

Benevolent Fund

West Valley Missionary Church

What constitutes a financial need?

Usually, due to a money flow problem in the household, people find themselves in immediate financial need for food, clothing, utilities and/or housing. Any other expressed financial need will be examined closely to determine if it is a financial need that our church can assist with. It is important to remember that the Deacons (or Elders) are representing the church body in this decision-making process.

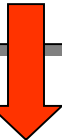
1 - Need Made Known

The person with the financial need makes their need known to the Deacon Ministry. Once this need is made known the Deacon ministry will make available to the person with the need a Benevolent Financial Packet of Information. The packet will include: a questionnaire, a copy of financial assistance policy and the benevolent flow chart.



2 - Packet Reviewed and Questionnaire Filled Out

The person with the financial need to review the packet and fill out the financial questionnaire. Return the completed questionnaire to the Head Deacon.

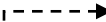


3 - The Request Considered

The Deacon Ministry board will prayerfully consider the financial request and make a decision based on the information provided. If more information is needed a face-to-face meeting might be requested.

3 - Elder Board Assistance

To maintain financial integrity, if the person with the financial need is related to one or more of the Deacon Board members, then the Elder Board will handle the financial request.



4 - Benevolent Money Dispersed

If the request is approved, the Head Deacon will fill out a check request form and provide a copy of the questionnaire to the Church Treasurer. Again, to maintain financial integrity, documentation is required. The Deacon Ministry will decide the best method of payment (for example, a check may be directly written to the person or company owed the money – like the power company or landlord. Maybe a gift card will be provided for groceries at a local store.

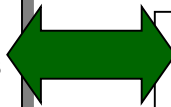
Church Body Gives

Based on their financial blessings and/or God moving in their heart our church body gives to this specific fund. No government money is supplied!



Benevolent Fund

The money in the Benevolent Fund is given by our church people – usually up and beyond their tithe to the church – with the intent that money dispersed will be used to meet emergency needs as specified above.



Please Note - To the person requesting financial help, please be aware that those involved in the process have jobs that prevent them from dropping everything to handle your immediate need. Please allow this process at least 72 hours to be adequately and prayerfully considered.

Member-Regular Attender Financial Assistance Policy

West Valley Missionary Church

In coming to your church family for financial assistance, you are obviously at a point where the income you receive cannot be stretched to meet your obligations. This need may have been building for some time and has finally reached a critical stage. It could be the result of an unforeseen emergency, or a combination of the two. This policy is written to assist you in understanding how we, as a Deacon Board responsible for faithful stewardship of benevolent funds, view our role. It includes what you can expect from us in this process, as well as what we expect from you.

What you can expect from us:

- That your current need will be met with Christian compassion, honesty, and a reasonable level of confidentiality between you, the Deacons, the Elders, the church Treasurer, and the pastoral staff.
- That your need will be thoroughly evaluated and that you will be able to sit face to face with if not the entire deacon board, at least two deacons to explain your need, and to receive in person, the response from the board.
- That our decisions will be Biblically based; a reasonable balance between meeting the needs of those we are entrusted to shepherd, and being responsible with the limited tithes of our church family.

What we will expect from you:

- That you are honest with us in presenting your current need, and that you provide us with the evaluation of your general financial status by completing and returning the attached questionnaire.
- That you allow the Deacons or representatives from the Deacon Board to provide you with Biblically based suggestions and material that could assist you in better managing your finances, if deemed needed.

Financial Assistance Questionnaire

West Valley Missionary Church

Application Number: 201_-_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home and/or Cell Phone Numbers: _____

Email address: _____

Please check the boxes that apply to your current financial situation:

- My finances have been under control but I have been hit with an unforeseen financial emergency.
- My financial problems have been growing over time and have finally reached a crisis.
- My financial problems have been mounting over time and an unforeseen emergency has finally made the mounting problems a crisis.
- My financial problems are a direct result of major health problems, a job loss or the loss of a major family income source.

Additional Questions:

- Yes No Do you regularly tithe a certain percentage of your income to the local church?
- Yes No Are you satisfied that you are being fair with God in your level of giving?
- Yes No Does the male spiritual leader of the household also assume leadership in the family finances?
- Yes No Have you routinely set aside a certain percentage of your income for savings?
- Yes No If your financial crisis has been growing over a period of time, do you have or do any of the following: 1) High interest rate credit card debt? 2) Cable or satellite television subscription? 3) Eat out on a regular basis? 4) Have other expensive practices that could be curtailed? 5) Have other high percentage personal and or car loans?
- Yes No If suggested as being needed by the Deacons, would you be willing to go through finance related workbooks or counseling with a mentor?

Church Connection

- I am a member of the church
- I am a regular attender (I am present on Wednesday and Sunday mornings 2+ more times per month.)