



A Family on a Journey

Over the past 6 years Jan and I have served at Christ Church, we have seen The Lord building a diverse and vibrant community of Christians in Tunbridge Wells with a vision to pray and work for a renewal of faith throughout this whole area.

The Minster Vision...

Our ministry is best understood as what is called a 'minster' church. Traditionally Minsters were regionally focused centres of hospitality and education, pastoral care and outreach, enabling the church to be an active presence in the villages and communities of the surrounding area.

For us today that includes developing a committed, praying and worshipping community; being a centre for healing and restoration; sending teams to resource and enable other churches and serving as a training centre, equipping all God's people for the ministry He has called them to.

I believe this is not only worth investing in, but is one of the best ways to bring hope, help and the message of Jesus to all. I invite you to join us by providing what we need for the family, for the journey, for the minster.

With love,
Tim and Jan

What we're all about...

Mercy

'When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them...' (Matthew 9:36)

At Christ Church we aim to provide for people's practical and spiritual needs. This has led us...

- To partner with and support organisations such as 'life and soul', 'street pastors', 'Restore' and others.
- To start our thrive café as a local drop-in and 'warm space'.
- To provide space for Ukrainian refugee language training
- To substantially increase support for overseas mission partners.

In 2024 we aim to give over £1,000 a week to mission partners here and overseas.

Mission

About 675 adults and children consider Christ Church their spiritual home, and our desire that **everyone** should encounter the Living Lord Jesus and respond to his call to know and follow Him.

Our **Alpha** course, **Sparklers** toddler group, **children and youth** ministries are just some of the ways we do this. Our **children's holiday club** in 2024 will be a major outreach to children throughout the town.

Mission involves all of us, as we pray for and invite our friends, neighbours and colleagues to 'come as they are' and see for themselves how Jesus changes lives.



The big ASK ...

Maturity

'Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become the mature body of Christ' (Ephesians 4:15)

Together we're learning to trust God with our whole lives, build real friendships and discover God's purpose for us. **Freedom Prayer** and midweek **life groups** help us serve God and know Him better.

Course such as **'SHAPE'**, **'Transforming Life** and **'Emotionally healthy spirituality'** seek to equip us for Christian living.



Ministry

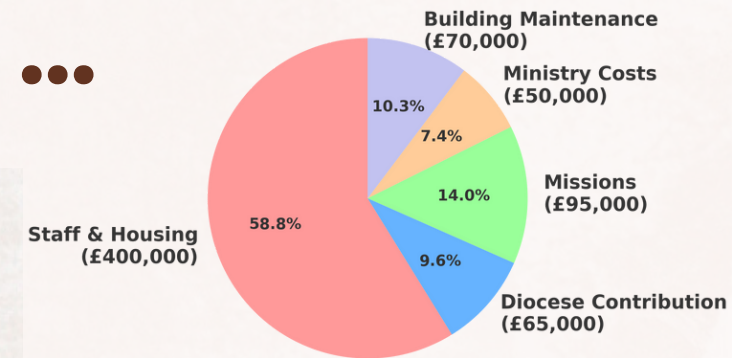
'For we are co-workers in God's service...' (1 Cor 3:9)
Christ Church isn't just a crowd of people – we're a family working together to become like Jesus.

Whether it's praying for others, serving on a team, offering hospitality or using our **creative gifts and talents** everyone has something to offer.

We believe in a church where...

- Everyone is **worshipping**
- Everyone is **giving**
- Everyone is **receiving**
- Everyone is **serving**

How last years giving was used:



Many have already given sacrificially to get us to this point but each year brings fresh opportunities - as well as increased costs. In 2024 we need to provide for:

- The full years cost of housing for our new curate and family (an additional £15,000)
- Increased housekeeping costs due to inflation (an additional £30,000)
- Cost of living increases to staff salaries (an additional £15,000)

Our Gift Day target is £60,000

What Next?

Would you prayerfully consider how you could respond?

First, if you're not already giving on a regular basis, could you start by making a new regular standing order? At present 50% of our income is from just 14 givers!

Secondly, if you already give regularly, could you consider increasing the amount you give?

Thirdly, could you make a one-off gift (or 'promise' to give) by the end of April 2024?

Completing the Response Form gives us an idea of our likely income. Please tell your bank about your new or revised standing orders. If you have not previously done so, please consider signing the Gift Day Declaration Form attached.

Account name: Christ Church Tunbridge Wells, PCC
Bank: Lloyds Bank, Tunbridge Wells
Sort code: 30-98-77 Account no: 00216111