

# St Peter's Church, Woolton

website: [www.stpeters-woolton.org.uk](http://www.stpeters-woolton.org.uk)

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Dear friends

From 30<sup>th</sup> May to 27<sup>th</sup> June in our Sunday services at St Peter's we will be focussing on a stewardship campaign entitled: Gratitude – Generosity – Growth.

So I am writing to say a heartfelt thank you for all that you bring to the life of our church. It's good to have you as part of our church community. Your faith, commitment and financial support make a huge difference.

At St Peter's we serve many people in many ways and it is a busy and varied life!

- Normally on Sundays our church is full of all ages coming to worship in their own ways and learning about Jesus;
- We welcome hundreds every year for special moments in their journey of life, through baptisms, weddings and funerals;
- Hundreds of children and young people belong to our many groups;
- We have a wonderful partnership with Bishop Martin School;
- Our Hub and the church hall are bursting with activities for different ages;
- We have a lot of history – and we welcome visitors from all over the world.

Our impact is felt well beyond the church building itself, sometimes to those who may not normally look to the church for help. Through our outreach into the community, often in partnership with others, we are constantly seeking to meet the needs of the marginalised and vulnerable in our society, aiming to be the salt and light in our communities that Jesus challenges us to be.

These are certainly exciting and challenging times. We want to be a church that grows and develops. We believe that the Gospel we proclaim is vital for the well-being of individuals and society.

All this is possible because of the dedicated commitment of time, skills and energy which you bring to our church and also the financial support you give week by week. And this is why I am asking for your help today.

Like every household our church needs to keep up with the cost of living. While we are as careful as possible with our funds, expenses such as our clergy, staff and many other day-to-day costs mount up. You may not realise that this comes to a staggering £4,300 each week. We receive some money from funeral and wedding fees, and also from fundraising, but the vast majority comes from regular church members giving faithfully each week. And of course, during this past year, due to the pandemic, many of our income streams have stopped.

As I look to the future, there are exciting challenges ahead:

- We are looking to make two new appointments to lead and support our thriving children's and young people's work. This is something we know young people and their parents will value and, whilst we are looking for grants to help us, we anticipate that most if not all of the cost will need to be met by us.
- We look forward to the Hub and Hall buzzing again with a sense of community and belonging for all.
- Our beautiful buildings also need regular upkeep and maintenance as they enable us to carry out our mission to 'Grow together in love for God, each other and the world'.

Everything we do at St Peter's – our work in the community, our local mission and our worldwide mission is only possible because of your generosity.

So, I want to ask you to read the attached brochure and then prayerfully consider the following:

1. Joining the Planned Giving Scheme if you are not already part of it. If you are, then perhaps reviewing the amount you give. Regular giving is particularly important to us because it allows us to plan ahead. By using your phone to scan the QR code at the bottom of this letter, you'll be taken to our PSG page.
2. Making a one-off gift
3. Making a gift in church on our Gift Day (27<sup>th</sup> June)
4. Leaving a legacy gift to St Peter's

Details of how you do this are on our website: [www.stpeters-woolton.org.uk/give-financially](http://www.stpeters-woolton.org.uk/give-financially)

Thank you again for the part you play in God's work through our church and for your prayerful consideration of my request.

With my love and prayers.

Kip

