

HOLY TRINITY CLAPHAM

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH GOD

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13th November 2014

Dear Friends,

We feel this last year at Holy Trinity Clapham has been one where there has been **real maturing amongst the church family**. To give you a few examples of this, integration between the three congregations (8am, 10am, 6pm) has been continuing to grow and mature in exciting ways. The evening service which started just over two years ago has now matured beyond being merely an exciting new project to become a fully-fledged contemporary service that many people moving into South London come and investigate. The monthly Taize service is now a regular feature for those wanting to mature in their faith in a more contemplative fashion. The relaunch of homegroups as Connect Groups has been a great success, encouraging more people to join a group so that we now have well over 200 people in one of 21 groups – and this has helped mature us all in our own discipleship.

As always, **Connecting People with God** is our primary purpose. At this year's Annual Meeting in April we revisited our two year vision - **The Road Ahead** (April 2013-April 2015). It is a bold vision, and one that we believe God has been calling us to as a church, and it has been exciting to see how God has been working to bring this vision about. In the summer, the final staff posts of that vision were appointed: Josh Moxon as the Children and Youth Minister, Vicky Wright as the Operations Director, Diane Grano as the Community Missioner and Paul Mitchell as the Director of Music. Each one of these individuals, along with our three new members of our internship scheme, has brought such vibrancy and passion to our church.

We would like to encourage you as part of this church in three particular ways on Vision Sunday:

1. **An encouragement to be Confident.** We can be confident, not in ourselves, but in our God. As the writer of Hebrews declares: "**we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'**" The Lord has certainly been helping us as Holy Trinity Clapham.
2. **An encouragement for Continuity.** As you will know, David has announced that he will be retiring as Rector of Clapham, and his last Sunday will be **May 31st 2015**. As well as getting that date in your diary for a **huge celebration of David and Anne's wonderful ministry** over the last nineteen years, please be encouraged that the vision that has been set out by the PCC will continue to flourish in the coming years.
3. **An encouragement to Contribute.** **We thank all of you** who have been so faithful and generous in supporting our work this year – with your time, your finances, your gifts and your prayers. Your financial generosity provides the funds we need for our work. But to implement the plans in place we will need more funds in 2015. **We need to raise an additional £75,000 for 2015** over and above our current level of giving.

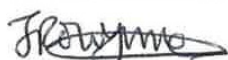
Proportionate, regular and thankful planned giving from everyone is a key part of our plan to deepen and grow our ministry and mission, and spiritually it deepens our relationship with God. With this letter is a form **to help you commit financially** to God's work at Holy Trinity Clapham for the coming year. You can also find it on our website: <http://holytrinityclapham.org>, as well as more information there about who we are and what we are doing. **Please bring the form back to church next week for our Gift Sunday on 23rd November, so that we can celebrate all our gifts during our worship.**

This letter is a specific invitation to give money to Holy Trinity Clapham in 2015. But we value tremendously your resources of time, abilities and opportunities to serve God here and in your daily lives.

With love in Christ



David Isherwood
Rector



Jago Wynne
Associate Rector



Karen Simmonds
Churchwarden



Bruce MacInnes
Churchwarden

PLANNED GIVING

Giving to Holy Trinity in a planned way enables us to budget together for our expenditure. We have a vision of how we can make a difference in Clapham and beyond and invite you to contribute to that through regular financial support for Holy Trinity Clapham, so that we can implement it.

Our total income as a church has roughly doubled since 2011 to nearly £560,000 in 2014 as a result of increases in giving from our congregations. We enormously value the sacrificial giving involved to have generated this increase. It has been sufficient to give us confidence to make the various staff appointments we had asked for funding for.

However, we need to increase our giving further in 2015 in order to meet the full year cost of these posts. **We need a total of £75,000** in additional contributions in 2015 in order to sustain the vision we have set out in previous years. This amounts to roughly the same increase again as was achieved from our appeal through Gift Sunday last year. God willing, we believe it is eminently achievable if we continue to embrace our vision with generous and sacrificial giving.

The majority of the increase in what we need (£66k) is the full year effect of the cost of employing new staff (Children and Youth Minister, Community Missioner, Operations Director, Director of Music, extra intern). It will also enable us to grow the budget of various expanding ministries (e.g. Youth and Children's work) and invest in a new church website and database.

If you sign a **Gift Aid declaration**, the church can reclaim the tax you have paid: i.e. for every £1,000 given, Holy Trinity will actually receive £1,250 (your £1,000 plus £250 of tax relief).

Would you please complete the enclosed Pledge Form and Gift Aid declaration (if you pay UK tax), and the separate **Banker's Order form** (if you would prefer the church to set up your Standing Order), and bring them to Holy Trinity Clapham on **Sunday 23rd November**. Alternatively you can return them in the enclosed envelope to the Planned Giving Secretary, Holy Trinity Church, Clapham Common Northside, London SW4 0QZ.

The amount you give is confidential. If you have any questions about Planned Giving, please speak to our Treasurer, Neil Shadbolt (07796 794 666) or alternatively email giving@holytrinityclapham.org.

HOW MUCH SHOULD I PLEDGE?

The Biblical principle of tithing 10% is a helpful benchmark. But above all the Bible encourages us to give **cheerfully, generously and sacrificially**.

Tax relief for higher rate taxpayers

Higher rate taxpayers who declare their donations to HMRC can get a tax rebate as they can reclaim the difference between the higher 40% rate of tax and the basic rate of 20% - a total of 20%. So if £1 were donated, the gross donation would be £1.25 and the donor can claim 25p back. Thus if you gift aid £1, the PCC will get £1.25, and it will cost you only 75p.

You can also nominate a charity to receive your rebate. HMRC will pass the repayment direct to the charity (Holy Trinity Clapham charity no. 1135242).

WHAT ABOUT MY TIME AND SKILLS?

Holy Trinity Clapham encourages, welcomes and depends on a large number of volunteers to make our ministries and activities happen and we are incredibly grateful to you. We value everyone who feels able to give more in time or skills than in money, while also valuing the proportionate financial commitment you make to Holy Trinity. Speak to us or fill in a Get Connected card if you would like to get more involved!

FINANCIAL PLEDGE FOR 2015 (CONFIDENTIAL)

Name:.....

Postal Address:.....

.....(address needed for processing Gift Aid)

Email:

- I would like to make a new or amended planned contribution to Holy Trinity Church Clapham

£..... every week/month/quarter/half year/year (please delete as appropriate)

I understand that I may revise or cancel my giving if my circumstances change.

- I would like my method and amount of payment to remain the same

How I will give

Please let us know how you would like to give:

- Standing order or one-off electronic transfer
(please be sure to give “**Planned Giving**” as a reference).
**Holy Trinity’s bank details are: Sort code 60-05-34;
Account number 56151721. Account name: Holy Trinity Church Clapham PCC**
- Cash or cheque using weekly envelopes
 Please tick if you would like help to switch from weekly to monthly payments
- Cheque(s) payable to Holy Trinity Church Clapham PCC
 Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) voucher
 Give As You Earn (GAYE) (Holy Trinity Church Clapham charity no. I 135242).

If you pay tax, please complete the Gift Aid declaration below.

Gift Aid declaration

To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in income or capital gains tax must be at least equal to the amount Holy Trinity will claim in the tax year (one quarter of what you give).

- I declare that all donations I make to Holy Trinity PCC are Gift Aid donations until I notify you otherwise.

Signature: Date:

Name:

You can set up your standing order to Holy Trinity Church Clapham yourself online. However, if you would prefer for the church to organise this, please just fill in this Banker's Order form:

Banker's Order Form

To..... Bank/Building Society

Postal Address..... Postcode.....

Sort Code..... Account No.....

Account name.....

Reference: **PLANNED GIVING**

Please pay to the National Westminster Bank of 145 Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7SN (sort code 60-05-34) for the account of Holy Trinity Church Clapham PCC a/c 56151721

The sum of £..... (figures).....(words)

On theday of.....(month) 20.... and the same sum on the same day in every *month / quarter / half year / year until further notice (delete as appropriate)

This supercedes / is in addition to my current standing order(s) for £..... every *month / quarter / half year / year (delete if not applicable)

Signed..... Date.....