

What about
Giving in 2016?

REFLECTIONS ON 2015

The finalisation of the accounts for 2015 provided great cause for praise and thanks with the General Fund showing a small but comfortable working surplus and the Development Fund showing a very significant reduction in the amount outstanding on the new building.

GENERAL FUND

The General Fund is there to meet all the “normal costs” which our case come under four main headings. (i) staff costs (ii) running costs (iii) support for our own missionaries and (iv) “other giving” which includes support for the ministries of the Association of Baptist Churches and other projects such as the local SU schools worker. Our ambition is to increase the percentage of income allocated to support/over the years. (2105 was 31%).

To balance the budget for 2016 an additional £450 per month is required. If shared between all the current givers this amounts to a small increase. And of course we hope that both existing and new members will help to take up the burden as God leads.

DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Development Fund is there to finance the new building in which we meet. At the beginning of March we finally received a guide to the final cost, which shows that if we can raise about £63,000 in the remainder of 2016 we will have the debt completely cleared.

This is less than the income to the development fund in 2015 so we are very hopeful that God will continue to work in all our hearts. The first special offering in on 13th March – but of course you may give at any time that is more convenient for you.

GIFT AID & STANDING ORDERS

For taxpayers the most efficient way to give is though gift aid. Signing the simple form at the end of this document (or available at the Welcome Desk) enables us to reclaim tax, which increases the value of your giving by 25%. After returning the form just ensure that what you give can be identified - either placing it in an envelope with your name on it or by setting up a standing order.

This is done by means of another form also included in this document (and available in the foyer.) When completed it also should be returned to the Treasurer (currently David McCracken) who will do whatever else is necessary. All donations are kept confidential. If, in your case, Gift Aid is not appropriate you can still give by standing order if you wish, or by way of the normal Sunday morning offering.

As a church we understand giving to be a matter of the heart – something between the individual and God. What follows sets out some biblical guidelines.

A BIBLICAL FRAMEWORK FOR GIVING

Giving is essentially not a financial discipline but a spiritual one and the Bible sets out a number of important but simple principles regarding our giving.

- Giving should be **REGULAR**
Paul told the Corinthians that they should give “on the first day of every week”.
- Giving should be **INDIVIDUAL**
Paul addresses his instruction to “each one of you” implying that it is each of our responsibilities to look at what we have and decide accordingly.
- Giving should be **PLANNED**
We are to put aside the money we will give to God. Paul says each one should give as he (or she) has purposed in his heart, where “purposed” translates as “set aside beforehand”.
- Giving should be **PROPORTIONAL**
Paul told each Corinthian to give “as he may prosper”. The Old Testament talked in terms of tithing income – 10% to you and me. Should we give less?
- Giving should be **SACRIFICIAL**
The widow in Mark’s gospel was commended by Jesus not for the amount she gave but for the cost it was to her.
- Giving should be **CHEERFUL**
Paul urges the Corinthians not to give grudgingly or under compulsion because God loves a cheerful giver.

There is no doubt that if God’s principles are embraced by God’s people, God’s work will be affordable.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you require further guidance or assistance with anything regarding giving or finance at Hamilton Road Baptist Church please contact:

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Hamilton Road Baptist Church
Hamilton Road
Bangor
BT20 4LQ

Phone: 028 9146 3904
Email: j2dmac@gmail.com



HAMILTON ROAD
BAPTIST CHURCH

BANKERS ORDER FORM

If you would like to give towards the work of Hamilton Road Baptist Church by Standing Order, please fill in the form below in BLOCK CAPITALS and **return to our treasurer.**

TITLE _____ FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POST CODE _____

TO THE MANAGER OF (Bank name) _____

(Bank address) _____

(Postcode) _____

BANK SORT CODE ____ - ____ - ____

ACCOUNT NUMBER _____

Please pay to the account of Hamilton Road Baptist Church (A/C no. 83861279) at the Danske Bank, 77 Main Street, Bangor, BT20 5AP (Sort code 95-02-52)

The sum of _____ (in words) £ _____ (in figures)

To commence on _____ (date of first payment)

and thereafter every month / quarter / year (delete as necessary) until further notice.

This overrides any previous Standing Order with Hamilton Road Baptist Church.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

You may wish to designate which fund you support or split your giving between the two by indicating below. If left blank your giving will go to the General Fund.

GENERAL FUND £ _____ DEVELOPMENT FUND £ _____

GIFT AID DECLARATION
NORTHERN BAPTIST CORPORATION



**NORTHERN
BAPTIST
CORPORATION**
limited

TITLE _____ FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POST CODE _____

I am a UK taxpayer and I want the Corporation to treat (please tick):

- All donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise
- All donations I have made since ___ / ___ / ___ and all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise

as Gift Aid donations.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____