

Why Should I Give ?

If I am a parent :

Because the work of the Church is important to my family. Take away the influence of the Church and the world would be a poorer place. Already we see harmful influences at work in our society. Can we allow this drift to continue by neglecting the Church.

If I am a Christian :

Because as a Christian I acknowledge that all I HAVE belongs to GOD including my life and possessions. The Biblical concept of Stewardship is of a servant working for his Master.

The servant is entrusted with his Lord's money (see the parable of the talents - Matt 25 : 14)

Money therefore is not to be used selfishly, but responsibly, and with a desire to promote God's Kingdom.

Jesus said that "it is more blessed to give than to receive", and as His followers we need to experience the blessing that comes from giving.

How Much Should I Give ?

Only You Can Decide . . .

Please regard this Review Stewardship Programme as a time when you look again at the amount of personal interest and financial help you give the Church.

The Biblical standard of giving was one-tenth of income as a minimum.

Some Christians accept this as a guide to their giving; others do not accept any set standard other than the rule of generosity mentioned by St. Paul—

"let everyone give as his heart tells him, neither grudgingly nor under compulsion, for God loves the man whose heart is in his gift".

(2 Cor. 9 : 7)

Why Make a Pledge ?

In any important matter, a man can't afford to drift along. REAL giving to GOD is important . . . a worthy pledge keeps us from drifting.



GOLDEN SQUARE METHODIST CHURCH
STEWARDSHIP REVIEW 1966

Our Achievements . . .

Since the first Stewardship Programme 9 years ago we have carried out the following improvements to our property :—

- Sunday School alterations and extensions,
- Church organ overhaul and restoration,
- Church roof repairs,
- Church ceiling plastered,
- Repainting of Church,
- Narthex remodelled,
- Brick fences around Church and Sunday School,
- New notice board erected,
- Lead-light windows restored,
- Church grounds improved and sealed,
- Repainting of Sunday School,
- Tables and chairs purchased for Sunday School,
- Office furniture and equipment purchased,
- Concrete path and bridge to Sunday School,
- Plaster repaired in Church and Sunday School,
- Cover built for Sunday School platform,
- Electrical installations and re-wiring of Church,
- Improvements and maintenance to Parsonage,
- Money has been set aside for the eventual replacement of the Parsonage.

These things have been made possible by the increased support due to the past Stewardship Programmes.

We have improved the accommodation for the work of God by improving our buildings—now it is time to endeavour to extend the Kingdom of God by applying our finances towards the expenses of an additional minister in our area.

Our Future Needs . . .

It was decided at the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church to combine the Golden Square and Quarry Hill Methodist Circuits, and an additional minister has been appointed to take up duties in 1967.

The new minister will undertake many of the responsibilities in other parts of the circuit thus enabling our minister to cope better with the work at Golden Square.

In the past our Church has shared the cost of the maintenance of the present minister with other churches. In the future we must bear a fuller share, as the contributions of the other churches will be needed to pay the new minister.

At the Conference, a move by laymen resulted in the minimum stipend payable to all ministers being raised by \$100 p.a. in line with the recent increase in the basic wage.

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL NEEDS FOR THE NEXT 3 YEARS

Circuit :

LOCAL MINISTRY : Our share of stipends, travelling, operating expenses, parsonage maintenance, etc.	\$14,600	
WIDER CHURCH : Contributions to Missions and Church Departments	\$5,000	\$19,600

Local :

CHURCH RUNNING COSTS : Organist, caretaker, electricity, insurance, stationery and canvass expenses, etc	\$5,000	
SUNDAY SCHOOL COSTS : Cleaning, running costs, etc.	\$2,400	
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE : Including some accounts to be rendered	\$5,000	\$12,400

Parsonage :

Sinking fund towards eventual replacement of parsonage	\$2,000	\$2,000
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A Total need for 3 years \$34,000

This represents a need of \$218 per week. The present weekly income averages \$158 from pledges and \$10 from other offerings.

We need an increase of 30%