship, gratitude, and faith, flowing from a heart that desires to honor and glorify the Lord. When we step out in faith and sacrificially give a freewill offering, trusting God to provide for our needs, we open the door for His abundant blessings and favor in our lives. It demonstrates our willingness to place God first and acknowledge His sovereignty over every area, including our finances. By sowing generously and cheerfully, we plant seeds that God can multiply and use for His purposes. We can expect to reap a bountiful harvest, not necessarily in material wealth, but in spiritual riches, divine wisdom, peace, and the joy that comes from aligning our hearts with God's will. Ultimately, the power of a freewill offering lies not in the amount given, but in the faith, obedience, and love behind it trusting an almighty God to be our provider and giving back to Him with a grateful heart.

Pastoral Giving

(Every 3rd Sunday)

Throughout scripture, God's people are called to honor and bless their spiritual leaders through generous financial giving. This biblical mandate is rooted in the principle that those who dedicate their lives to preaching the gospel and shepherding the flock are worthy of double honor (I Timothy 5:17-18). By faithfully supporting our pastor, apostle, and his family with our offerings, we demonstrate our love, gratitude, and submission to their God-given authority. Such acts of generosity not only meet their practical needs, but also enable them to focus wholeheartedly on the weighty responsibilities of ministry without undue financial strain. Moreover, the Bible promises that as we sow bountifully into the lives of our leaders, we will reap bountifully in return (2 Corinthians 9:6). God delights to pour out His favor and provision upon those who honor Him by honoring His anointed servants. As we give sacrificially and cheerfully, we can trust that the Lord will open the windows of heaven and pour out blessings we cannot contain (Malachi 3:10).

Ultimately, blessing our pastor and his family is an act of worship and obedience that brings glory to God and advances His kingdom purposes in the earth.

Other giving opportunities throughout the year:

Church Anniversary | The BIG Give \$500.00

Pentecost Sunday, \$50

Holy Convocation, \$75

Watch Night or New Year's Day Celebration, \$100

Please know that God does deal with our Apostle in the area of finance and he is always at liberty to following the leading of The Holy Ghost, in his pursuit to follow God's will concerning The Upper Room Apostolic Cathedral Headquarters.