

## Giving with Your IRA

Have you ever wished you could stretch your dollars a little farther, or find a way to do more for the people and causes you love? If you are fortunate enough to be over 70 ½ *and* have an IRA, our government has again opened a window of opportunity for 2008 and 2009 to allow you to easily make your wish happen.

Building on the success of the IRA charitable rollover legislation introduced in 2007, the 2008 law allows senior citizens, who are at least 70 ½ on the day the distribution is made, to request their IRA administrators make distributions directly to their favorite charities, including our congregation. This distribution can be counted against your required minimum distribution if you choose; it will *not be counted as a taxable distribution* to you; and you are allowed to make distributions to charity of up to \$100,000 in any given year. In some states, making your charitable gifts through your IRA will save you state taxes, since this income will not be included in your Adjusted Gross Income. The combined impact of saving state, local *and* federal taxes is most dramatic for non-itemizers, who are now able to give tax-free dollars to charity – stretching their dollars by 25, 30, or even 35 percent! This opportunity can allow people to give more to our congregation at the same or reduced “out-of-pocket cost” to them. You might consider fulfilling your normal support of our operating budget with a gift from your IRA, or use this opportunity to stretch your gift to a capital campaign.

If you are over 70 ½, or will be before December 31, 2009, we encourage you to be in touch with us for more information. We have sample request letters for your IRA administrator and more information on how this act can benefit you, and all of the charitable causes you love, in the months ahead.

For more information, contact the Christian Church Foundation at (800) 668-8016.