

How to give regularly

If you want to contribute regularly to God's work through Forest Gate Church, we ask that you contact the Pastor or one of the leaders for a standing order giving form.

By registering with Gift Aid (the government tax rebate scheme), anyone paying income tax can increase their gift by 28%, effectively making your donation go further with no cost to you.

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Each family who registers gift aid with us will be allocated a 'Forest Gate Giving' number, which can be used for regular and ad-hoc gifts through the envelopes we use each Sunday morning for offerings.

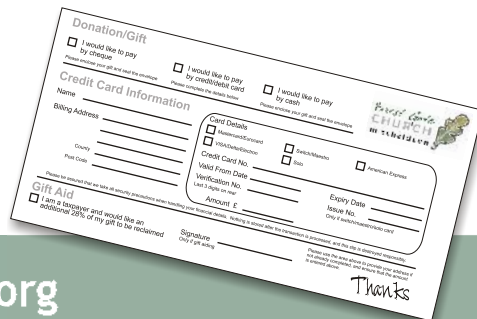
"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7

We never want money to be a reason for not doing what God has called us to do and as such it is up to the Church of God to resource the work of His kingdom.

Equally as Jesus modelled, all are welcome at Forest Gate Church irrespective of any financial contribution you may or may not make. We value people not on what you can give or contribute, but because we were all worth the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus and we are all priceless to God.

"What, giving again?" I asked in dismay. "And must I keep giving and giving away?" "Oh, no," said the angel, piercing me through, "Just give until the Father stops giving to you."

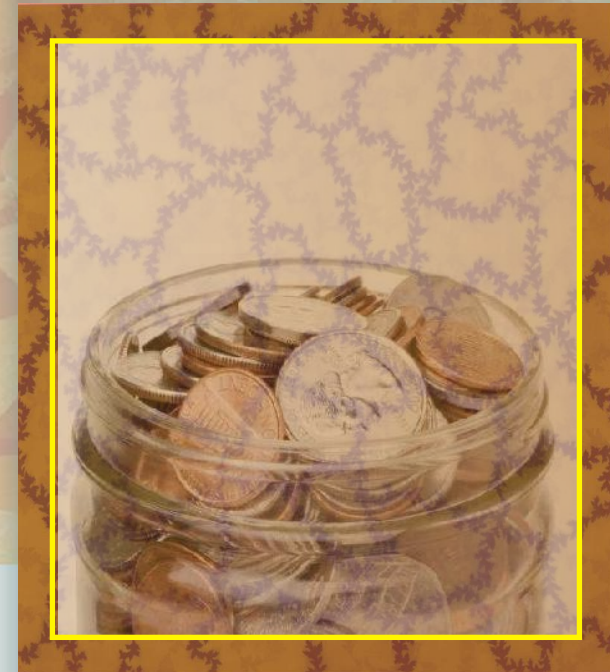
We also believe in full transparency and accountability in Church finances, with our accounts distributed and analysed at least annually at church meetings, and our treasurer always willing to answer any specific questions you might have.



www.forestgatechurch.org

RESOURCING TOGETHER

Financial Giving



Forest Gate
CHURCH
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FUELLING GOD'S WORK

How we see money

They say 'money makes the world go round', and that is true in that without it many dreams go unfulfilled, potential is wasted and vital work cannot continue. At Forest Gate Church, we believe that God is the giver of all our resources through the education and skills He has given us. We should be grateful for our jobs, pensions, benefits and bank interest as they are all blessings that God has given us to be good stewards of.

We also read in the Bible that God's Church is to be a place of equipping, investment in people, helping those in need and distribution of resources, and so God asks that His people take ownership for the work He calls us to do.

It is also true that the mis-use of money can cause people stress and heartache, with debt being at an all time high in our society. We need to view the church as God's vehicle to reach people, and it is our responsibility to fuel it! When we all contribute something, the mission can be achieved.

"Celebrate the Feast of Harvest with the firstfruits of the crops you sow in your field...Bring the best of the firstfruits of your soil to the house of the LORD your God." **Exodus 32:16**

How does the Church fund its work?

Simply put, the Church members contribute significantly and regularly to fund the existing and future church here. With buildings to maintenance, staff to equip and rent to be paid, it is a responsibility that we encourage all members to take seriously and participate in if possible.

Some of the regular costs for running the church include:

Community outreach projects
Building maintenance
Kids teaching resources
Craft materials
Church bus maintenance
Conference delegate sponsorship
Training and development

Worship resources and equipment
Full and part time staffing
Weekend facility rental
Utility bills
Youth activity subsidies
Visiting Speakers

With over £3000 of outgoing costs each month, it is only through a generous congregation that we can sustain the current church activities, let alone invest in future facilities, staff and training.



Flowing Finance

Part of the church's commitment to reach those in need is to take a minimum of **10%** of all income, and give it **outwards** to projects, groups and charities involved in rescuing, developing and helping people. Some of this support goes regularly each month, providing vital support for causes both locally, nationally and internationally, though in addition each year we have a 'GateGive' Sunday where people are encouraged to give over and above their regular donations to an international work. Some of the projects we have funded include:

Musical instruments in Romania
Farming projects in Uganda
Oxes and ploughs for Africa
Youth helpline in Gloucestershire

Books for bible colleges
Rickshaws in India
Earthquake relief in Haiti

We are also committed to the ongoing development of future leaders and church workers, and as such, 1.25% of all income goes into a 'Timothy' fund. From this, conference or training fees are subsidised and many receive opportunities where finance would otherwise be an issue.

In the Bible we read that offerings were required for local priests, special occasions and for working with the poor and needy. The same is true today, and we believe that God's people are called to support in prayer, in volunteering and in financial giving to God's Kingdom and so we encourage members to consider a 10% (or tithe) of their monthly income to the work of the Church.

Not everyone can find 10% on a tight budget, yet others give more each month. We believe that when you put first the mission of God, He will bless us in abundance for our faithfulness.

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this, says the LORD Almighty...and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."

Malachi 3:10

As such we encourage a generous giving lifestyle in our church members, where cars, TVs, holidays, toys and even the house we live in comes second to giving God what He deserves - the firstfruits of our labour.

