

Donations and Payments to the Colorado Springs Meditation Circle

There have been questions about donations made at the CSMC Sunday services and commemoration services. In particular, the two main questions have been, “How should I make out the check?” and “Are my donations tax-deductible?” It is the intention of this document to answer those questions and clarify the situation.

Commemorative Service Donations

When we have a special commemorative service for one of the SRF Gurus (this includes the offerings for the All-Day Christmas Meditation), the offerings collected are sent directly to Self-Realization Fellowship. Checks offered at these services can be made payable to Self-Realization Fellowship or SRF. These donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

Book Table Sales and Retreat Payments

When purchasing SRF materials through the meditation circle or when paying for one of our retreats, checks should be made payable to Colorado Springs Meditation Circle. Payments for goods or services are never tax-deductible.

Sunday Service Donations

Donations made during the collection during the Sunday reading services are to help the meditation circle. Checks donated at these services should be made payable to the Colorado Springs Meditation Circle. As the Colorado Springs Meditation Circle is an informal entity in a fiscal sense, these donations are not tax deductible. These donations are used for any expenses incurred by the circle. At the time of this writing, moving to a rented location is under consideration, so rent would be one of those expenses. Any excess funds are donated by the circle to Self-Realization Fellowship. In keeping with our understanding of our Guru's wishes, no money is spent for anything other than the normal expenses of the circle or donations to SRF without discussion with the members of the circle.

If a check given at a regular Sunday service is made out to Self-Realization Fellowship, we send it to SRF. Checks offered to help the circle meet expenses should be made payable to Colorado Springs Meditation Circle. Unfortunately, at this time there is no way to donate a check to the circle and have it be a tax-deductible donation. It is the intention of the Colorado Springs Meditation Circle to be completely transparent and forthcoming about donations and finances.