

# GIFTS WE RECEIVE

Our giving is so important because it enables all our ministries and activities. All our ministries and church life activity costs around **£570k** each year. At the moment, our giving levels plus other income suggest we will receive **£460k** in 2022. This means we have a deficit of **£114k**.

Our total giving income was broadly the same in 2020 and 2021, which given the circumstances is fantastic. In 2021, the response from Pledge Sunday, together with underspends due to Covid, meant that we did not need to use our cash savings. But this year, we are expecting to need to use some of our savings to fund this deficit.

We have seen our expected income for 2022 reduce in recent months. Wouldn't it be great to keep our giving at last year's level? To achieve this, we need to increase our expected giving by **£37k**. If everyone increased their current giving by **5%** which is about current inflation, that would make a significant impact on this. 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.

We described this as a journey and looking forward, we pray that we see our giving increase to the point that it is the same as our costs. This means that over the next few years, we pray that we'll see ongoing increases in our giving so it becomes the same as our expenditure. We do have cash savings (reserves) to help with the deficit for a short time. This is why it is so important that we carefully and prayerfully consider our giving now, because we want to carry on supporting and growing our ministries, helping the Kingdom grow.



## Pledge Sunday 2022

# MAKING A GIFT

Why do we give?



*"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*

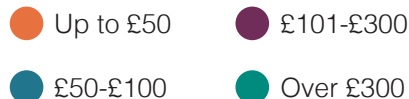
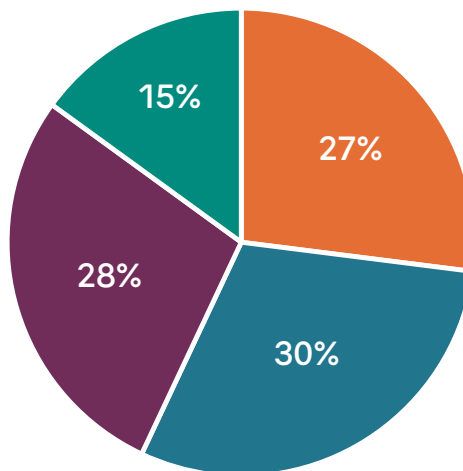
Vicar of Combe Down, Monkton Combe & South Stoke

## HOW MUCH TO GIVE?

Approximately **80%** 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.

*Thank you!*

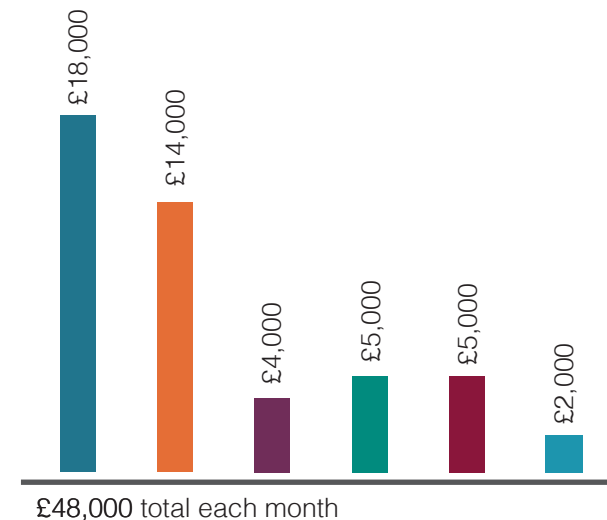
The amount people give on a monthly basis:



## WHERE DOES IT GO?

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

How our money is spent 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, CAP and church services
- Our buildings**  
Rent, heating, lighting and maintenance
- Administration**  
Additional costs of running and managing the church