

## Gift Aid

If you are a tax payer, TBC can claim back some of the tax you have paid on the money you donate, through a government scheme for charities called Gift Aid.

For every £1 you give, the government gives us 25p. So a gift of £1 becomes £1.25. A simple one-off declaration is all that is necessary.

Please ask the Church treasurer for a declaration form.

Once you have signed the declaration form, then, so long as you remain a tax-payer, we will be able to claim the gift aid back from all of your giving.

It will actually cost you nothing but will increase the value of your gift by 25%!!

All financial information is kept strictly confidential.

**Please consider Gift Aiding your offering!**

## What will be the results?

When we honour God with our giving:

- We are able to honour our Financial commitments as a church (Rom. 13:1-10).
- We can help meet the needs of others (Acts 4:32-35).
- We are able to maintain and improve the building and furnishings (Ex. 25:1-2, 8).
- Christian workers are paid (1 Corinthians 9:1-14 and 1 Timothy 5:17-18).
- Other churches and organisations are helped and supported (2 Cor. 8:1-5).
- The recipient of the gifts is full of thanks and praise to God (2 Cor. 9:12-15).
- The giver is blessed (2 Cor. 9:6, 14).
- People will recognise your Christian faith is real (James 2:14-17).
- God is glorified. This is the ultimate reason and motivation for giving (2 Cor. 9:12)



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# Thrapston baptist church



## Giving

*Knowing Jesus,  
Making Jesus Known*

## Giving

The Bible reminds us that everything we have is a gift from God and really belongs to Him, not to us (Psalm 24:1 and Deut. 10:14).

God's greatest gift to us was His Son, Jesus, who, by dying on the cross, took the punishment for sin that should have been ours. Paul encourages us to give generously to the church, not only in gratitude for this amazing gift, but also as a way of following Jesus' example of generosity (2 Cor. 8:7-9).

Giving can take many forms: financial, time, talents, but whichever way we give, it is a key part of our discipleship.

The rest of this leaflet concentrates on financial giving. If you need more information on how to give in other ways, please speak to a member of the Leadership Team.

## Key things to note

- Giving to God cannot be restricted to pounds and pence.
- All we have comes from Him and belongs to Him.
- At our church we encourage people to give of their time, talents and treasure to God.
- Financial giving is a key part of our discipleship.

## Where does the money go?

The following is a summary of how the money is used by the church is used:

- We use it to pay the salary of our minister. This is in line with the Baptist Union recommended stipend.
- Building costs: which include electricity, water, insurance and maintenance charges.
- Administration, publicity and literature for the church, plus running costs for the different ministries in the church.
- We support Christian workers overseas, as well as other mission organisations.
- We make a contribution to the Home Mission fund. This is a fund, administered by the East Midlands Baptist Association, and is used to support churches that cannot afford to pay for a minister.

## How should we give?

The Bible encourages us to give in the following ways:

- Earnestly and lovingly (2 Corinthians 8:7)
- Generously (2 Corinthians 8:3)
- Wholeheartedly (2 Corinthians 9:7)
- Cheerfully (2 Corinthians 9:7)
- Regularly (1 Corinthians 16:2)

## What should I give?

No-one is forced to, or told how much to give. How much an individual gives is between themselves and God. However, we believe that the Bible provides guidelines to help us in this area:

### ***Generously***

Giving is an expression of our faith (Luke 6:38)

### ***Proportionately***

Paul encourages us to set aside a sum of money in keeping with our income (2 Corinthians 9:6-10 and 1 Corinthians 16:2).

### ***Faithfully***

God's desire is that His people will be faithful stewards of the financial resources He has given to them.

## So how can I give?

There are a number of different ways you can give. The most efficient method is to set up a standing order from your bank to the church's bank (standing order forms available from the church treasurer).

If you prefer, you can put cash or a cheque in the offering basket which is passed around during the Sunday services (cheques made payable to 'Thrapston Baptist Church').

**Important:** See the note about Gift Aid on the back page of this leaflet.