



Notes from your ABW-Mi Love Gift Chairwomen

For those who are unaware, there is an ongoing mission offering collected by American Baptist Women called **LOVE GIFT**. This offering began in 1932 when there was a large deficit (just a half million dollars) that could have ended home and foreign missions. The women of the American Baptist Denomination were asked to raise \$150,000 to help eliminate the debt.

Today, AB Women's Ministries still collects **LOVE GIFT** offerings to assist with mission needs. This offering is a gift of thanksgiving to God for blessings women experienced in their everyday living. Now, if you're thinking, "Well, what can I do," keep reading.

This calendar could guide your giving in 2009.

Month	Event	Amount to Give
January	New Year—Did you ring in the New Year with family or friends?	1 cent per celebrant 25 cents if you stayed home
February	Valentine's Day – Did you receive cards?	5 cents per card received
March	St. Patrick's Day – Did you go to a parade?	25 cents if you went to the parade 10 cents if you stayed home or watched it on TV
April	Maundy Thursday/Good Friday/Easter – Did you go to at least one special church service?	10 cents per service
May	Mother's Day – How many years have you been blessed with a mother (or some- one who's been like a mother to you)?	1 cent per year
June	Father's Day – How many years have you been blessed with a father (or some- one who's been like a father to you)?	1 cent per year
July	Independence Day – Do you know any- one serving (or who has served) in the armed forces?	5 cents per soldier
August	Friendship Day – Are you blessed with friends?	10 cents per close friend
September	Back to School – Did you graduate from high school (or earn a GED)?	50 cents if you did 25 cents if you did not or are still at- tending
October	Halloween – Name your favorite candy	25 cents if it contains chocolate 10 cents if it does not
November	Thanksgiving – Count the things you are thankful for this year.	Donate as much as you wish.
December	Christmas – How many people will you give gifts to this year?	1 cent per gift recipient



A Word from **LOVE GIFT** Coordinators Prudy Bannick and Connie Kemner

Hi ,we are Prudy (right) and Connie (left)
your Mother/Daughter MI
LOVE GIFT Coordinators

We've been looking for ways to encourage the churches of Michigan to increase their giving to **LOVE GIFT**. Here are a few ideas, some old and some new:

- Look for L and G dollars (those with L or G in the serial number) when you get change. Give those \$ to **LOVE GIFT**... spend the others!
- Look for saving at the store and consider them blessings.
- Some stores like Meijer and Kroger, list your savings on the receipt. Consider those savings to be a blessing and donate to **LOVE GIFT**.
- When you get a toothbrush or toothpaste from the dentist, determine how much money you saved through the freebie and donate that amount to **LOVE GIFT**.
- Watch for clearance sales. We were recently shopping for items for White Cross and found a complete bedding set for \$17.99 instead of \$60. That savings would net Love Gift \$42!
- When you return your recyclable bottles to the store, donate the deposit you get back to **LOVE GIFT**.

If your group is doing something to raise funds for **LOVE GIFT**, we'd love to hear from you so that we can pass the ideas along.

Remember **LOVE GIFT is an over and above offering
thanking God for your many blessings.**