

- **John Duval** <johnd@clearview.org>

-
- 05/04/11 at 8:27 PM

To

- xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Message body

Dear xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx,

Thank you for the email and I understand you desire to make sure that all request are from trustworthy sources with a genuine need that hold to our biblical standards. My position on staff allows me the opportunity to work with our staff benevolence team and to serve as a evaluator of such requests. In most cases the church benevolence funds can help church members with needs such as: utilities, groceries, gas and scholarships for age graded events. There are some expenses that our polices will not allow us to make for individuals or families. All of our staff members send everything to our staff benevolence team for consideration. By handling the request through the team it helps prevent multiple requests and over lapping of donations plus they have gone through a strict evaluation process by trusted staff members.

One of the dynamics of any having small group classes/Adult Bible study groups is that individuals will bring 'urgent' requests up in class without ever seeking the counsel of the staff or class leadership. It may come as a prayer request, a mass email or an urgent plea in class. This is where the class leadership must step in and analyze the need and respond back to the class after having gathered a full understanding of the need. Many times the church benevolence funds can be used to help without any donation from a class. Our financial policy prohibits unauthorized collection of unapproved funds. If funds are donated to a specific person then they are no longer tax deductible.

With that said many people have a giving spirit and desire to help when a need arises. That is why from time to time we give our people opportunities to meet needs beyond the scope of our benevolence funds: Room In The Inn (donations & food), Kans 4 Kids (TBC children's home), summer camp scholarships, etc...these items are pre- approved and placed in our Sunday Paper and general announcements.

I do agree that individuals should give as God directs. I will remind your class leadership of the things mentioned above and remind our other ministry volunteers as well. I really do appreciate the email.

Sincerely,

John Duval
Associate Pastor

ClearView Baptist Church

"ClearView exists to make radical disciples who are focused on making God known to the ends of the earth."