

M&S PAR Skit (for two people)

*(One is going through his or her offering envelope box and sorting and dropping the envelopes.)*

**Two:** Hi. Need a hand there?

**One:** Yeah, sure. I am just sorting out these offering envelopes.

**Two:** Why are you sorting them? They come dated and in order, you know.

**One:** I know that, but I am sorting out the ones I didn't use.

**Two:** Didn't use? I thought you told me you give regularly, never miss.

**One:** Oh, that's true. Kind of. (Hands three envelopes to **Two**.) There's just these three from those awful snowstorms last winter. I just couldn't get out of the driveway. Then we went on that long spring vacation with relatives. Did I tell you about riding the mules into the Grand Canyon? Now, that's scary. The mules insist on walking on the edge to avoid falling stones and you know my brother-in-law isn't the skinniest guy around. I was sure he was going over the edge. (Hands over four envelopes.)

**Two:** Don't forget you were at your cottage over the summer, so give me those five envelopes.

**One:** Yeah, I intended to write post-dated cheques, but the cat got out and we took three hours to get her into the car so I just forgot. Oh, and here's the two in May when I had that bad cough and didn't want to interrupt the sermon. (Sheepishly looks at the minister.)

**Two:** You know, that's 14 envelopes. If you put, say, \$10.00 per week on the plate, that's \$140.00 missing from the **Mission and Service Fund** and the congregation so far. And we have about \_\_\_\_\_ envelope givers. Think about what that might add up to if everyone never missed like you do! Does your congregation know how to make a gift to **Mission and Service**?

**One:** I was feeling good about my giving until you came along. But things come up, you know....

**Two:** Sure they do. That's why I'm on PAR—Pre-Authorized Remittance. It's just like having my phone bill paid automatically. It's run by the United Church and it's reliable

and secure. What's best is that my gifts are given regularly just like I intend and I don't have to worry about missing a gift. The church and **M&S** get gifts every week to pay for things just as important as my phone bill.

**One:** That's a great idea. Then I can go back to saying that I give faithfully every week.

**Two:** Yeah, and you won't have to show up with a cough to do it.

The Rev. \_\_\_\_\_ will be glad to hear that.

**Two** (*speaking to the congregation*): Pick up some information about PAR after church or speak to our PAR contact, \_\_\_\_\_.

(name)