

If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief when submitting your annual tax return. We cannot do this on your behalf, but would encourage you to give this back to Christ Church!

If you are unsure whether you qualify for Gift Aid or you have any questions about tax-efficient giving, or if you need to cancel your Gift Aid Declaration, please contact the Treasurer.

Changes in your Situation

Please contact the Treasurer to advise of any changes in your situation - for example the amount or frequency of a Standing Order, if you stop or start paying tax and particularly any change of name or address.

Contacting the Treasurer

Address: Claire Lee
16 Leaper Street
Derby
DE1 3NB

Email: claireandreuben@googlemail.com

Telephone: 07580 714993

What Next?

Listen Tim Houghton spoke on the subject of 'A Giving Church' in this talk on our website:

www.christchurchderby.org/talks/346/a-giving-church-podcast

Pray Ask God how best you can support his gospel work with the money he has given you

Decide Resolve how much to give and how often

Act Please fill in and return the form in this leaflet

If you have any questions about giving, please speak to our Treasurer, Claire Lee, or one of the elders – Jonty Rhodes, Matt Newbould and Tim Houghton.

How do you feel when the subject of giving comes up at church? Threatened – because you suspect you're going to be made to feel guilty? Bored, because you've heard it before? Smug, because you've got it sorted? Interested, because it's a new thing to you? Or cheerful, because giving is one of the great privileges of being a Christian?

Maybe you worry that you are on a limited income and so can't give much and won't make much difference. Or maybe you've grown used to a level of income and standard of living and find it hard to think of giving some of that away. Whatever your situation, financing the ministry of Christ Church Derby is dependent on the giving of our whole church family, and we encourage every member of Christ Church to consider making some contribution, however big or small, to support the ministry.

The information below tells you about our approach to giving here at Christ Church. It sets out some of the biblical principles of giving, explains how you can begin to give to the church and explains the benefits of making regular, tax-efficient gifts.

What the Bible says about giving

'Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!'

This verse, 2 Corinthians 9:15, sums up the main motivation for Christian giving: thankfulness. We want to express our thanks to God for our salvation in Jesus acknowledging that everything we have comes from him.

In a culture dominated by materialism and individualism, there is something distinctively radical about Christian giving. When Christians make material sacrifices in order to benefit others they are living contrary to the spirit of our age. But why do they do this? King David observes in 1 Chronicles 29 that everything belongs to God. Therefore all our resources must be at God's disposal and used in his service; giving financially is just one expression of this. But the New Testament has more to teach us.

2 Corinthians 8 & 9

According to 2 Corinthians 8 and 9, Christian giving should be:

- **Motivated by grace** (8:1-9) Christian giving is a response to the gospel of grace, in which we receive extraordinary blessings from God, and is itself a means of God's grace to us. Sacrificial giving appropriately reflects this gospel and responds to it.
- **In proportion to our means** (8:12-15) We give according to the riches God has given us. Even though her gift was small, Jesus commended the widow because she gave extravagantly from the little she had (Luke 21).
- **Carefully supervised** (8:16-24) To guard against any suggestion of financial mismanagement.
- **Willing, cheerful and generous** (9:1-7) Because God loves a cheerful giver who gives gratefully in response to God.
- **A source of spiritual blessing** (9:8-11) God promises that grace will abound to us as we give ourselves generously in his service.
- **A source of thanksgiving to God** (9:12-14) Christian giving is a huge source of encouragement. As we give, and others give, thanksgiving returns to God and he is glorified by such a clear demonstration of his grace at work in people's lives.

Regular and private

In addition, our giving should be regular (1 Corinthians 16:2) and private. Jesus tells us that Christian giving should be between us and God (Matthew 6:1-5). It mustn't be motivated by a desire to impress others, but should arise from private thought and prayer (and discussion within a marriage).

How will your money be used?

If you do decide to give to Christ Church, just what are we planning to do with your hard-earned cash? The short answer is that we will aim to use it for the greater glory of God; to use it to make Christ known and to build up the Kingdom of God and the people of Christ. That doesn't mean building an impressive church in worldly terms - that could only bring glory to us. It is spiritual progress we must seek: a church marked by men, women, young people and children who understand the gospel of grace and seek to live as wholehearted disciples of Christ. Everything we do is aimed at this goal.

We want to spend as much as we can on the task of building the body of Christ. We also want to spend money on good outreach events, to bring the gospel to those who don't know it. We want to be able to spend money to train people for future leadership and ministry. Finally, but very importantly, we want to give money away: to be in partnership with other ministries and gospel mission elsewhere that share our aims and priorities and give generously to them to enable them to carry out their work in taking the news of 'salvation to the ends of the earth' (Isaiah 49:6).

How to give

Regular giving is an enormous help to us in our planning. To set up a regular standing order please complete the standing order form in this booklet and give it to our Treasurer. You can also make one-off gifts by cheque, cash or direct bank transfer.

Tax-Efficient Giving / Gift Aid

We can reclaim from the Inland Revenue the basic rate tax that donors have paid on their donations, if they complete a Gift Aid Declaration form available from the church office. This has the effect of increasing the value of your gift by 25% at no additional cost to you!

To qualify for Gift Aid you must pay UK income tax (and/or capital gains tax) at least equal to the tax reclaimed on your donations. There is no minimum amount or minimum term for Gift Aid.