



Vineyard Finances

HOW IS THE CHURCH FINANCED?

SHOULD I GIVE?

HOW CAN I GIVE?



How is the church financed?

We are a church that loves to serve God and get on and do the job that He has given us to do! From the outset, this church has consisted of people who are willing to devote their time, energy and money to this task. We believe that giving away a proportion of our income to finance the work of the church is an important part of Christian commitment as well as something that the bible clearly teaches.

What are the benefits of giving?

We believe that there are sound reasons behind the bible's instruction to all believers to give. The apostle Paul lists some of them in 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15:

- Generous giving generates rich rewards (v6)
- We experience God's love and favour (v8)
- God's grace is multiplied to us (v10)
- It results in thanksgiving to God (v11)
- People's needs are met (v12)
- It creates gratitude (v15)

Furthermore we believe that giving should be characterised by joy and cheerfulness, and that no-one should give either reluctantly or under compulsion (verse 7).

What are the principles of giving?

We believe that Paul gives helpful instructions on this issue. In 1 Corinthians 16: 1-2 he sets out at least four principles for giving

- Regularly - choose a set time interval for your giving, weekly or monthly
- Individually - everyone is invited to participate
- Systematically - let your giving be thoughtfully planned
- Proportionately - the proportion is far more significant than the amount

A fifth principle would be that we give *locally* - our primary commitment is to our own church.

How are the church's finances organised?

The church is registered with the Charity Commissioners as 'Southend Vineyard', Charity No. **1047393** and is also a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales (our company number is **3060009**). We are therefore subject to the law governing charities.

There are six trustees, who oversee the financial affairs of the church.

Trustees: James Dunlop, Andy Vincett , Roger Newsham, Deborah Hargas, Akin Coker & Jehan Pasangha.

Secretary: Cath Wakeling

Bookkeeper: Kate Faulkner

What are the safeguards against mismanagement?

We seek to implement the principles set out in the New Testament regarding the management of money given for the purpose of financing ministry. For example, taking great care to do what is right in the eyes of both the Lord and men: avoiding any grounds for criticism of the way monies are administered: involving a team of trustworthy people, not just one person. (2 Corinthians 8: 18 - 21).

Annual statements relating to the financial activities of the church are subject to specific financial policies which are strictly adhered to. The statements are readily available on request.

The Gift Aid scheme

We can boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate.

We can reclaim Gift Aid on your donations from HM Revenue & Customs. You need to be a UK taxpayer and pay at least as much income tax and/or capital gains tax in a tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all your donations to charities and community amateur sports clubs (CASCs).

Please see the Gift Aid Declaration overleaf.

How can I give?

If you would like to give, then please pray about giving and decide how much of your income you believe the Lord wants you to give.

A **standing order** is a great way to give and really helps us as we prepare Budgets (see overleaf).

You can also give by placing a **cheque** in the offering baskets on a Sunday or delivering it to Southend Vineyard's offices (6Warrior Square, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2JE).

On a Sunday **cash** can be placed directly in the basket or in the envelopes provided. We can claim gift aid if you sign the envelope and have completed a Gift Aid Declaration.

If you are not sure which is the best way for you to give or if you have any concerns or questions please call Kate on 01702 612900 who will be very happy to talk things through with you.

Standing Order Mandate

To: The Manager (name and address in full of your bank/building society)

Postcode _____

Please pay to: CAFCASH LTD Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, Me19 4TA
(Sort Code No: 40-52-40) for the account of
Southend Vineyard (Account No: 00009646)

The sum of (figures) £ _____ (words)

Commencing on _____ (date) & continuing thereafter monthly/quarterly/annually (please delete as appropriate) until further notice.

This instruction cancels any previous order in favour of the beneficiary named above.

Name of account to be debited: _____

Account Number: _____

Your Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Signature: _____

Dated: / /

Gift Aid Declaration (for taxpayers)

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by Southend Vineyard from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

I want to Gift Aid all donations that I make now and in the future and any donations I have made in the past four tax years to Southend Vineyard.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Please complete your details here, using blue or black ink, as the information is part of your declaration.

Title: (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Revd, etc) _____ Surname: _____

First names: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please notify us if you:-

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or home address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.