

# FOUNTAINGATE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

## BENEVOLENT GIVING POLICY

The dictionary defines “benevolence” as “*a disposition to do good; kindness or Any act of kindness.*” The scriptural basis for benevolent giving can be demonstrated with the following:

*“All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.”*

*Acts 2:44-45*

*“All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.”*

*Acts 4:32-35*

It is our desire to adhere to this teaching in an effort to ensure **there are no needy among us**. To ensure that the needs of God’s people are met, we will endeavor to adhere to the following procedures of benevolent giving.

Benevolence will be given in the following priority:

- i) Members or adherents of Fountaingate Christian Assembly
- ii) Other believers
- iii) Others in need.

Non-adherents receiving benevolence should be made aware of our regular services, programs for children and Cornerstone programs to encourage them to take responsibility in initiatives which will help them through their time of special need.

1. If any member of the Board of Directors of Fountaingate Christian Assembly is privy to a need of someone, (whether that need be physical or financial), the board member will make known to the Senior Pastor or Elders the need to have it considered under this policy of giving.
2. The Board member shall not share with anyone else the details of the individuals needs.
3. The Pastor and/or Elder may investigate further if they deem it necessary, to ensure a valid need does exist.
4. The Pastor and/or Elder after confirming the need shall present a recommendation to the Board for benevolent giving if time is not of the essence.
5. Benevolence may come in the form of physical goods (groceries, furniture, clothing) or cash. The transfer of cash although permissible under unusual cases will not be the first recommendation. For example, it is considered more appropriate to directly pay for an individuals heating bill than to transfer cash to the individual.
6. The Pastor and/or Elder can recommend a season of benevolence for an individual or family. If the giving is to continue over a period of time, the Pastor and/or Elder shall continue to keep in contact with the individual to monitor the needs.
7. If there is a recurring need and the Pastor and/or Elder feels there is abuse of the system or lifestyle choices that directly contribute to the need, the Pastor and/or Elder may recommend counseling in the form of credit, financial or lifestyle choices.
8. Anyone wishing to contribute to the benevolent fund will be duly receipted. However, if an individual directs monies to a specific recipient, the money is **not receiptable**.
9. The Pastor and/or Elder **shall not** make a direct appeal on behalf of an individual to the congregation. The Pastor and/or Elder shall simply make known that a need exists, and anyone wishing to contribute to the benevolent fund may do so.
10. Fountaingate Christian Assembly should also share information with individuals regarding local community services available. Make sure these services have been accessed to there fullest. (Agape, Salvation Army, Good Will Stores, etc...)

**FOUNTAINGATE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY INC.  
BENEVOLENCE APPLICATION/  
QUESTIONNAIRE FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Details of Need and Request:

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Landlord's Name & Address if Request for Assistance with Rent:

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Member/adherent of FCA?

Other church affiliation? \_\_\_\_\_ Where: \_\_\_\_\_

Assistance received from other church(es):

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Resident of: \_\_\_\_\_ Length of time: \_\_\_\_\_

Contacted family members for assistance?  Family resides: \_\_\_\_\_

If on Social Assistance, Workers Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Present employment full-time or part-time: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of adults and children involved in this request: Adults \_\_\_\_ Children \_\_\_\_

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Fountaingate Christian Assembly Follow up:

Request                      Approved                       Denied

Details of Decision:

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Action Taken and/or Benevolence received:

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