

ENVELOPE & PEW CARD

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Why is there only one offering envelope?

With all of the challenges of the pandemic, one of the biggest adjustments churches made was in worship. This required us to revise the format for Special Sunday envelopes to meet the current needs that many members are unable to attend worship in person. Some are unable to attend due to health risk while others have become virtual members living too far to attend weekly. We needed to provide flexibility for our church leadership. The revised envelope is USPS-approved, meaning it can be mailed through the postal service, allowing members the choice to either mail in their donations or give in person during worship. This also provides a marketing tool for churches to promote the Special Sunday in an effort to raise awareness and giving. One additional benefit of including all the Special Sunday's on one envelope is to serve as a reminder there are six Special Sundays to allow persons the opportunity to contribute offerings to all six special programs approved and supported by The Church.

How will churches promote individual Special Sundays without the individual offering envelope?

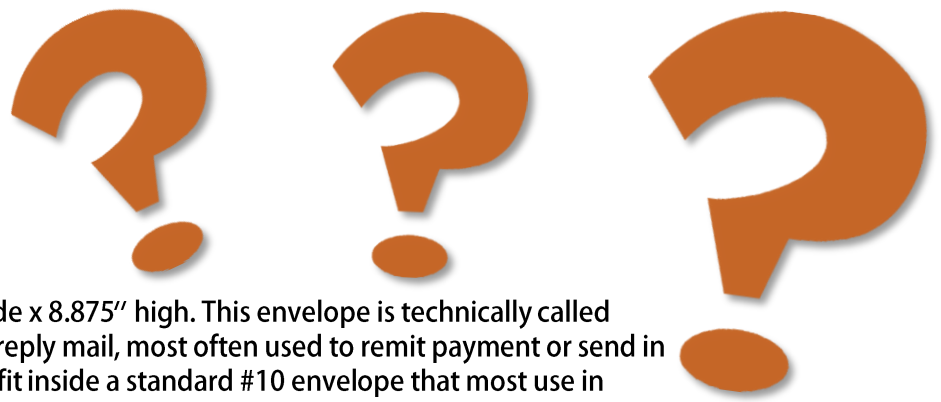
With envelopes branded for all six Special Sundays, we knew churches needed a way to promote the individual Special Sundays. Pew cards offer specific details on why we give, how to give and the impact of our gifts. There are six different pew cards each highlighting a Special Sunday and are designed to fit in the pew racks for members or visitors to take and share. Included on each pew card is a QR code offering easy access for members as well as visitors who prefer online giving. Pew cards provide churches another way to extend the promotion of the Special Sunday by placing them in the pew racks for members to view weeks in advance instead of only the day of the Special Sunday – or they can place all 6 in the pew rack and promote them year round. They can also be a promotional tool that can be mailed, given away during events or included in their visitor welcome packets. Another benefit is they are available in digital format as well as printed – so the flexibility on sharing is doubled.

Are older versions of the offering envelopes still available?

There are no more versions of the older individual envelopes available. Many of the older envelopes were not ordered and the expense of warehousing them with no activity was not a good use of the marketing dollars.

What are pew cards?

Pew cards are individually branded to represent each Special Sunday and offer details on why we give, how to give and the impact of our gifts. The option to give in person is always available through your local church, but many prefer an online option so we included a QR code on each card to meet that need. This code directly links to the Special Sunday online giving platform. Pew cards are designed to fit in the pew racks, which provides churches the ability to extend the promotion of the Special Sunday. Place them in the pew racks weeks in advance instead of only the day of the Special Sunday – or place all 6 in the pew rack and promote them year round. Use them as a promotional tool by including them in your mailings, as a giveaway during events or include them in a visitor welcome package. The flexibility of the pew card doubles your promotional options - order your printed cards or use the digital format to post online, in your newsletters or social platforms.



What size are the envelopes?

The Special Sunday envelopes are 3.875" wide x 8.875" high. This envelope is technically called a #9 envelope, which are commonly used in reply mail, most often used to remit payment or send in donations. This size envelope is designed to fit inside a standard #10 envelope that most use in mailing letters. The purpose of this is to not only meet the US postal service requirements, but also provide options for churches to use a marketing tool to promote the Special Sunday in an effort to raise awareness and giving.

Can you mail the Special Sunday in the U.S. Postal service?

Yes, you can! The Special Sunday envelope is USPS-approved, meaning it can be mailed, allowing members the choice to either mail in their donations or give in person during worship. Encourage members or visitors to mail their donation back to their local church.

What size are the pew cards?

The Special Sunday envelopes are 2.875" wide x 6" high. This card size will fit in the standard pew rack holder found in most churches. Pew cards are designed to fit in the pew racks, which provides churches the ability to extend the promotion of the Special Sunday. Place them in the pew racks weeks in advance instead of only the day of the Special Sunday – or place all 6 in the pew rack and promote them year round. Hopefully members will walk away with it and share it, use it as a bookmark, or post it on their refrigerator as a reminder!

Are the pew cards in digital and print format?

With churches using digital format on a daily basis, we knew we had to provide this tool in both digital as well as printed format. Where Digital format allows churches to email, post on websites and it is mobile friendly so members and visitors can easily view the resource. The QR code works digitally as well as in print and links to the official Special Sunday donation site. The printed format can be ordered by phone at 1-800-991-6011 from 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mountain Standard Time or online [here](#).

Why do we celebrate six (6) individual Special Sundays?

The intention of Special Sundays in The United Methodist Church are to illustrate the nature and calling of the Church and put into practice our mission to give money beyond our local church and community needs to transform the world. They are celebrated annually to make clear the commitment of the church as the people of God, and to give persons the opportunity to contribute offerings to special programs approved and supported by the Church. The approved six special Sundays are expected to have churchwide emphasis and provide a churchwide offering to express our commitment. These special days include Human Relations Day, UMCOR Sunday, Peace with Justice Sunday, Native American Ministries Sunday, World Communion Sunday and United Methodist Student Day.

Are there pew cards to represent each Special Sunday?

Yes, these are six different pew cards highlighting each Special Sunday. These special days include Human Relations Day, UMCOR Sunday, Peace with Justice Sunday, Native American Ministries Sunday, World Communion Sunday and United Methodist Student Day.

Do you have more questions?

You are always welcome to email us at umcgiving@umcom.org for more answers to your questions. We appreciate your support and the ministry you provide in our communities!