

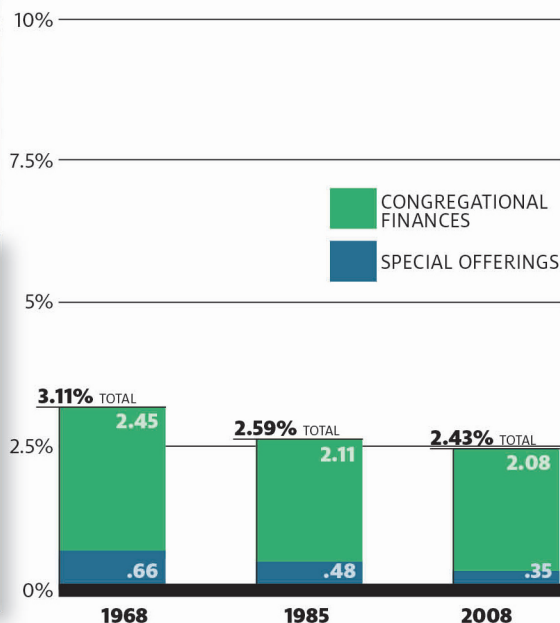
SPOTLIGHT: How We Give



➔ Churches and other explicitly religious organizations are by far the largest recipients of Americans' charitable donations. But church members' giving is decreasing in the recession, especially as a percentage of income. The amount of church-based giving that goes to missions is also decreasing significantly, according to a new survey from empty tomb, inc. From 1916–1927, about 7.9 percent of church contributions went to foreign missions; today it's 2.1 percent. Giving USA, meanwhile, found that total charitable giving in the U.S. (unadjusted for population or income) dropped by about 3.6 percent in 2009, though individual giving stayed steady from 2008.

When Tithe Doesn't Mean Tenth

The average percentage of income given to churches.



Overseas Missions Giving

How much of each denomination's church dollar goes to international ministries.

11¢

Christian and Missionary Alliance

6¢

Church of the Nazarene

General Association of General Baptists

4¢

Seventh-day Adventists, North America

The Wesleyan Church

Presbyterian Church in America

2¢

Southern Baptist Convention

The United Methodist Church

1¢

Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

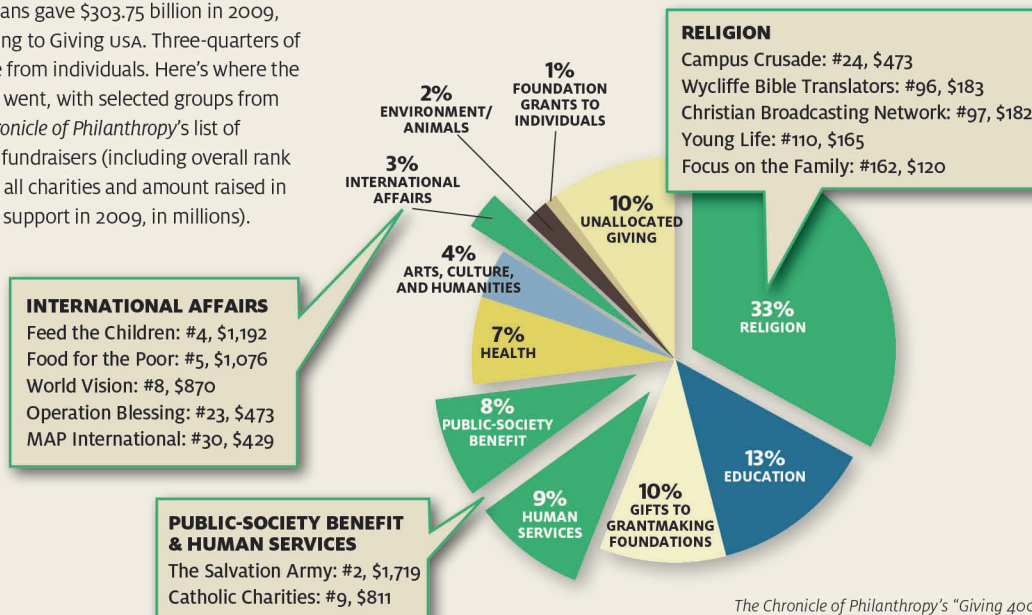
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Episcopal Church

Beyond Church Giving *Giving in America, in all categories*

Americans gave \$303.75 billion in 2009, according to Giving USA. Three-quarters of it came from individuals. Here's where the money went, with selected groups from *The Chronicle of Philanthropy's* list of largest fundraisers (including overall rank among all charities and amount raised in private support in 2009, in millions).



The Chronicle of Philanthropy's "Giving 400"; Giving USA

empty tomb, inc.