About Mite Boxes

Placing small coins in a designated box, as a thank offering, is an established Christian tradition. Rather than making a large gift of significant impact, this practice cultivates a habit of thanksgiving.

The story of "the widow's mite" comes from Luke's gospel:

Jesus looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on." Luke 21: 1-4

What does "mite" mean? mite [mahyt] *noun*

- **1.** a contribution that is small but is all that a person can afford.
- **2.** a very small sum of money.
- **3.** a coin of very small value.
- 4. a very small object.
- **5.** a very small creature.

How to Use Your Mite Box at Home:

- Create a "sacred space" for Lent (see the Education tab)
- Get a couple of rolls of quarters from the bank
- Choose a time to gather (breakfast, dinner, bedtime; whatever works for you)
- Take turns naming what you are grateful for that day, placing a coin in the box as you do so
- Parents: accept what your child says; this is a good time to suspend "being parental" and teaching them a better way. Simply demonstrating that you are serious about naming your own gratefulness is the most important thing you can do.

Bring your offering to church on Palm Sunday (or Easter Day if you forget). You are welcome to write a check to replace the coins.