



GENEROSITY WEEK 2024

JUNE NEWSLETTER ISSUE 1 29 September - 6 October 2024

“Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus’ feet, and wiped them with her hair.” (John 12:3 NRSVA)

WELCOME TO GENEROSITY WEEK 2024

Every year more churches have a Generosity Week and give themselves time to take stock of where they are in living generous lives. Generosity Week isn't about campaigns or rotas. It's about building a culture in which people want to give – of their time, their talents or their money.

What's involved?

- Pick a week – 29 September until 6 October is the national week, but you can do any week that works for you.
- Have a Generous Church Review, to give yourself a starting point
- Plan two Sundays' worth of services, one on gratitude and one on generosity
- Looking at your church and its interests, pick one or two other activities

Everything you need is here:



Enabling giving – encouraging generosity

Building a generous church needs generosity and the provision of ways to give. To encourage generosity we need to *inspire* people to live generous lives, to provide *discipleship* opportunities to learn about God's generosity to us, to *embed* generosity in everything we do and to provide ways for people to *activate* their generosity. Together the initial letters spell IDEA.

To enable giving, we need to provide the *mechanisms* for people to give, to explain the *impact* of people's giving, to demonstrate the *need* for giving and to build *trust* with those who do give. Those initial letters spell MINT.

Together IDEA and MINT enable us to learn about God's incredible generosity to us, and how we can live generous lives in response.

From now until September, we'll look at one letter from MINT and one from IDEA. For June, it is M for Mechanisms and I for Inspire.



New Resources

Taking the verse above as inspiration, the Living Generously films offer us seven distinct generousities. Suitable for small groups and with a comprehensive study guide, you can find out more here.



INSPIRE



Good preaching and teaching inspire people, but so too does modelling the behaviour we want others to follow. So if we want everyone to give regularly, then the PCC should be doing so. And we as a church should be generous and not always looking to receive. Inspiration takes time, so we need to factor in time in services for people to tell their stories of why they give, how it's blessed them and how they benefited by others' generosity.

MECHANISMS



Have you ever wanted to support a charity activity or fundraiser, but you didn't have any cash on you and that's the only way they could take a donation? Or pointed your phone at

a QR code and given up when you got an error message? Walk around your church and think about when people might want to give, and make sure they have the opportunity to do so.