

**WTNS Radio OSU Extension Update for July 3, 2023**  
**Healthy People. Healthy Finances. Healthy Relationships.**

On today's OSU Extension update for Healthy People, Healthy Finances, & Healthy Relationships we'll talk about including giving in your budget, and as always look at some upcoming programs from OSU Extension.

A small part of my job is to counsel new homebuyers as part of Ohio Housing Finance Agency's educational outreach. I consult with excited homebuyers anticipating what life will look like once they are in their home. Like you might expect, some people I talk with are savers, and others are not. Many people do not include saving money in their monthly budget.

Another trend I am noticing is the lack of giving in anyone's budget, regardless of tendencies toward saving. My definition of giving is not Christmas presents or birthday gifts. Giving means contributing a donation towards an organization or a cause.

Indiana University compiles an annual report on philanthropy. This includes the most popular categories of non-government organizations (NGO), nonprofit organization (NPO) and charities. The themes include religion; education; human services; foundations; health; public-society benefit; international affairs; arts, culture, and humanities; environmental and animal. They found that Americans were not giving as much last year. (I also found the following statistics from Vanco, Nonprofits Source, and an article by financial planner Elliott Appel.)

**American Generosity:** The people of the US give far more than any other country, with an estimated 1.44% of our gross domestic product. However, about one-third of US households do not give anything. Of the two-thirds that do give, they donate an average of 4% of their income.

Don't assume that people making more money give and people making less do not. One in ten people making above \$125,000 do not give. About 37% of people who make under \$25,000 give to charity, and they give 12% of their income.

**Who gives:** People of all ages are giving, but older people give more. The average donor age in the US is age 65. Wealth can certainly accumulate with time. But as we've seen, having more money does not equate to giving more money.

The silent generation are those in their 80s and 90s and 88% of them give to charity, donating an annual average of \$1,367 across 6.2 organizations. A greater percentage of Millennials give than Boomers, but Boomers donate about three times as much as Millennials.

**What we support:** Giving to religious congregations, denominations, missionary societies, and religious media, remains America's single largest recipient of charitable giving. (Faith and religious services receive more than twice as much as education, which comes in second.) Last year half of the population gave to religious organizations and about one-third of charitable gifts went to faith and religious services.

The average giving amount per churchgoer is \$17 per week, which equates to \$884 a year. A sobering fact is the total income of Christians in the US is \$5.2 trillion annually, almost half the world's total Christian income. Only 1% of US Christian families making over \$75,000 gave at least 10% in tithing.

Is giving a part of your plan? Would you like to give more, but you are not sure how to budget what you have? Join me at the Coshocton Public Library on August 7 at 6:30 pm for Getting Ahold of Your Finances, where we will talk about the financial path you are on and set goals for where you want to be.

And now let's look at other upcoming programs from OSU Extension. The deadline is quickly approaching for Dining with Diabetes. OSU Extension and Coshocton Regional Medical Center will once again be offering this cooking school and nutrition education program designed for people with diabetes and their family members or caregivers.

Dining with Diabetes will be held on four Monday evenings in July from 5:30-7:30 pm. The cost of the program is \$20 per person. You are also encouraged to register a support person to attend with you for an additional \$10. Paid registration is required by Wednesday, July 5. To register visit [coshocton.osu.edu](http://coshocton.osu.edu).

In closing, at OSU Extension, we are proud to work for Coshocton County to help educate and improve our families, farms, and businesses. Please feel free to contact OSU Extension for more information at 740-622-2265 or visit our website at [coshocton.osu.edu](http://coshocton.osu.edu). Make it a healthy day!