

# Kintore Parish Church of Scotland

SC001406 Registered Scottish Charity

7 October 2021

## Countless Gifts of Love

Dear friends,

October is Stewardship Month at Kintore. During this month we will celebrate the Harvest and give thanks for God's protection and provision and for sustaining us as a community during the past 18 months of pandemic and upheaval. In the past few years our stewardship month has focused on stewardship of our time, our talents, and our environment. This year I'd like to talk to you about the stewardship of our money.

Giving from our wealth – however much or meagre that wealth may be – is an act of worship to God. One of the vows we make when we enter the faith is that we will “give a fitting proportion of our time, talents, and money for the Church's work in the world.” Above all, our giving is an act of thanksgiving for the countless gifts of love that we receive from God and it gives us a stake in the mission of redemption, reconciliation and transformation that Jesus is carrying out in the world through his Church.

This year there are two forms of giving we would like you to consider: Planned Giving and National Giving Day.

### Planned Giving

To help the church budget responsibly, many members now give according to a system of planned giving by Standing Order or through Planned Giving Envelopes.

**If you are not already part of our Planned Giving scheme**, please consider joining by filling out the Standing Order Mandate attached and sending the first page to your bank and the second page (which includes the option to add Gift Aid to your giving) to our Church Treasurer. Alternatively you could request Planned Giving Envelopes by contacting our Church Secretary, Jane McIntosh, at [kintorekirk.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:kintorekirk.secretary@gmail.com).

**If you already give regularly via Planned Giving**, please consider reviewing your level of giving. If you decide to change the amount you currently give simply change your Standing Order or the amount you place in the envelopes.

**How much should I give?** There is no set amount or percentage that we ask you to give. Giving is a spiritual discipline and an expression of gratitude, it is not a membership fee. I personally find it helps to think of my giving as a percentage of my income. This helps me to calculate a “fitting proportion” of my money to give and makes it easier to adjust my giving as my income increases or decreases over time. Indeed, you may like to review what you feel is a “fitting proportion” to give or how your financial circumstances have changed since last you made a pledge and adjust your giving accordingly.

### National Giving Day

The Church of Scotland has challenged its members to participate in a National Giving Day during the months of September and October 2021. At Kintore, we have chosen to focus on this initiative during our October Stewardship Month. This initiative gives people an opportunity to reflect on God's presence with us through these challenging times and to offer gifts of thanksgiving back to God.

Money received through this initiative will remain with participating congregations who will choose how to use these gifts. This money may be used to fund specific work, to launch a new project or simply to offset deficits, taking into account the challenging financial circumstances faced by many of our churches over the last year. Congregations can

use the money locally or direct it towards projects at home or overseas, provided that it will be used in line with the charitable objectives of the Church.

Maybe, like my family, you spent a little less on your holidays the last two summers than you would otherwise have done. And maybe there is some of the surplus in your holiday fund that you could donate.

Or maybe, even though this has been a tough time economically, you would nevertheless like to offer a special gift of thanks to God for the way that God has sustained, protected and provided for you, your family and our whole community.

**How can I participate?** Either make a direct transfer to the church bank account (details below) with the reference “NGD” or National Giving Day”; or place your special gift (cheque or cash) in an envelope clearly marked “National Giving Day” or “NGD” and place it in the plate on Sunday at the church during October or pop it through the door at the manse: 28 Oakhill Road, Kintore, AB51 0FH.

With much love,

Rev Neil Meyer

[nmeyer@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:nmeyer@churchofscotland.org.uk)

01467-632219

**Bank Details:**

Account Name:	Kintore Kirk Session
Bank Name:	Clydesdale Bank, plc
Sort Code:	82-66-00
Account Number:	00050031
Reference:	“NGD” or “National Giving Day”

**Note:** Please note that Graham Lamb, **our Church Treasurer, has moved house.** If you have dropped your Planned Giving Envelopes through his door in the past, please pop them through the Manse door at 28 Oakhill Road, Kintore, AB51 0FH, instead from now on.