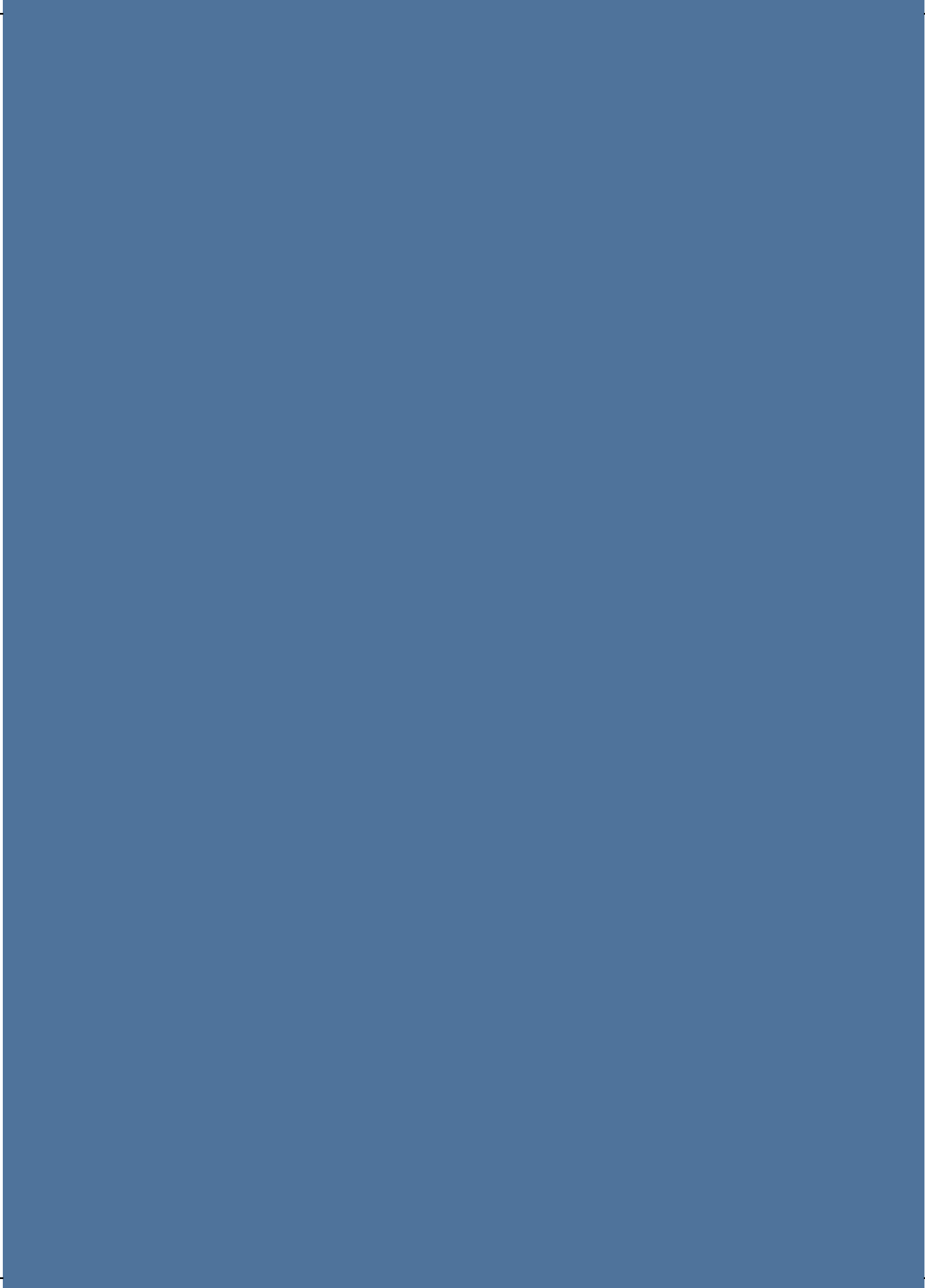




# RISE UP

*17th-24th October 2021*



# WEEK OF PRAYER 2021

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Welcome to the prayer guide for our week of prayer 2021. Last year around this time we held a fortnight of prayer in the church building. The church was set up with prayer stations celebrating the many ministries we engage in as the Church in this place. This year we are doing things a little differently. This is mainly because the church is in use so much we cannot leave it set up like we were able to last year. This in one sense is good news. So this year we have produced a prayer guide as we look to celebrate lives changed, share excitement and vision for the coming year and look towards setting a budget for 2022.

There is much that each ministry area could say, but we restricted them to an elevator pitch (that which can be read in the time it takes to get to the top of a building.) It's fair to say that some people imagined a taller building or a slower lift, but I hope that each of us will respond with thankfulness to God's faithfulness and people's service.

In addition to this prayer diary we have produced some videos that will be posted during the week and we invite as many as are able to come together and pray on Thursday 21 October at 7.30.

We have called this prayer diary 'Rise Up,' for our hope is that as we read we will:

Rise up and pray diligently

Rise up and serve joyfully and

Rise up and give generously

for the work God has called us to in this time and place.

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# VISION AND LEADERSHIP

*Every three months the vision and alignment team meets for half a day.*

*The purpose of the team is to*

- Listen and pray*
- Ensure that the ministries we are involved in are aligned with the core vision we believe we are called to. Connecting to God, changing with God and transforming for God.*
- Seek the Lords voice for the way ahead.*

*At our last meeting during a time of listening prayer, we were given the picture of a spider plant. There was one big spider plant in the middle and around it were many other smaller spider plants that had all sprouted from the plant in the centre, but were now growing on their own.*

*We believe that this is both a picture of the past. St James church was itself a plant from St Mary's. An illustration of the present; Re-ignite church a number of years ago was birthed from members of St James and just this month we affirmed and blessed the 180 church again birthed out of St James.*

*It is also an image for the future. This year we believe God is calling us to further build a missional culture in St James, not simply in terms of missional projects we may partner with, nor just with children families and youth, but in our own lives.*

*Our priorities for this year are*

- To enable each of us to be confident in sharing the hope that is in us.*
- To encourage our groups to look outwards and to become missional communities.*
- To provide opportunities to for sharing the Good News of Jesus.*

*A healthy spider plant produces babies. May we produce Christian babies this coming year.*

Mark Pickett

# TEACHING TEAM

We are so blessed to have an abundance of gifted and inspiring communicators in St James teaching team. These are the people who week by week preach and host our services.

At every service, although we may do it in different ways, the aim is the same. To enable us to connect to God, be changed by God and then to go out and transform for God. We seek to make our preaching relevant, accessible and applicable and that members of the team are hosting and preaching from a vibrant growing faith that is not based on yesterday's revelation but on today's walk with God.

Our priorities include:

- Developing intergenerational worship where we share and learn from each other.
- To provide opportunities for folk to share what God is doing in for and through them today.
- To provide space for the Holy Spirit in our gatherings.
- To provide a breadth of teaching during the year that brings about transformation.

Mark Pickett

**Spend some time praying into these teams, into their ministry and for God to speak powerfully to us as a church through them.**

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TO ENABLE US TO CONNECT TO GOD,  
BE CHANGED BY GOD AND THEN TO  
GO OUT AND TRANSFORM FOR GOD.

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# CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

St James has always invested heavily in ministry to children and families.

I think we all sense that this is absolutely the right thing to do. It is an investment in the future, a future that actually we may not see. Although hasn't it been wonderful to experience worship led by our fabulous young people? Young people who were invested into as children and who will now go on to influence the next generation.

This is why Rockin', Little Fishes and Baby Fishes, Kingdom Kids, Forest Church, TLG coaching and ministry at our school are so important.

Priorities for the coming year include:

- Exploring cafe church for seeker families.
- "Exploring faith" groups for the 40 mums and carers engaging in Little and Baby Fishes.
- Developing Forest Church and enabling families to do faith together.
- Developing inter generational worship where all ages learn from and serve each other.
- Providing opportunities for children to encounter God.
- Re-envisioning what was the Superhero outreach evenings, engaging school families with faith.

Helen Potts

**Spend some time today praying in to all these areas, and particularly for new leaders in all groups and events.**

# YOUTH

*The vision for the youth ministry is to bring opportunities for young people to first connect with the good news through small steps that simply give them the chance to ask questions and be asked questions for them to consider and think about. There is then space for young people to take steps to begin to find out more about who Jesus is and what it means to follow him. This leads on to have opportunities to not be spectators of the work of the church but to take part and lead in areas of the church so that they are part of transforming, not just of their peers but the wider community.*

*Three things I am excited about: -*

- To have the beginning of opportunities to go and serve local schools.*
- To see new young people arriving at our Friday youth club each week.*
- Watching the youth worship team grow and develop in their skill and confidence not just by playing but by teaching and encouraging new members.*

*The opportunities for youth ministry are extensive in the community and at the church, however everything we could do requires people to be part of it, please pray for more people to be in the youth team, people who have a real passion to reach and work with young people so we can create more opportunities for young people to hear the good news and start on their own journey of faith with him.*

*Lucy Skelton*

# OPERATIONS

There are 3 broad strands to operations at St James: buildings and fabric; communications and finance.

Our building is incredibly well-used, both by church groups and community groups. There are no significant defects, but the wear and tear is starting to become apparent. A legacy that was allocated to the refurbishment of the Oasis Room a year ago hasn't come through yet, which can be a source of frustration for us all.

Our communications are becoming more streamlined: one of the unexpected benefits of COVID was that we could focus on our digital communication, but we're always looking for new, innovative ways of communicating.

Our financial systems are really robust, after 3 years of solid work, and this gives us a clear picture of where we are - but this is also an area for real prayer.

Our priorities include:

- Refurbishing the Oasis Room so that it can be used by all different groups, safely and in a really positive, pleasant environment;

Moving towards Net-Zero by 2030, focusing particularly on energy use;

Continuing to streamline communication, including training programmes and using social media effectively.

Naomi Lynas

**Spend some time praying into the operations of the church, particularly the building and planned work in the Oasis Room.**

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AND THEY SAID, "LET US RISE UP AND BUILD."  
SO THEY STRENGTHENED THEIR HANDS FOR  
THE GOOD WORK. NEHEMIAH 2: 18

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# FINANCE

*The finance team manages the income and expenditure of the church, reporting to the PCC every meeting. Through careful management and some increased regular giving, we have had a break-even budget over the past 2 years.*

*As a church, we employ 6 members of staff (3 full time; 3 part time), and have a significant parish share. Over the past 3 years, we have received two significant grants (totalling £55,000) towards the employment of our Operations Manager and our Youth Minister.*

*These grants come to an end in 2022, and we will also have an increase of £9,500 to our Parish Share. We may be facing a deficit of £35,000 for next year if we cannot increase our income.*

*Looking ahead for prayer:*

- Thank God for His amazing provision over the past few years, in terms of staff and finances.*
- Pray into the forecast deficit and ask God for His miraculous provision;*
- Consider your own giving. If you would like to start giving or increase your giving, there is a form at the back of this booklet.*
- If you are able, make sure you have completed a Gift Aid declaration on ChurchSuite.*

*Naomi Lynas*

# SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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Use this space to record any thoughts, pictures or verses God has given you over the past few days.

## WORSHIP

*The worship team provides music and song to help focus emotion, thought, strength and spirit on engaging with and loving our trinitarian God. This is something the bible tells us over and over again should be an absolute priority in our lives. The worship team is made up of individuals with a God given passion and anointing for leading others in music and worship.*

*Please pray for:*

- Team growth, especially for sound engineers and guitarists.*
- Technical development, as we wrestle with new technologies, new music, and nurturing our God-given passions and gifts.*
- Spiritual development, as we walk with god to understand how we can grow as worshipers and disciples of Jesus.*

*Jonathan Berry*

## PASTORAL CARE

There are five marks of a missional church. And St James's aims to be a missional church, learning to know Jesus and to make Jesus known. One of these is: "To respond to human need by loving service". Whilst much of this happens as our church's mission to the wider community, beyond the church people, it's also important to recognise and respond to the human need of our own church family. Jesus, The Good Shepherd (the model, of course, for pastoral work), not only sought the lost sheep, but knew everything about the 99 safe ones. A good shepherd recognises their needs, and how to keep them safe – he responds to their needs, and supports them when they need it in both practical, prayerful and spiritual ways.

My desire and excitement as pastoral co-ordinator is two-fold: to ensure that every member of the church family has their needs known, and as far as possible met in some sort of service in some way, within the structure of the church, and for them to remain connected; and to continue to draw together and eventually train and equip a team to serve God in this aspect of our church's mission.

*Peter Williams*

# DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship is all about growing in faith, developing our prayer life, equipping us for everyday life and the challenges we face, and helping us to turn outwards – being missional in every aspects of our lives. And most of all, learning to love God more, to love others, to fulfil our potential as in God, and to see the kingdom of God grow and flourish in Clitheroe.

What does this look like in St James? Our discipleship links with our themes of connecting-changing-transforming. It's about whole church discipleship – discipleship which is accessible for all learning styles – using the huge store of resources which is now available, online, in books, podcasts, blogs and courses. We are going to focus on mission from January-April, equipping and enabling us to be missional where we are, in the communities around us. We will be communicating a range of resources, both online and 'live' which are available for us all to use.

I am excited about launching our whole church discipleship theme for next term. We all have areas where we can grow in faith, and we have a great opportunity to really focus on mission, using many different styles of teaching and learning.

We are also going to launch a course for new Christians later in the year – focussing on areas such as discipleship, praise, bible study, prayer and forgiveness. I am excited about this course – which could benefit those who have been Christians for some time as well as new Christians.

It is exciting that Alpha continued to run through lockdown, and will continue this year. Please pray for all those who will attend alpha courses this year.

Ruth Haldane

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**ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERYONE WHO ASKS YOU TO GIVE THE REASON FOR THE HOPE THAT YOU HAVE." 1 PETER 3:15**

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# SOCIAL JUSTICE

The social justice group seeks to explore how St James' Church collectively and through individual members can build a culture where acknowledging, addressing and actioning social justice and creation care issues become an integral part of our focus and mission as a church and as individual Christians.

We're celebrating:

- The success and impact of Forest Church over the last year
- Running our first Eco Church Sunday
- Submitting our application for a Bronze Award as an Eco Church (result awaited!)
- Our involvement in supporting the 'Camino to COP' walk in Oct 2021

Key aims to pray for:

- Engagement of individuals and families across the church with social justice and climate change issues
- 12 households achieving at least a Bronze Award from Creation Care by the end of 2021
- Reviewing our engagement as a Fairtrade Church
- Achieving renewed sustainability for the CAP Debt Help service (see CAP section).

Graham Haldane

# CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY (CAP)

*CAP's vision is for 'Transformed lives, thriving churches, and an end to UK Poverty'. Our primary focus is on supporting people to find freedom from debt, but nationally we also provide financial education and support with securing jobs and learning life skills.*

*In Clitheroe, we're celebrating:*

- *10 years of the Clitheroe CAP Centre*
- *4 clients going debt free in the last 12 months*
- *A return to being able to visit clients in their own homes*
- *32 delegates attending CAP Money courses over the last 12 months, with 3 further courses booked*
- *CAP Money being run for 3 different rehabilitation charities.*

*Our key prayer needs at present are:*

- *Sustaining the service through more volunteers to be available as Befrienders, providing holistic support to clients*
- *New clients to turn to CAP as they seek help with unmanageable debts.*

*Graham Haldane*





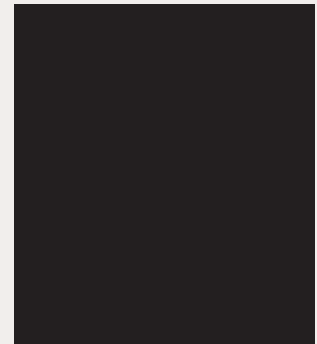
# KINGS HIGHWAY PARTNERSHIP

We are twinned with Kings Highway Church in Eldoret, Kenya, in order to

- develop relationships between the two church communities,
- to connect ministries and individuals together for mutual encouragement and learning
- to share our experiences of God's work amongst us, supporting and spurring one another on to go deeper with God and His purposes
- To learn from each other about our different cultural backgrounds, using this experience to reflect on how our culture impacts on our relationship with God
- To share resources and knowledge with each other in appropriate ways

We are excited about:

- Continuing to develop the partnership, linking ministries of Kings Highway with St James Church
- Developing the Youth Training Fund and seeing young people develop skills, businesses and trades
- Planning future visits from Kings Highway, post-COVID - please pray for the roll out of the vaccine in Kenya.



# SPACE FOR REFLECTION

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Use this space to record any thoughts, pictures or verses God has given you over the past few days.

# MOVING INTO THE VISION

*I hope you have been inspired, encouraged and challenged by what you have read so far.*

*All these ministries, all that we do relies on the regular giving of the members of St James. Last year when we asked you to consider your giving you were incredibly generous. Thank you. But I don't believe God wants us to stand still.*

*So I am asking us all again to consider increasing our giving so that we can not just continue but increase our ministry in our neighbourhood and networks.*

*We need to increase our giving by 12%.*

*You may not be able to increase your giving again this year but thank you for last year.*

*You may have not increased your giving but you really meant to. If so please fill in the form at the end of this guide.*

*Or you may be able to increase your giving by that amount or more. If you give £100 a month could you increase it to £112?*

*It's only the price of a couple of cups of coffee.*

*Or you may have joined us this year or want to start giving if so again fill in the form*

*We are setting our budget for 2022 in November and we would love to be able to come to that knowing that we have the funds not just to keep still but to plan for the future.*

*Mark Pickett*

# FINANCIAL COMMITMENT FORM

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If you would like to commit to giving financially, or to increasing your giving, please complete this form and return it to Naomi Lynas, Operations Manager.

## Pledge and Giving Commitment

I / we pledge to give:

A. A new, regular gift (s) of £..... weekly/monthly / quarterly / annually

B. An increase to my/our current giving from £..... to £..... from ..... (date)

C. I/we have already increased our giving from ..... (date)

Please note: You will need to set up a regular standing order with your bank. We cannot do this for you. Our bank details are:

St James PCC (Clitheroe)

Bank: Yorkshire Bank, 25 Manchester Road, Burnley, BB11 1HX

A/C No: 39144130

Sort Code 05-03-78

## To be completed by all:

I consent to be contacted by members of the financial team only if clarification is needed with regards to my pledged intentions.

Name (s) .....\*

e-mail.....\*

(or alternative contact details if no e-mail)

\*This information will remain confidential to the finance team. Some givers may prefer to be anonymous, but please be aware that we cannot reclaim gift aid if you withhold your name.

# GIFT AID FORM

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Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate  
Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

We can reclaim 25% extra on every gift that is donated by a tax payer to St. James'. In order to do that we need you to sign this declaration - which will cover all your giving to St. James'. This declaration will cover all future (and past) payments, whether by standing order or cash/cheque gifts using the church envelopes, so long as the gifts are clearly marked with your name and date.

Any questions/queries please speak to Naomi Lynas, Operations Manager

**Declaration for tax reclaim purposes:**

I declare my intention that tax should be recovered under the Gift Aid Scheme on all donations I make to St. James' Church, Clitheroe. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

This declaration covers all donations I have made since 6 April 2000 and all donations I make in the future.

**My Details**

Title \_\_\_\_\_ First name \_\_\_\_\_

Surname\_\_\_\_\_

Full home address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

