



August 2008

Dear FIBC Members and Participants,

We encourage you to “honor the LORD with your wealth” (Proverbs 3:9) and to be a “cheerful giver” as give to the LORD’s work in Copenhagen. So, as you give your tithes and offerings, there are some practical issues you may or may not be aware of:

A System of Numbers

Many of us try to follow Jesus’ instructions to ensure “that your giving may be in secret” (Matthew 6:4) when we give our tithes, offerings and gifts. But tax regulations in many countries also allow such gifts to a church to be tax-deductible, and who of us would not like to keep our taxes to a minimum? So, we have created a system of “envelope numbers” where **only one designated person in our church is able to match your envelope number to your identity.**

Ann Boye-Hansen has been appointed by the Church to that task and will assign you an “envelope number” and provide you a set of envelopes to use when placing cash in the offering bag on Sundays.

Transferring Money

If you choose to use your home banking system to make an electronic transfer from your bank, please use FIBC’s account with Danske Bank, Acc. No. 4280 4280137081. Don’t forget to indicate your assigned “envelope number” or name for us to keep records that are acceptable to the Danish tax authorities.

Danish Taxes

New regulations in Denmark now require FIBC to report all tax-deductible gifts directly to the tax authorities, **so you must now provide Ann Boye-Hansen with your CPR number.** If you have already been assigned an “envelope number,” please make sure that Ann also has your CPR number so that your tax-deductible gifts can be reported directly to the tax authorities.

As before, the first 500kr. given to an eligible institution is not deductible for Danish tax purposes, but **Danish tax laws for 2008** allow a single person a **deduction of up to 14,000kr.** for gifts above 500kr. and they allow a married couple a **deduction of up to 28,000kr.** for gifts above 1000kr.

Please note that if you pay Danish income taxes, you will also be paying a church tax to the Danish state church, unless you have specifically indicated a desire to opt-out of the church tax. FIBC is an independent and autonomous church and therefore receives no financial support from the Danish state, but depends financially upon your tithes, offerings and gifts.

For US Citizens or those who pay income tax to the US

A special organization working with international churches, called International Baptist Church Ministries (www.IBCMworld.org) is set up to help you maintain proper receipts for deductions on US tax returns. When you send your tithes, offerings or gifts to that organization and **designate it to FIBC**, they will send it directly to FIBC. They accept personal checks drawn on a US bank or you can transfer money through your home banking system. Their mailing address is: P.O. Box 833276, Richardson, TX 75082.

It is a privilege and pleasure to be serving alongside you at FIBC. We pray that God’s blessings will be poured out upon our Church and upon you personally in ways that will bring Him the most glory.

Serving Him together,

N. Erik Nielsen
Pastor

Gordon Weir
Council Chairman

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