

# FULWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

*Your word is a lamp for my feet, and a light on my path. Psalm 119v 105*



## SUNDAY 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022

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**Welcome to Fulwood Methodist Church. If you are new, we would love to get to know you better. Please speak to the Minister or to one of the Stewards.**

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**10.30am Altogether Worship led by Rev Jane Wild**

**After Church OMG the young people meet up for food and activities**

**Please remember the following in your prayers this week**

*The children who come onto our premises each week, and the leadership of the activities.*

*The new pastoral system and that we will all work together*

*The Gift Day – that our financial needs will be met.*

*Ukraine – for the suffering of the people and that peace might soon come.*

### THE WEEK AHEAD

**Monday 9th May**

**6.00pm. Beavers**

**7.00pm. Cubs**

**Tuesday 10th May**

**10.00am to 12 noon.** Open for coffee and the 'New to You' stall - all welcome

**2.00pm Ladies Fellowship** Speaker Rey Smith

*'From Little Acorns.... The history of the Leyland Festival*

**5.00pm - 7.00pm Messy Church** A chance for families to create, chew and celebrate together. All welcome but could young people bring an adult with them.

**7.00 – 9.00 pm Scouts**

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.00am to 12.30pm** We welcome you for drinks, soup, bacon butties, and scones. The 'New to You stall' will be open and there is opportunity to meet new and old friends.

**10.30am Wednesday Communion is back** in Cedar room. A half hour reflection and simple communion service all welcome. (Please check the notices and notice board in willow grove the week before as we may have to skip some weeks)

**7.00pm to 8.15pm Community Choir** - Social singing for all abilities and ages.

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

**2.30pm - 4.00pm Knitting Group** - New members are welcome and we have wool, needles, and crochet hooks for people to use.

**6.00pm to 7.00pm Rainbows**

**6.15pm to 7.30pm Brownies**

**7.30pm to 9.00pm Guides** (Rangers meet fortnightly)

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

**9.30am to 11.30am Toddlers Club**

**6.30pm to 8.00pm Escape Youth Club**

**Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> Gift Day and Plant Sale**

**We are invited to our Gift Day.** The aim of the event is to shine a light on the financial challenge we currently face as a Church and what you can do to help.

**Sunday May 15th at 10.30am Morning Worship led by Rev Janet Titterton**

## **Other Notices**

**Church Transport.** Contact Eric Waterhouse – 863743.

The driver today is Emma Byers and next Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> May is Andrew Cuckson

**Gift Day** Please remember the gift day on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 10.00am to 12 noon. See leaflet at end of these notices for more details

For regular payments - if you would like to set up a standing order - you can make payments to:  
Fulwood Methodist Church Standing Order Account

Sort Code 16-28-33 Account number 12006229

For one off gifts, you can make transfers directly into our bank account:

Fulwood Methodist Church Business Instant Access Reserve

sort code 16-28-33 Account number 12006210

In both cases please include your name in the reference so we can identify who has contributed - and we can then claim any gift aid where applicable.

**Cake stall.** At the Gift Day on 14 May we are having a cake stall so you can have something to eat with your tea or coffee! We would be delighted if members of the congregation would be willing to bake cakes etc to sell. If you are able, please let Margaret Squire or John Ferris know, Cakes can be left in the kitchen on the Friday evening. Thanks in anticipation.

**Spring Plant Sale. Saturday 14th May from 10.00am to 12 noon**

Owing to a miscalculation on my part, the advance order forms were not produced for which I apologise. However, there are lists of what will be available with the prices. Submit your order on the table in Willow Grove where the greeting cards are displayed. Please help yourselves to one and use it as an order form and return it to me Barbara Hothersall before you leave. Alternatively, you can call me on 716203 or 07976392859 for information etc. and I will take your order. Thank you.

**Breakfast Church Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9.30am** You are invited to breakfast Church to launch our new Sunday Club theme - The Living Church. We will have breakfast, look around the church, listen to a story, pray, sing and do craft. You can then decide if you want to join worship at 10.30am or continue into Sunday club to carry on.

\*Please note this is an 'All Inclusive session not just for families'.

**'Who Let the Dad's Out?' - Saturday 21st May 10.00am to 12noon**

**ACTION FOR CHILDREN BOXES.** These are now ready to be emptied. Margaret Holmes will be dealing with her usual collectors and Barbara Hothersall will be taking over those collectors who were looked after by Pauline. Over the next few weeks, you can bring your boxes to Church and give them to Margaret or Barbara. Thank you.

**Security of the buildings.** Unfortunately, over the last few weeks there have been a number of instances where doors have been left unlocked at lights left on. Would all groups please ensure if they are last off the premises that a check of all external doors and lights is carried out. Many thanks.

**Christian Aid Week 15-21 May.** Our focus this year is on Zimbabwe where drought is making every day a struggle for survival - please help Jessica - and others like her around the globe - provide for their families and turn hunger into hope. Envelopes received through the door can be dropped off at Booths, the PO or the Co-op or you are welcome to bring them and leave them at church. You are also welcome to pick up an envelope at church, if you don't receive one through the door. Everyone's contribution is much appreciated. Thank you. Anne Garsed

**Prayer Requests.** Please email [Judith Harvey](mailto:Judith.Harvey@fulwoodmethodist.org.uk) with any prayer requests.

**Notices.** Please send anything you need included in the notices to [Beryl Hoyle](mailto:Beryl.Hoyle@fulwoodmethodist.org.uk) and [Sue Whiteford](mailto:Sue.Whiteford@fulwoodmethodist.org.uk) by Wednesday morning.

## FULWOOD METHODIST CHURCH

Watling Street Road, Fulwood, Preston PR2 8EA Tel: 01772 718741  
**Minister:** Rev Jane Wild. Email: [Jane Wild](mailto:Jane.Wild@fulwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk) Tel: 01772 715134  
**Youth, Children and Family Worker:** Darren Arnold Tel: 07811 775825  
email: [Darren Arnold](mailto:Darren.Arnold@fulwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk)  
**Circuit Pastoral Worker:** Denise Johnson Tel: 07719 200451  
email: [Denise Johnson](mailto:Denise.Johnson@fulwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk)  
**Room Bookings** Tel: 01772 718741 or by [Email](mailto:RoomBookings@fulwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk)

## ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION

When joining the services via Zoom please turn **OFF** your camera and microphone.  
**If you are phoning in, please put a # at the end of the meeting ID and passcode**  
Click the **BLUE** links below for access

[\*\*MORNING SERVICE\*\*](#) Every Sunday 10.30am Passcode: email [Jane Wild](mailto:Jane.Wild@fulwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk)

[\*\*LANCASHIRE DISTRICT ZOOM SERVICE\*\*](#) Every Sunday 7.00pm Passcode: [Click here](#)

**Dial by your location. You can dial one of the numbers beside the codes below. You will be asked for the meeting ID and password and can join in from your telephone.**

**Free telephone numbers:** 0800 260 5801 0800 031 5717 or

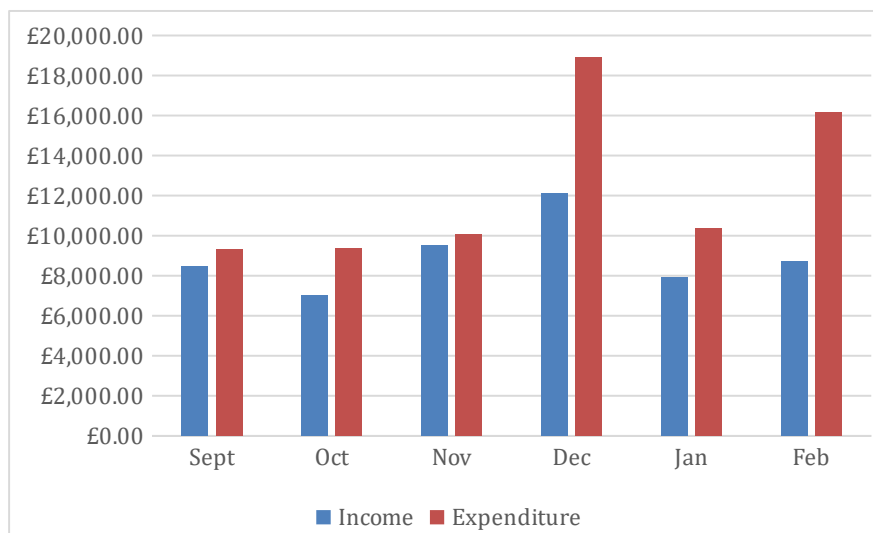
0203 481 5240 0203 901 7895 0131 460 1196 0203 051 2874 0203 481 5237

**SEE NEXT PAGES FOR GIFT DAY INFORMATION**

## YOUR INVITATION TO OUR GIFT DAY 14 MAY 2022 – 10.00AM TO 12 NOON WHY DO WE NEED A GIFT DAY?

As a church, our regular income does not cover our running costs. We are running out of money fast and urgent action is needed. **We need your help to secure the future of our church. If we cannot resolve this financial crisis we will struggle to survive.**

Each month, we spend more money than we collect. This is illustrated in the chart below. These are the numbers for the last 6 months - but it is a trend which has been occurring for many years now. As a result, our “general fund” (the money available to us to spend) is nearly gone. **We should be aiming to cover our regular outgoings with our offertory - with other income such as money from Outreach activities being used to invest in growth activity.** However, the shortfall each year is around £50,000 per year, or £1000 per week. This may seem a lot of money - but with 230 members this equates to just over £4 per week per member. We are not asking everyone to increase their giving by this much - but we are asking you to give what you can.



*Source – 6 month accounts to 28 Feb 2022*

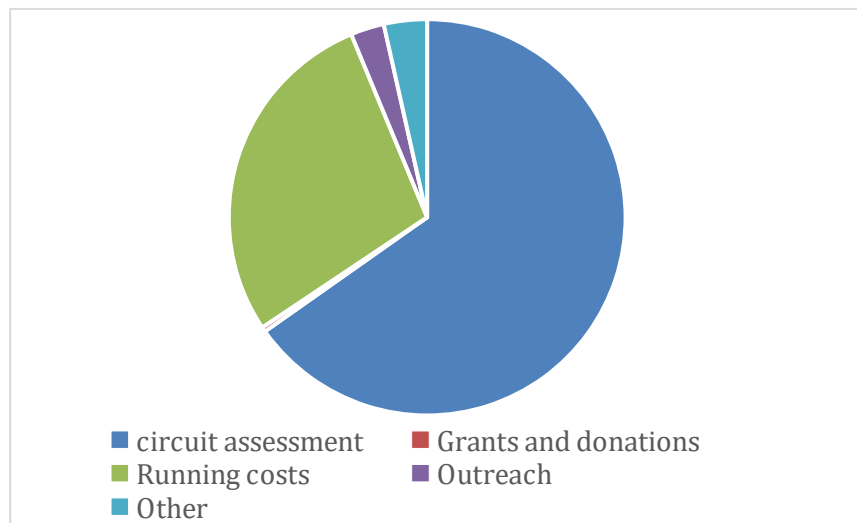
This is not an issue caused by Covid – it is due to increasing costs and falling income.

In total, we spent £68,995 in the 6 months to 28 February 2022, compared to money collected of £50,580. This gave us a financial deficit of £18,400. We will get Gift Aid on some of this money in August – but this still leaves a shortfall of around £11,000.

The deficit in the 2nd six months of the year should be slightly less, as gas bills fall when we switch off the heating over summer. However, we do not believe the £7,000 remaining in the bank will last beyond the end of this financial year – which ends on 31 August 2022.

## Costs

The chart below highlights the costs we incur. In total, in the 6 months to 28 February 2022, we have spent £68,995.



As you can see - our most significant cost is the **Circuit Assessment**. We paid £45,000 in the 6 months to 28 February 2022. The Circuit needs this money mainly to cover the costs of employing their staff – including Jane Wild and Darren Arnold. Our contribution to the circuit for the whole year is £90,000, which we pay in equal instalments on a monthly basis – i.e., £7,500 per month. This is actually less than we should be paying as a church – based on the size of our membership and attendance levels we should really be contributing over £96,000 each year.

Our next biggest area of spend is **on running our building**. This includes heating, lighting, repairs, insurance, water rates, hygiene services, vermin control and cleaning costs. We have spent £19,400 on running costs since 1 September 2021 – and have undertaken only the most essential repairs. As you will know from your own domestic bills, these costs have risen sharply over the last few months. It is very difficult for us to reduce these costs further – we have already taken steps to secure the best prices we can.

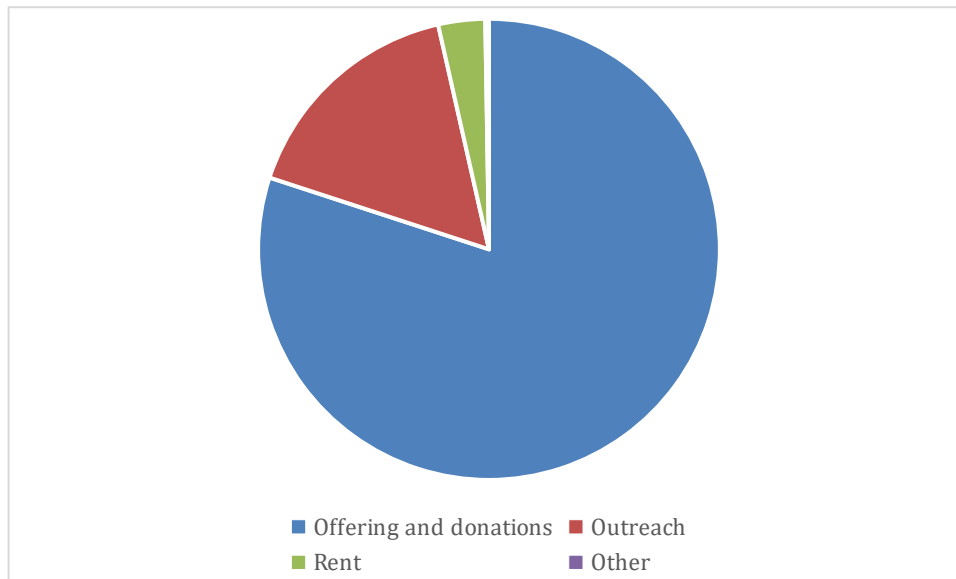
We incur **outreach costs** as we need to buy supplies to support our various outreach activities – and the money is spent mainly on food and drinks which we then sell. However, the income we raise makes this cost worthwhile. In the 6 months to 28 February 2022, we raised £8,300 from outreach activities compared to costs incurred of £1900 – so that's a £6,400 profit!

**Other costs** include money spent on resources for worship, administration and running the minibus. Between 1 September 2021 and 28 February 2022, we spent around £2400. We have analysed these areas of spend and there are limited opportunities to make any savings in these areas.

Usually, you would see around £5000 of **grants and donations** – however we have not been in a position to give any grants so far this year – we simply cannot afford it!

## Income

The chart summarises our income.



Over three quarters of our income comes almost entirely from you, through your **regular giving and one-off donations**. From 1 September 2021, the start of our financial year, to the end of February 2022, we raised over £40,000 in this way. However – what we get is falling. To provide a comparison, ten years ago, we collected over £43,000 over the same period of time. Meanwhile – as our income has fallen our costs have kept rising.

Across the whole year, including Gift Aid that is due on our giving, we are forecasting a total income from offering and donations of £95,000. However, to cover our regular spending on the circuit assessment, property costs and other expenditure we really need our total income from offering and donations to come to £145,000 each year. As such - we have a £50,000 shortfall.

The rest of our income comes mainly from outreach activities and room hire. We have been relying on this income in recent years to help address the shortfall in regular giving - but this is not a sustainable solution. This was illustrated through the pandemic - when we lost all income from these sources due to lock down measures. There are also challenges as we look ahead as we are reliant on volunteers to generate this income - and the numbers of people helping are reducing.

**AS SUCH - WE NEED A MORE SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION. PLEASE READ THE NEXT PAGE TO SEE HOW YOU CAN HELP.**

## **PLEASE COME TO THE GIFT DAY TO MAKE YOUR PLEDGE OF SUPPORT – AND YOU MAY FIND THERE IS A LITTLE GIFT FOR YOU FROM US AS WELL!!**

### **You can help financially...**

It is essential that we increase our income. We are therefore asking you to consider:

- Increasing your regular offering – this could be an increase to your standing order or the money you give in your envelope
- Providing a one-off gift – this will help us build up the reserves in the bank and reduce the risk of running out of cash

We recognise some people can't give more. Increases in the cost of living are affecting many individuals in our congregation. No-one should feel under pressure to give more than they can afford. I am sure many of you would give more if you could!

However, there will be a large number of us who can afford to pay more, and we appeal to you to be as generous as you can. We are aiming to increase our income by a third to enable us to meet our running costs. This can be translated into individual giving as follows:

- If you currently give £5 each week, please increase your contribution to £6.75 – an increase of £1.75 or a return bus fare into town
- If you currently give £10 each week, please consider an increase your contribution to £13.50 – an increase of £3.50 or the equivalent of a large cappuccino in Starbucks
- If you currently give £20 each week, please increase your contribution to £27 – an increase of £7 or the equivalent of a nice bottle of wine

### **Meanwhile – there are other ways you can help....**

We have lots of ideas for fundraising – but we need people to help get these off the ground! Please let us know if you can help us:

- Make cakes – we are planning to have a cake stall after the all-age worship each month. Please bring along your bakes for us to sell.
- Make crafts – our craft stall has a lot of customers, including many people from the wider community who come into the building for a range of other activities. If you have a talent and feel you could make gifts for us to sell – that would be amazing!
- Attend events – we are asking each church group to organise an event over the next 12 months. As well as an opportunity to raise money, they give us the chance to socialise as a group, and to invite our friends, family and the wider community into our building.

We also have several vacant roles across our Church – we will also share details of these at the Gift Day – to help you to consider other ways to help!!

### **Need help or advice?**

We recognise that some people may have questions about the financial problems we face and how they can help. Members of the Finance Group will be around on the Gift Day to discuss the content of this leaflet.

Meanwhile, we please do not hesitate to contact anyone from the committee. They are:

Amanda Latham (Chair)	Julia Scott	Mike Ellis
John Ferris (Secretary)	Ted Lowes	Jane Wild
Jeffrey Heaton	Janice Astley	