

Giving Money

to support the work of
Trinity Church Buxton

Glorifying Christ
Equipping His People
Growing His Church



Trinity
Church
BUXTON

‘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. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.’

2 Corinthians 9:7-8

If you are part of the church family, please...

- give regularly
- review your giving annually

It has been a great encouragement to us all to see God's provision for us at Trinity Church over the years.

Generous giving from people at Trinity has enabled us to continue to move forward in Gospel ministry, reaching people in Buxton and beyond. My prayer for us is that as we understand the gospel more deeply, then we will give more generously. I hope that this booklet will helpfully open up the issue of money at Trinity. We are not a money-driven church – but money is an important part of our life and ministry. So please use it to help you prayerfully consider what and how you might give. It's been said that 'financial giving is a great indicator of the spiritual health of a church as a whole, and of each person in the church individually'. My hope is that this process will encourage us in our godliness and dependence on the Lord for his provision.

If you would like to talk more with someone about giving, there are various contacts at the back of this booklet.

Praise God that we can share together in the work of the gospel in Christ Jesus our Lord!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'D' being particularly large and stylized.

Bible teaching on giving

Why and how to give

One of the most concentrated passages on the subject of giving is in Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, chapters 8 and 9, and it's worth taking the time to study these chapters before coming to any decisions. Some of the key points are outlined below:

Ten Principles of Giving

Sacrificially (2 Corinthians 8:1-2) despite our needs

Generously (8:3-7) as much as we are able

Gratefully (8:8-9) for the grace of Christ who though rich became poor that we might be rich

Realistically (8:10-12) according to our means

Equally (8:13-15) giving of our plenty to help supply what others need

Properly (8:16-24) ensuring that our management of money is beyond reproach

Actually (9:1-5) to ensure our practice matches our claims

Freely (9:6-7) not reluctantly but cheerfully

Confidently (9:8-11) knowing that God will always supply our needs

Encouragingly (9:12-17) others will praise God for what he is doing in our lives

We give in response to God's grace. God has shown his great love for sinful and unworthy people like us in the life, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Having received such undeserved generosity we should be motivated to give generously in response. We are to be like God - not reluctant givers, but wanting to give generously from all that He has given us.

How much should I give?

The amount we give to our local church is a decision to be made honestly between us and God. There is clearly no right answer and many church family members will be giving to Trinity Church Buxton as well as other Christian work and organisations. However, these practical suggestions might be useful as you prayerfully consider:

Firstly, it's helpful to have a stewardship mindset. All we have belongs ultimately to God and is given to us by him. A stewardship mindset thinks about what I keep of God's money rather than what I give of my money. Some good questions to prayerfully reflect on:

Am I giving out of a thankfulness to Christ, and longing to see his kingdom furthered?

Am I giving generously and sacrificially?

Am I living simply, not in the pursuit of possessions and storing up treasure on earth?

Secondly, all of us will be in different situations. When surviving on a student loan or if you are on a low income, it is still good to get into the habit of giving – perhaps a Standing Order of a small amount each month. Standing Orders provide discipline and help us to prioritise giving, even when our budget is limited.

Others will need to discuss their giving with spouses, who may have different priorities.

Finance at Trinity

How Trinity relates to the wider church

Trinity Church was founded in 1873, as a protestant evangelical episcopal proprietary chapel within the Church of England. Unlike parish churches we are financially separate from the Church of England. The ministry of Trinity is funded by the giving of the congregation.

The work of the church family in and around Buxton is the primary focus of our activities at Trinity, as required by our charitable objectives. This includes our Sunday services as well as weekday events and groups. We try to make sure that our spending is thoughtful and necessary, with the priority of making known the gospel through what we do. We are also entrusted with an historic building that is part of the Hardwick Conservation Area, as well as the Minister's house. Our purpose is that our buildings serve gospel ministry, and therefore we will adapt and maintain our buildings for that end.

Generous giving at Trinity has enabled the ministry to grow, particularly in regard to the appointment of paid workers. We are also thankful that we are also in a position to resource ministry work and administration, as well as paid staff.

As well as staff and ministry costs, we have to keep our church building maintained and improved for gospel work, as well as the Minister's house, 37 Temple Road.

*And he gave the
apostles, the prophets,
the evangelists, the
pastors and teachers,
to equip the saints for
the work of ministry, for
building up the body of
Christ"*

Ephesians 4:11-12 (ESV)

Using resources wisely

How we spend money on gospel ministry

Gospel Ministry

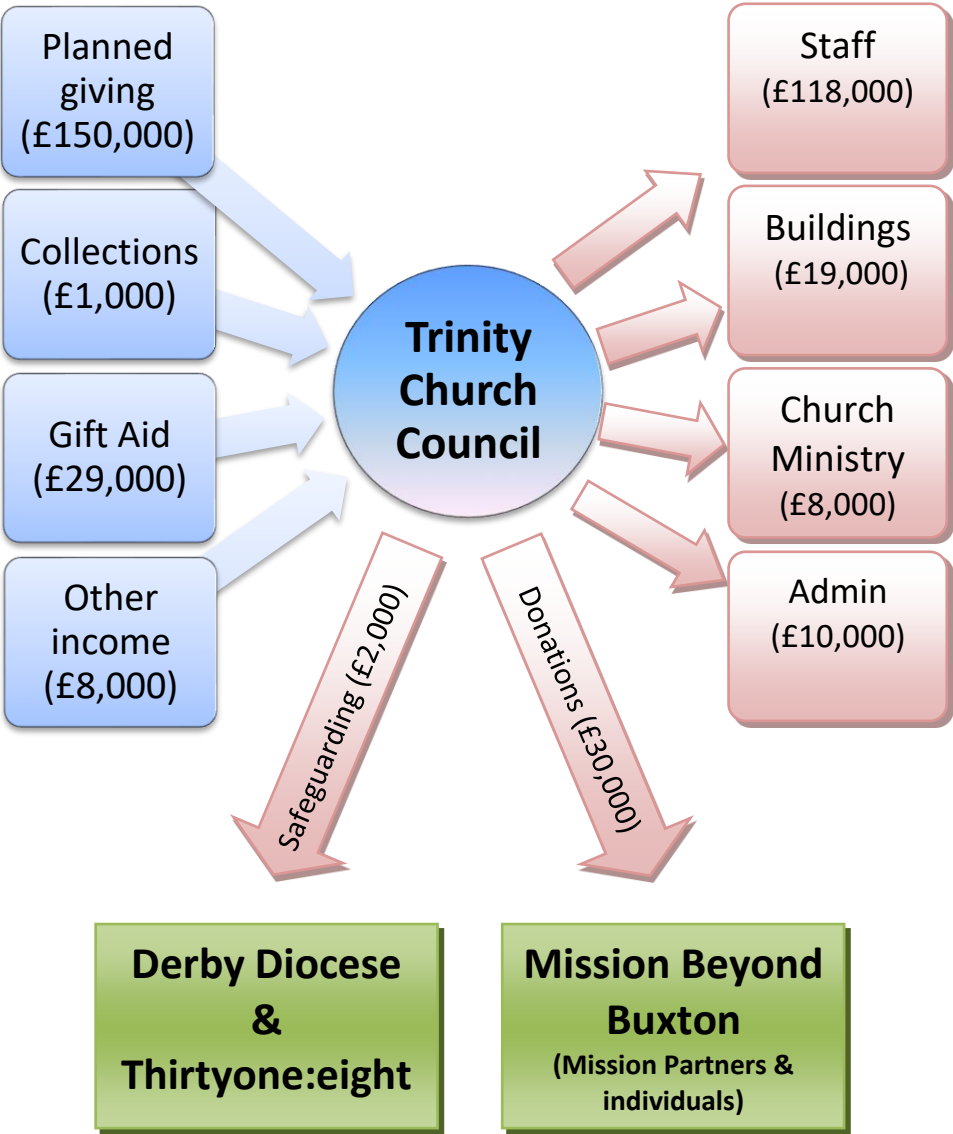
Trinity Church was established to maintain a clearly evangelical gospel presence in Buxton. It is right that we use our resources, both locally and more widely, to serve that end. We want to be both faithful and wise in how we use the money entrusted to us. We also want to be generous, blessing others with what we have. To that end, we have committed to giving 15% of our income to mission work beyond Buxton. We support seven Mission Partners, as well as awarding one off grants where we can (for example, to young people serving Christ in a gap year).

The Diocese of Derby and the Wider Church

At Trinity we recognise that we are part of the Diocese of Derby, so we contribute towards the Safeguarding provision they support us with. We also pay some costs to Thirtyone:eight for online DBS identity checks. We have also, from time to time, supported other clearly evangelical churches in the Diocese, supporting their gospel efforts.

Of course, Trinity is also part of the worldwide church, and therefore we also support seven Mission Partners working throughout the UK and across the world. This includes organisations that promote the gospel, such as Middle East Media and WEC; organisations that support the local church in their ministry and evangelism, such as London City Mission, OMF and Tearfund; church planting through Crosslinks; and finally Bible Translation through Wycliffe Bible Translators. We aim to spread our giving across different parts of the world, as well as in the UK, in places of physical and gospel need, as well as working in countries where Christians are marginalised and persecuted. There is more information at the back of church about our mission partners and the important work they do. Our aim is for regular giving from the church family to cover the costs of these activities.

How is money spent at Trinity?



FAQs

Should I give to the Trinity or to mission organisations?

Both the local church and mission agencies need financially supporting, however, the running of the local church and supporting its ministers is the primary responsibility of the congregation. Many people choose to financially support additional projects or organisations directly, including mission organisations that are not Trinity's mission partners. If you would like to discuss this further, a member of our finance team would be delighted to advise you (contacts are below).

How can I give financially?

- By standing order each month, quarter or year
- Payroll Giving
- Single donations by transfer, cash, contactless payment, or cheque
- Putting money in the church collection box
- Gifts of shares and other listed investments
- Including Trinity in your will

How would you prefer me to give?

If you are able, we would prefer you to give by Standing Order.

Standing Orders transfer money from your bank to the church regularly and automatically. This provides the church with regular, predictable income, which helps in two ways: it enables us to budget more effectively and it is simpler and safer to administer than cash or one-off donations.

If you need assistance setting up a Standing Order we can provide further information, including a Standing Order form, if necessary.

The bank details of Trinity Church Council are:

Account name:	Trinity Church Buxton Cooperative Bank
Sort code:	08-92-99
Account No:	67248274

It is helpful for us as a church if you let us know if you are setting up a Standing Order or are making any changes to an existing one.

How can the church get the most benefit from my giving?

If you pay UK tax, please complete a **Gift Aid Declaration** so the church can reclaim the basic rate tax you have paid: around 25p for every £1 you give. A Gift Aid Declaration held by the church will apply to all your donations (in the future or made in the past 4 years) and this will continue until you notify the Treasurer that you wish to revise or cancel your instructions.

Please read the conditions for Gift Aid on the back page for full details.

Only the Finance Team and the Church Treasurer have access to giving information. It is treated in the strictest confidence.

How do I make a single donation?

Please transfer your donation to the church account and let the Treasurer (contact details below) know. Alternatively, you can make a cheque payable to 'Trinity Church Buxton' and either put it in the Sunday collection box or give it to the Treasurer. As already mentioned, we would be grateful if you would also fill in a Gift Aid declaration form (which can be located at the back of this booklet) with your donation, if you haven't already done so.

How is my giving allocated to church activities?

The Church Council agrees a budget for the following financial year. As part of this budgeting process, the Church Council agrees how much should be spent on all different aspects of the church's activities. Except on a very few occasions (when we appeal for donations for a "reserved" or specific purpose), all giving is allocated into the church's General Fund. It is then used in accordance with the Church Council's budget for the year and reserves policy.

May I specify how I would like my gifts to be used?

Yes, as long as our funds are used in accordance with our charitable purposes. However, such requests can prevent the Church Council from using money in accordance with its needs so, wherever possible, please leave the allocation of funds to the elected Church Council.

Who should I contact?

In the first place, speak to our treasurer, Pete Farrant
finance@trinitychurchbuxton.org.uk

The Small Print

Conditions for Gift Aid

Making donations

- There is no minimum amount or minimum term for Gift Aid. There is a Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme (GASDS) which allows the church to claim Gift Aid on small cash donations of £30 or less even if no Gift Aid Declaration is held.
- Donations may be made by Standing Order, cheque, direct bank transfer or cash.
- To qualify for Gift Aid, you must pay an amount of UK Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax at least equal to the tax that the church reclaims on your donations. Note please: If you pay less UK Income Tax or Capital Gains Tax than the Gift Aid claimed on all your donations in that tax year, it is your responsibility to pay any difference.

Changes in your situation

- Please inform the Treasurer if your tax situation changes for any given tax year in which you have authorised the church to make Gift Aid claims. Please do get in contact even if this relates to years in the past for which you overlooked or were unaware of this requirement – the church can adjust previous claims if necessary.
- You can cancel your declaration at any time by notifying the Church Treasurer.

Reclaiming tax

- The church will reclaim the basic rate tax you have paid on your donations when we have received your signed Gift Aid Declaration.
- If you pay tax at a higher rate, you can claim further tax relief when submitting your annual tax return.

Data Protection

In completing and submitting the Gift Aid Declaration and/or Standing Order form, you agree that Trinity Church Buxton may collect, store and use any personal information you may be providing for the purposes of administering your giving and complying with any requests for information from HMRC and for the purpose of providing you with information about our current and future programme of activities.

Trinity Church Buxton – Gift Aid Donations

I want the church to reclaim tax on all my donations in the current tax year and on all future donations that I make. I am a UK taxpayer. I note that I must have paid an amount of tax which at least equals the tax deducted from this donation.

Please make cheques payable to : Trinity Church, Buxton.
For electronic transfer 08-92-99 67248274

Signature..... **Date**

Full Name including title (Please Print)

.....

Address

.....

Post Code

Notes:

1. As your declaration covers donations you will make in the future:
2. Please notify us if you change your name or address while the declarations is still in force. You can cancel the declaration at any time by notifying us. It will then not apply to donations you make on or after the date of cancellation or such later date as you specify.
3. You must pay an amount of income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax that we reclaim on donations in the tax year (currently 25p for each £1 you give)
4. If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that we reclaim, you can cancel your declaration (see note 1).
5. If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self Assessment return.
6. If you are unsure whether your donations qualify for Gift Aid tax relief, please ask the Treasurer.

For further information, help and any queries please contact:
Treasurer: Peter Farrant **finance@trinitychurchbuxton.org.uk**