

## GIFTS WE RECEIVE

Our giving is so important because it enables all our ministries. These are budgeted to cost £627k in 2024. Each year our costs are increasing. At the moment, our current giving levels and other income suggest we will receive £537k in 2024. We have budgeted in faith and have included a faith line of a further £40k in our giving budget. If we achieve this, our income will be £577k, but this would mean we will still have a deficit of £50k in 2024 – to put it another way we will spend £50k more than we receive.

Over the last few years, it's been so encouraging to see our church family growing and our giving increase. Once again we've also been blessed with some one off gifts and grants. It is as important as ever that we stay on our journey of growing our giving as church, to enable us to do all that we do going forwards.

We are expecting to use some of our savings to fund this deficit, and we do have cash savings (reserves) to help fund this deficit in the short term, BUT wouldn't it be great if together we grew our giving?

If everyone increased their current giving by 5% which is about current inflation, that would make a significant impact. If you're a new joiner, we really encourage you to think about how you can contribute to our church life and ministries, including through your giving. Thank you!

### Our 2024 Budget

Current expected income: £537k

Faith line  
£40k

Shortfall  
£50k

2024 Expenditure £627k



# Pledge Sunday 2024

# MAKING A GIFT

Why do we give?



HTCD



STACC

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

**2 CORINTHIANS 9: 6-8**

## WHY GIVE?

“As a young Christian student, I was challenged during a sermon about the biblical concept of tithing. I decided that throughout the coming summer I would give a tenth of my earnings to the church. I wrote out a cheque as a first step towards my goal. But then I quickly forgot about it.

Ten weeks later, I was sitting in church on a Sunday morning waiting for my mother to join me. I realised that I had forgotten about my plan to give and I didn't have enough money to cover the weeks that I had missed.

Then a **God moment happened.**

My mother arrived with a letter for me. I opened it to find an unexpected cheque from a previous employer, with almost exactly the amount that I had pledged. I immediately felt a sense of God's presence and offered my tithe to the church. I felt a sense of God being pleased and His desire to encourage me.

I believe that giving is an important part of our discipleship. God wants us to learn to give. It is good for us and it makes a difference in the world. More than this, God loves to bless those who bless others.

Learning to give can be a difficult process. God is not looking to condemn us, but to encourage us as we grow in this area.”

Rev. *Shawn Swinney*

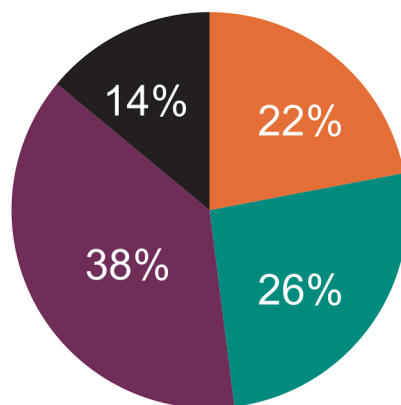
Vicar of Combe Down, Monkton Combe & South Stoke

## HOW MUCH DO WE GIVE?

**Over 85%** of our church members give financially. In the last year we were so blessed to see our giving increase. This was from existing members increasing their overall giving and a number of new givers, and we also received some one off grants.

*Thank you!*

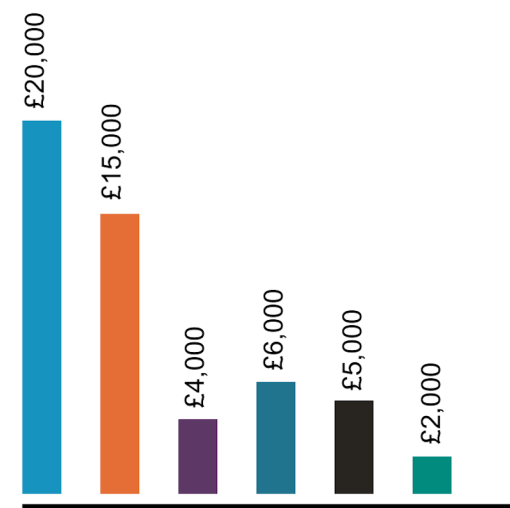
The amount people give on a monthly basis:



## WHERE DOES IT GO?

Our giving enables us to support a wide range of ministries including our mission partners, to provide children, youth, families and seniors ministries and to put on community events.

How our money is spent each month:



We spend £52,000 each month

- **Salaries:** Necessary to provide ministry and administrative support
- **Parish Share:** Contribution to diocese for our clergy and supporting other churches in our diocese
- **Mission:** Giving for UK and overseas missions
- **Ministry costs:** Church ministries and services
- **Our buildings:** Rent, heating, lighting and maintenance
- **Administration:** Additional costs of running and managing the church