

About Mite Boxes

Placing coins in a designated box, as a thank offering, is an established Christian tradition. While a large gift could have greater impact, the purpose of this practice is to cultivate a habit of thanksgiving.

The story of “the widow’s mite” comes from Luke’s gospel:

Jesus looked up and saw the rich people dropping offerings in the collection plate. Then he saw a poor widow put in two pennies. He said, “The plain truth is that this widow has given by far the largest offering today. All these others made offerings that they’ll never miss; she gave extravagantly what she couldn’t afford—she gave her all!” *Luke 21:1-4, the Message*

A “mite” was a coin of small value in Jesus’ day. Today it means a contribution that is small in value but large in significance.

How to use your Mite Box at Home:

- Put it in a special place, like on the table where the family usually eats
- Get a couple of rolls of quarters from the bank, so you never have to come up with change
- Take turns naming what you are thankful for that day, placing a coin in the box as you do so (just as we do in the Family Service!)
- Parents: accept what your child says; resist the urge to improve on what they offer. Your own modeling of naming what you’re thankful for is the lesson they’ll remember.

*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.*