



ARE YOU ON

PAR

“I give by *Pre-Authorized Remittance* because my church is one of my priorities. ”



The Free Methodist Church in Canada

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## PAR AUTHORIZATION CARD

I hereby authorize [insert local church name]: \_\_\_\_\_  
to cause a debit to be drawn on my account on the 20th of each month in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ as a contribution by  
me to [insert local church name] \_\_\_\_\_.

Contributor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Giving [complete all that apply]: **General** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ] **Global Ministries** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ] **Other:** Church Planting \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Leadership \$ \_\_\_\_\_; Quebec \$ \_\_\_\_\_;

Financial Institution \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other FM project [please specify]: \_\_\_\_\_ ]

**TO ENSURE ACCURACY A SAMPLE CHEQUE, MARKED "VOID", MUST ACCOMPANY THIS CARD.**

Signature of Contributor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

*This authorization may be changed  
by the contributor at any time.*

The use, retention and disclosure of personal information collected from this form is done in compliance with privacy legislation including, but not limited to, the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (2000, c.5). **If receipts exceed the support needs for any particular project or missionary, funds may be re-designated as necessary within that giving stream.**

"WHETHER OR NOT I AM THERE...

... my church has on-going commitments every week that need my offering. My church is important to me, and so is my financial commitment to its work. That is why I use the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) system to fulfill my commitment."



If you have automatic debits going from your bank account to pay for insurance, cable TV, taxes, fuel, or mortgage, then you understand the PAR principle. It means regular contributions throughout the year.

Many people use the PAR system for their church offering, finding it a convenient way to take care of their regular commitments to the church month by month. You can participate in this program.

Your account will be debited on or about the 20th of the month and your congregation's account credited with the amount payable from all members who participate.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED?

When your congregation has decided to participate in PAR, and if you are going to participate, then you:

1. Decide the amount of your monthly offering.
2. Fill in the Authorization Card and attach a sample cheque from your account marked "Sample" or "Void."
3. Give both to your church treasurer, designated officer, or place both on the offering plate.

### Advantages to the contributor

1. Regular support of your church in the amount that you choose
2. Continual support of your home church when you are away
3. Avoidance of "catch-up" periods

### Advantages to the congregation

1. Regular, dependable flow of contributions
2. Reduction of paper work and bookkeeping
3. Reduction in bank overdrafts

This program for Free Methodist local congregations is administered by The United Church of Canada.

There is no minimum number of givers required for a congregation to initiate the program. However, since one of the basic purposes of the program is to ensure stability in regular monthly contributions to help pay for church expenses, most congregations have found that the greater the number of participants involved in the program the more valuable and viable it is.



Small cards will be available to put in the offering plate in place of envelopes if requested.

# The Free Methodist Church in Canada

## **Donors Questions & Answers about PAR**



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The Free Methodist Church in Canada PAR Program administered by the United Church of Canada for church members

### **1. What is PAR?**

If you are used to automatic withdrawals from your bank account for insurance, mortgage or utility bills, then you already understand PAR (**P**re-**A**uthorized **R**emittances). Pre-authorized remittances are electronic transfers from one bank account to another. In the case of our church PAR program, a pre-authorized transfer is made from the bank account of each PAR contributor to the bank account of our church on or about the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month. The United Church of Canada has been administering the program for the last 25 years. Many churches outside of the United Church of Canada have been using this program.

### **2. What are the benefits of PAR?**

The PAR system was developed to help local churches to have regular, dependable contributions. If some members are away for the summer or winter, this helps to continue the commitment without having to "catch up" on givings.

### **3. How do I participate?**

Complete an authorization card and provide a void cheque to your Treasurer. That's it.

### **4. Can I change contribution amounts?**

Yes. Your Treasurer must provide changes to the United Church of Canada by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month in order to ensure changes are reflected in the debit scheduled on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### **5. When are the transactions processed?**

The debits from individual accounts and the lump sum credits to the church accounts happen on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month (or the next business day if the 20<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend). This date is not variable. Credits to the church account are on the 20<sup>th</sup> (or preceding business day if the 20<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend).

### **6. Is there a minimum number of people needed to go on PAR?**

There is no minimum number required by the United Church for your congregation to start the PAR program, but the more people on the program, the more beneficial to the church.



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**7. What does the program cost?**

The PAR program costs the local congregation 55¢ per transaction, which is deducted at the time of transfer. This helps to defray administrative costs incurred by the United Church. Individuals pay the normal chequing/debit fees to their local bank or credit union if any.

**8. Who is responsible for tax receipts?**

Your church still does the tax receipts. The United Church of Canada only administers the financial transfers of the program for your church.