



Giving4Life

Introduction

Jesus came that we might have **life**, and **life** in all its **fullness**. John 10:10

The purpose of Christ Church is to invite others to experience this new life. Our vision is to become a vibrant community that is learning to live life in Christ, wherever God has placed us. Therefore our primary focus is on prayerfully supporting and practically equipping one another to be authentic Christ-followers in the whole of our lives.

The vision of life that is seen in Jesus is of a person who is:

- Breathing in God's love through word and prayer
- Breathing out God's love through worship and action

The Church's activities and future initiatives very much reflect this vision.

For example, our Pastoral Care team demonstrate God's love through home visiting and home communions; hospital visiting; bereavement support; welcoming newcomers and keeping in touch with people on the fringes.

Our family, youth and children's teams focus on the needs of family. We continue to see significant developments in these areas with new initiatives beginning to bear fruit. Our desire is to make contact with increasing numbers of families and young people in the area, sharing the love of Christ with them in word and action.

The local outreach of Christ Church means that we are meeting some of the needs of the local community. We seek to help people on their spiritual journeys through the Alpha course; we provide support and help to those in serious debt through our branch of Christians Against Poverty; we provide support to those who are experiencing relationship break down through the Aquila Course.

The global outreach of Christ Church encompasses support for many deprived areas of the world. Clarens School in Lesotho; the children of Belarus still suffering from nuclear contamination caused by Chernobyl; medical aid to many impoverished

nations through the floating hospital known as Mercy Ships plus support for Christians suffering persecution in Asia and the Far East.

Without the financial support we already receive we would not be in a position to carry out these activities, and provide the current level of investment in the work of our mission partners.

In order to ensure that we can sustain and grow this work as well as support future initiatives we would encourage all church members to prayerfully commit to supporting God's mission through Christ Church as they are able.

There are many ways in which you are able to offer financial support from one off donations to regular weekly or monthly giving:

Regular giving

It is possible to simply place cash in the offering during the service, but you may find standing orders or weekly envelopes a help to thoughtful, planned regular giving.

Standing orders enable you to decide upon a sum of money to be paid from your bank account directly into that of Christ Church on a monthly, quarterly or even yearly basis. You can change the amount or cancel the standing order whenever you wish. There is a copy of the standing order form for you to print out and complete or they are available from the Planned Giving Secretary whose details are given below. Alternatively simply set up a standing order yourself through your

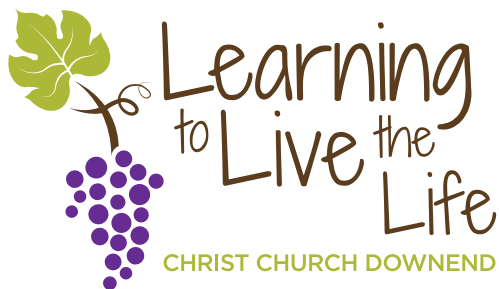
online banking.

Envelopes help you to plan your giving on a weekly basis. For those who wish to use them, the church will provide a set of envelopes, clearly dated for each week of the year. You can put whatever amount of money you wish (cash or cheque) in these envelopes and place them in the offering. If you miss a week at church, you can always put the money in the envelope and place more than one envelope in the offering when you return – or simply put several weeks' money in one envelope. If you wish to join the envelope scheme, please contact the Planned Giving Secretary.

Gift Aid

The government allows churches (and other charities) to recover the tax you may have paid on the money you give to us. If you are a taxpayer this means that we can currently claim back an extra £1 on every £4 you give. This is not money the government gives the church; it is your money which you have paid in tax on the gift you are giving us and which is returned to us by the government. If you wish to sign a Gift Aid declaration to enable us to recover such tax for the work of the church, please contact the Planned Giving Secretary.

The Planned Giving Secretary is Dave Tooby and he will be happy to help you with any aspects of planned giving. Please contact (0117) 956 0146 or email: giving@christchurchdownend.com



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Gift Aid Declaration

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer. **In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:**

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ _____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years to:

Name of charity: *PCC of Christ Church, Downend, Bristol*

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

My details

Title _____ First name or initial(s) _____

Surname _____

Full home address _____

Postcode

Signed	Date
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Please notify the charity if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations.