

our vision

Over the next few years we plan to:

- ✦ Invest in church activities both established and new – post Covid.
- ✦ Be in a position to adapt to changing circumstances. E.g. Transforming Church. Together.
- ✦ Balance our income and expenditure
- ✦ Put money aside for future major repairs and upgrades e.g. roof at St. Paul's and boiler at St. Timothy's.

To fulfil this vision: Each week in 2021 we have budgeted to spend £2,660.

- £1,467** on our share of ministers' costs: stipend, housing, training etc.
- £347** on our buildings: insurance, heat, light, maintenance etc.
- £128** on worship, ministry and mission
- £577** on staff wages to support our mission and ministry
- £141** Other costs, inflationary rises

Our budgeted income is £2,490 each week to make progress towards this vision from:

- £1,423** regular congregational giving
- £348** tax back from Gift Aided giving and donations
- £538** from letting the two community centres & other income
- £181** from other sources

Thank you for helping to make this happen!

how much?

How do we decide how much to give?

There is no one, or easy answer for everyone. We are called to love God and our neighbour and our giving is an expression of that love.

St Paul encouraged the Church in Corinth to see giving as a **priority** that is **planned** and in **proportion** to our income and that seems a good place to start (1Cor 16:2)

This leaflet gives some clear guidance and there are very practical things we can do:

- ✦ **review** our giving as a priority and consider how we might respond
- ✦ **join** a planned giving scheme through [The Parish Giving scheme](#), (direct debit) standing order, or weekly envelopes.
- ✦ **give proportionately** of our income to fund ministry & mission
- ✦ **optimise** our giving using Gift Aid if we pay tax, and consider moving to an administratively and cash flow efficient direct debit or standing order scheme
- ✦ **make a legacy gift** when we plan for the future of those we love and care for

But at the end of the day how much to give is a thoughtful, prayerful decision only you can make. Love is generous, love is kind and love is selfless - we see that in all God gives to us.

How will we respond?



The Dorcan Church

St Paul's, Covingham
St Timothy's, Liden
Annual Gift Day 2021



our church
our challenge
our choice

Giving in Grace

our church

The church has the good news story to tell of God's abundance and promise, a very different story from a culture of scarcity in the world today. God calls us to join with him in his mission and ministry, yet without financial resources this work is hindered.

Our giving supports and sustains our widespread **ministry** and **mission**, such as every:

- ✦ baptism celebrated
- ✦ sermon preached and communion celebrated
- ✦ child and young person nurtured & taught
- ✦ school which visits us, or which we visit
- ✦ activity, such as Tiny Tots, Messy Church and Youth Club
- ✦ bereaved family comforted
- ✦ person shown the love of Christ through our care, compassion and comfort

Our giving sustains our church **buildings**, a sacred place dedicated to worship, prayer, and outreach through our community centres

Our giving sustains our **ministers**, here and across our diocese and circuit and helps train new ministers.

Our giving sustains **mission** both here in the UK. E.g. support of Swindon Youth for Christ, and overseas for people we may never meet but to whom we are able to give financial support.

This ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but overflows with many thanksgivings to God

2 Cor 9:12

our challenge

To cultivate what St Paul calls the **grace of giving** we need to firstly challenge ourselves and think carefully about all we receive from God and prayerfully review our giving.

Our second challenge is that The Dorcan Church needs £2,660 per week to sustain our **ministry and mission**, buildings, ministers and to finance future plans and vision.

We have an income gap, and our initial aim is to start bridging this gap by £400 per week, of which £170 is just to balance our 2021 budget. For our ministry to flourish we need the **grace of giving**.

The following table gives an example of how we can achieve this:

This many people	increasing weekly giving by	equals this much extra income
8	£1.50	£12.00
9	£2.50	£22.50
14	£5.00	£70.00
14	£7.50	£105.00
10	£10.00	£100.00
5	£12.50	£62.50
2	£15.00	£30.00
To meet our target of		£402.00

But just as you excel in everything ...see that you also excel in this grace of giving

2 Cor 8:7

our choices

As we consider what our grace in giving might look like, these areas may be helpful to consider: Our congregation is around 230.

Our planned giving schemes have 100 members:

Is it time to join a giving scheme? The Parish Giving Scheme (direct debit), standing order or weekly envelopes?

Our Gift Aid scheme has 45 tax-payers

Is it time to join if you are a tax payer?

Giving to God's work should be a priority. Do we notice what we give to God?

Is it time to review, and look to increase?

A number of people look to give proportionately as the bible encourages

Is it time to give a percentage of what we receive?

Proportionate giving table				
Weekly income	Weekly Giving (£)			
	1%	2%	5%	10%
£100	1	2	5	10
£150	1.50	3	7.50	15
£250	2.50	5	12.50	25
£480	4.80	9.60	24	48

This is a ministry for everyone – 'each according to your means'

2 Cor 8:11