

A guide to  
**GIVING**



[hopechurchcorby.org/giving](https://hopechurchcorby.org/giving)

# EXCEL IN GIVING

*'See that you also **excel in this grace of giving.**' (2 Cor 8:7)*

Jesus spoke a lot about money. How money affects us and what we do with money were of great importance to Him. What mattered *most* to Him, however, was not that we personally amassed wealth and possessions – in fact Jesus taught against storing up treasure on earth as an end in itself (Matt 6:19); The most important thing for Him was that money was used to worship God and to bring blessing to others. When thinking about the subject of money as Christians, several things should be borne in mind:

**It all belongs to Him.** As God's children, everything we have is His. We should therefore not think of our money as solely belonging to us. It is a resource to be used for His glory. Our job is to be good stewards of what actually belongs to Him (1 Chron 29:14).

**We are blessed to be a blessing.** God blesses us so that we can then be a blessing to others (2 Cor 9:11). Freely we received so freely we should give (Matt 10:8).

**Our treasure is in heaven.** How we use our money now is a wise investment in our eternal future (Matt 6:20). Not a penny we spend in God's name here on earth is wasted.

**Contentment is the goal.** The lie of materialism is that the more money and more stuff we have, the happier we will be. This idea sometimes creeps into the Church. The temptation is then to spend money we don't have on things we don't need to impress people we may not even know. God wants us to live within our means and to be content with what we have:

***'Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.'** (1 Timothy 6:6-10)*

# WHY I TITHE

The Jewish people were made up of twelve tribes, each named after one of Jacob's sons. One of these tribes was the tribe of Levi. Out of all the tribes, the Levites were given the honour of serving at the temple and facilitating worship for the whole nation. Because of their status as the nation's worship leaders, the Levites did not own their own land. Instead of farming and rearing their own animals, the Levites would receive a 10% portion of produce from the other tribes to support them. This portion was known as a *tithe*. There were actually several tithes that were expected of the Jews – some also given to support the poor – meaning that there was a legal requirement for most Jews to give away around 23% of their produce.

In the New Testament there is no definitive teaching on tithing but many Christians still use 10% as a guide for their giving. Even though Christians are no longer under the Law, Jesus actually sets the bar higher for those living under God's grace (see Matthew chapter 5). Our heart response to God should always be more extravagant coming from a place of freedom. I personally practice tithing and, since being a teenager on a small, part-time salary, I have set aside 10% of my income to sow into the local church. I have always thought of my tithe as the 'first-fruits' of my income (Prov 3:9) – i.e. the first and best portion – and, in my heart, I have set it aside for God even before I pay tax to the Government. I therefore tithe on my gross income rather than what is left after tax. I can testify that since I have practiced tithing, my family and I have never gone without. In fact, the opposite has been true as God has proved, time-and-time-again, that He is faithful to meet our every need. It takes faith and courage to give what we feel we can't spare...but it is simply impossible to 'out-give' God! You will be amazed at what God enables you to do with what remains.

*'Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.'* (2 Cor 9:6)



Damian Carr  
Pastor, Hope Church



# 5 BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR GIVING

## 1. Prayerful giving

*'Each of you should give what you have **decided in your heart** to give.'*  
(2 Cor 9:7)

## 2. Planned giving

*'On the first day of every week, each one of you should **set aside a sum of money** in keeping with your income.'* (1 Cor 16:2)

## 3. Glad giving

*'Give...not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a **cheerful giver**.'*  
(2 Cor 9:7)

## 4. Generous giving

*'In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in **rich generosity**.'* (2 Cor 8:2)

## 5. Sacrificial giving

*'I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even **beyond their ability**.'* (2 Cor 8:3)

Our giving should be **an act of worship and not an after-thought**. To this end we should plan our giving prayerfully to avoid a situation where we only give to God the loose change in our pockets instead of our first and best portion.

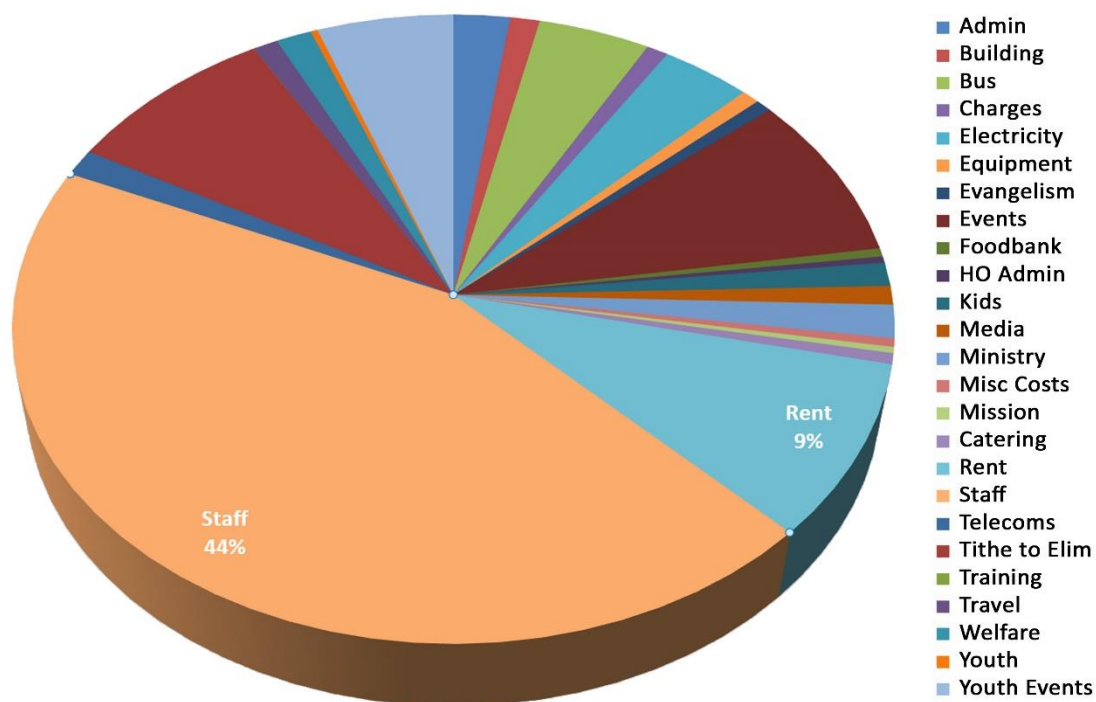


# WHAT OUR GIVING GOES TOWARDS

Your tithes and offerings go toward the general running of the church's ministries, administration and offices.

We believe that good stewardship is vitally important so, as a church, we want to do everything to ensure that all money be used wisely and not wasted. All income and expenditure are tracked on a monthly basis and reviewed at our Elders' meetings. We value openness and transparency so regular financial updates are also shared at our Partners' meetings and friendly scrutiny of the accounts are encouraged.

To give you an idea of what money from tithes and offerings is used for, this chart represents our budget for this financial year.



**Salary-related costs** are a large proportion of our expenditure – around 44%.

Below are the staff members you release into ministry by your generous giving:

- **Carol Brown** is our Hope Centre cleaner and works 4 hours a week
- **Klaudia Cairns** is our Administrator and works 2 days a week
- **Richard Cairns** is our Assistant Pastor and works 2¼ days week
- **Damian Carr** is our Pastor and works full time
- **Faye Harris** is our Youth Pastor and works 3 days a week
- **Amanda McPhie** is our Children's Worker and works 3 days a week

**Building-related costs** - i.e. hiring Brooke Weston, leasing the Hope Centre, paying utility bills etc. - have historically been our second biggest expense.

**Our tithe to Elim** is also a significant outgoing. This is a contribution that supports a number of national ministries: Regents Bible College/Training Centre; salaries for regional and national leaders; administration overheads for Elim International Offices; the work of Elim Global/Elim International Missions; and the 'Limitless' national youth ministry.

## OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

In addition to your tithes and offerings, there are opportunities to give directly to specific initiatives and ministries within the church:

### The Big Blue Bus

We are blessed to have our Big Blue Bus, a mobile base for ministry and outreach in Corby. God has already shown us incredible favour: we were given a 2003 Scania double-decker bus by the Sir Brian Souter Foundation and it was resprayed blue free of charge by Stagecoach before coming to us. The cost of refitting the bus was around £71,000 and God provided the majority of this through fundraising. If you would like to contribute towards this project you can give a gift via the button on the 'Giving' page on our website.

### The Building Fund

At the moment we currently rent Brooke Weston Academy for our Sunday gatherings and lease the Hope Centre for our offices and midweek meeting space. These buildings are a great blessing and currently serve our needs well. However, we believe God is leading towards having a building of our own – a home for the Hope Church family: a place of worship, a base for ministry and hub for the community.

We are currently praying that God will open a door and sense that this might happen soon. What we know for sure is that He has a good plan and His timing is perfect.



If you would like to contribute towards a new building, you can give as part of our Sunday offering in an envelope marked 'Building Fund.' Alternatively you can give electronically via the button on the 'Giving' page of our website or by a simple bank transfer.

## Child Sponsorship



As a church we partner with Compassion UK to support two communities in Uganda. These projects are linked to Elim churches. We are currently supporting over twenty families. **The cost of sponsorship is £32 per month.** Some chose to sponsor a child individually; some as a family; some as a Life Group...and two children are being sponsored by our youth and children's groups.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, please speak to Paul Bower or email [pbower27@gmail.com](mailto:pbower27@gmail.com).

## HOW TO GIVE

### Standing Order

Giving by standing order is the easiest and most efficient way to give regularly – you don't have to remember your wallet or purse each week and you can prayerfully organise your giving ahead of time. To set up a standing order you need to go to your bank quoting our bank details, below:

#### Account name:

ELIM FOURSQUARE GOSPEL ALL

Account number: 18774237

Sort code: 60-05-16

**Elim** Gift Aid Declaration Form  
(...for donations to an Elim EFGA church)

**A. YOUR DETAILS**

MR / MRS / MS

FIRST NAMES\*

SURNAME\*

HOME Address\*

TOWN/CITY\*

POSTCODE\*

EMAIL ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

\*Required information - these fields must be completed

**Privacy Statement**  
Elim is committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected and that data collected will only be used for our legitimate interest, including the Gift Aid process, in accordance with our privacy policy. See this in full at [www.elim.org.uk/privacy](http://www.elim.org.uk/privacy) or ask for a copy from our Data Protection Officer, email [dpo@elim.org.uk](mailto:dpo@elim.org.uk) or write to The Data Protection Officer, Elim International Centre, De Walden Road, MALVERN WR14 4DF. All personal data collected by Elim within this form will only be kept as long as necessary.

*giftaid it*

Are a UK tax payer? Increase your gift's value by 25% at no extra cost to you.  
If you are a higher rate tax payer you can also recover the difference between the basic rate we recover and the higher rate you pay

**Gift Aid is only applicable if you're a UK tax payer**

**B. GIFT AID DECLARATION (for completion by an individual UK Tax payer)**

After reading the following statement, please choose ONE declaration option (tick  **Enduring Declaration** - I wish Elim to treat as Gift Aid, all my donations from the start of the current tax year (6 April), or all donations from  (DD/MM/YYYY) and thereafter.

OR

☐ **Single Amount Only** - I wish Elim to treat as Gift Aid, the amount of £  given  (DD/MM/YYYY)  
(Selecting this limitation would require a fresh declaration for any future donations)

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**C. BENEFITTING CHURCH/DEPT: (office use)**

Elim Church Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Church or Dept: \_\_\_\_\_

Local reference: \_\_\_\_\_ Elim Finance Dept. GAD reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Elim Foursquare Gospel Alliance, Registered Charity 251549 (England and Wales) SC037754 (Scotland)  
ELIM INTERNATIONAL CENTRE, DE WALDEN ROAD, MALVERN WR14 4DF

ELIM GIFT AID DECLARATION FORM | EFGA-GADM2020A4

Forms with all of the details of how to set up a standing order are available from Paul Bower on Sunday or can be downloaded from the church website. You can also make one-off gifts via bank-transfer using these details. If you are a registered for Gift Aid, please also quote your name or Gift Aid number.

## By Cash/Cheque

If you prefer giving by cash or cheque, please place your offering in the baskets during the Sunday gathering. Cheques should be made payable to 'Hope Church, Corby'. If you are Gift Aid-registered, using an envelope that we can match against your name will mean that we can claim tax back on your gift.

## By Card Machine

We now have the facility so that people are able to give using their card during the Sunday morning offering.

## Through the Website

Alternatively, if you prefer to give online, you can do this via the Hope website: **[hopechurchcorby.org/giving](https://hopechurchcorby.org/giving)**. Below are the buttons you will see on the page where you can give to a specific area:

 [Click here to give to Hope Church](#)

 [Click here to give to the Building Fund](#)

 [Click here to give to the Big Blue Bus](#)

## By Smart Phone (Credit/Debit Card)

If you have a smart phone, you can give via text; simply text **CC123** to **64647** and you will be directed to the Paythru website. There is a minimum donation of £2 for both the internet and smart phone methods of giving. (If you would like to give to the building fund, text **CC123BLD**).





## Via the Givt App

Download the Givt app and either scan the QR code below or search for **Hope Church, Corby**.



# Givt

Search for **Hope Church, Corby**  
on the list of churches

Or scan this QR code



# giftaid it

## What is it?

Gift Aid is a simple way to increase the value of gifts received from UK taxpayers and is a significant source of additional income for Hope Church.

## How does it work?

If you are a UK taxpayer and you give a gift of money to the church, you have already paid tax on that money. Because, as a charity, we are exempt from tax, we can claim an amount from HMRC equal to the tax paid on that money by you. This repayment from HMRC is known as Gift Aid.

## How much is Gift Aid worth?

By asking you for permission to reclaim the tax that you have already paid on your gift, we can increase its value by 25%! So, for every £10 donated by you, we can claim back an additional £2.50 (providing you have paid sufficient tax in the first place). There is no minimum amount.

## How much will it cost me?

Absolutely nothing! For minimal effort and no additional cost to you, we are able to add 25% to the value of your gift.

## What do I have to do?

In order for us to claim Gift Aid, we simply need you to complete a form. This can be downloaded from the church website ([hopechurchcorby.org/giving](https://hopechurchcorby.org/giving)) or a paper copy can be picked up from the Information Desk on Sunday.

By signing the form you are confirming that you have paid sufficient tax (for each £10 you donate you will need to have paid £2.50 in tax). If your situation changes and you no longer pay sufficient tax to cover your gifts then please let Paul Bower know.

In order to claim Gift Aid back on a gift we need to know that it has come from you. For this to happen, we will need you to donate in one of the following ways: by an envelope with your name on, by standing order or by an online/smart phone donation. Paul Bower is the only person who keeps the Gift Aid register (required to reclaim the tax) so no-one else will be aware of what you give.

If you give jointly with your partner, let Paul know how you want your offerings to be split so that Gift Aid can be reclaimed from the appropriate person.

## What else does it apply to?

By signing one declaration, *all* of your giving can benefit from Gift Aid. So if you make a one-off donation to the Building Fund, for example, it will be covered under the initial declaration.

## OTHER WAYS TO BE GENEROUS

Alongside financial generosity, we would encourage you to be generous with your time in serving the Hope Church family. We already have an army of those who bring their experience, enthusiasm and talents to various ministries within the church, but we always welcome new people. If you don't already have a ministry, pray about being part of one of our many Sunday teams or giving time to a specific area of service during the week.

For more information about serving, please speak to any of our ministry team leaders or contact the church office: email [admin@hopecorby.org](mailto:admin@hopecorby.org) or call **01536-736577**.

*If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this guide, please email Paul Bower at [pbower27@gmail.com](mailto:pbower27@gmail.com).*



[hopechurchcorby.org/giving](https://hopechurchcorby.org/giving)