



BUCKINGHAM PARISH CHURCH

THE GIFT OF LIFE TO FUTURE GENERATIONS

Over the years, people have blessed our church through leaving a legacy. In 2015 a legacy gift enabled us to completely update our sound and visual equipment, including the ability to broadcast our services in top quality over the internet. Who could have foreseen what a lifeline that would be to so many people, during a global pandemic?



Legacies have enabled us to refit our kitchen, provide decent toilet and baby changing facilities, create meeting rooms and obtain space efficient stacking chairs. As well as making the building far more flexible for various church-run activities and functions, this has also meant that it is used

much more by our local community for a broad range of events and activities.

Legacies have enabled us to employ children's, youth and family workers, in line with our commitment to reach out to young families and their children as part of our mission to be a community of all-age followers of Jesus.



WHY LEGACIES MATTER

The mission of our church is to worship God, make friends and change the world. To do this, we need to meet the needs of those who already have a faith, helping them grow closer to Him. For those outside of the church, we are here to provide love in action, supporting them through tough times as well as celebrating joyous moments. We exist, in an increasingly secular culture, to bring the gospel of Christ to those who haven't yet met Him. We are seeing some wonderful results in changed lives for young and old within the church and across our community; there is always more to do. We are striving to help people recognise their gifts and develop their potential; connecting them to the church community where we can love and support each other.



To do this well requires faithful people, supported by strong financial and physical resources. This is where a legacy can make such a difference. I ask you to prayerfully think about how God has blessed you throughout your lifetime. Then consider the difference you could make to future generations, through leaving a percentage of your estate as a legacy to support our church.

*Thank you for exploring this,
I pray that God will bless you in
whatever you decide.*

Will

Rev'd Will Pearson-Gee



PLANNING AHEAD

Thinking about life after death should not be difficult for Christians; so too we want to think about what we are passing on to the next generations. Time spent planning now can make a great difference to those we are leaving behind, our family, our friends and our church. The key is to think about what you want to happen and make this clear through written records. The most important of these, is a will.

Whatever your age, write a will and keep it up to date.

Without a will, your loved ones could face a lot of trouble, work and expense after your death. Without a will, a court could decide how to distribute your goods and who should look after your children.

Many Christians give regularly and proportionately from their income so think about giving proportionately from your estate too.

A gift in your will helps our church to live out our mission in this community.

A legacy demonstrates our thanks to God for all the gifts of our lifetime, and to hand on undimmed, the inheritance we've received from past Christians (our building, our faith) to future generations.

Leaving a gift in your will is also tax efficient, as it reduces the amount of your estate liable to inheritance tax.



THREE STEPS

We believe these three steps will bless you and could make a huge difference to our church.

1. Decide what percentage of your estate you would like to leave to support the church (a gift of 10% or above will reduce the tax rate for any inheritance tax payable, if due)
2. Explore the free information pack about making a will and blessing the work of the wider Church available from the Church's Legacy & Wills Information Service
Website: <https://www.churchlegacy.org.uk/leaving-a-legacy/>
Brochure: <https://www.churchlegacy.org.uk/downloads/gifts-of-faith-hope-and-love.compressed.pdf>
Phone: 08445 870875 to request a free pack
3. Make a will (seeking professional advice if required) and review it regularly

OUR LEGACY POLICY

We welcome all legacies, however large or small, and we promise to use your gift to make a difference in our parish. The policy of the PCC is to use legacies to help fund significant development projects in the parish, whether buildings, equipment or staff. Since circumstances change over the years, church members are encouraged to leave gifts in their wills for the general purposes of the parish. The PCC can then discuss with executors the most appropriate use of the gift in the light of current projects and the donor's known areas of interest in the church (e.g. children and youth, the elderly, music, buildings). Suggested wording to leave a gift in your will:

"I give ___% of my residuary estate free of all taxes to the Parochial Church Council of the Parish of St Peter & St Paul's, Buckingham, registered charity number 112874, in the Diocese of Oxford for its general purposes, and I declare that the receipt of an officer of the Council shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees."

We strongly advise you to see an independent solicitor when writing or amending your will.



To explore further, please contact
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