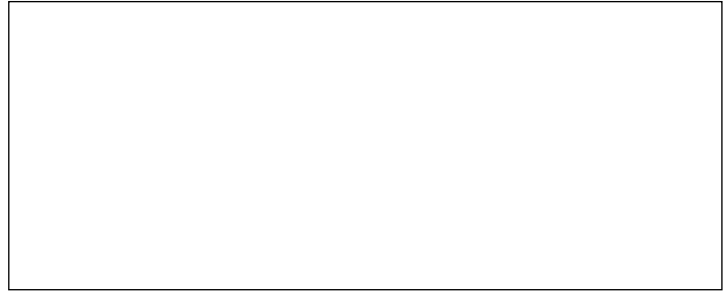


# THE CREDIT



## Let's turn this around

We're all feeling the 'squeeze' at the moment and the church is not exempt from this. Just as with our domestic bills there have been substantial increases in the cost of gas and electricity for the church, as well as the costs of insuring it. On a positive note, however the sound financial planning and rigorous stewardship of the Diocesan resources mean that the increase in our Parish Share for 2010 will be less than 2%, but it still amounts to £52,000 for the year – which is more than our total income from Planned Giving. On top of this some of the regular members of our congregation have moved on to pastures new, reducing the number of Planned Givers.

In 2008 we finished the year with a General Fund deficit of £3739, and we will finish 2009 with a similar figure. Sadly, for the first time in 10 years, our Planned Giving also decreased slightly. If we are going to start to turn this deficit around in 2010 we need to do all we can to both control costs and increase our income.

Virtually all regular members of the congregation are also members of our Planned Giving scheme, and if you are one of these, then thank you for your continued support. But if you are not, perhaps because you are new to St Luke's, or because you were unable to make a commitment before, then please prayerfully consider starting to give in this way, since it makes it a great deal easier for us to plan our activities. And for everyone, whether established giver or newcomer, now is the time to consider what you will be able to give to St Luke's in 2010.

## Where does the money go?

We will spend about £1,650 per week from the General Fund running St Luke's in 2010, of which £1000 will be for the Parish Share. Most of this money is used to pay and house the clergy, and support them in their ministry, but it also funds a number of other activities at Diocesan level, such as supporting church schools, contributions to the national church, and training new clergy, as well as helping other parishes that are much less fortunate than us.

The remaining £650 per week will be used to heat, light, and insure the church, pay for running the church office, and cover the costs of providing the church's music.

## How much should I give?

The amount you give is a decision for you alone, but to guide your thinking the current range of giving is from about 50p up to £60.00 per week (£26 to £3440 per year).

Adopting the traditional concept of tithing, in which a proportion, typically in the range 5 to 10% of income is given, a good starting point might be 5% of take-home income.

## What next?

Once you have decided on the level of giving that is appropriate for you, please complete the form overleaf to join or continue your membership of the Planned Giving scheme in 2010.



# Contact Details...



Name: .....

Tel No..... e-mail: .....

# Pledge...

I would like to start/continue\* to support St. Luke's in 2010 through the following pledge:-

## REGULAR GIVING

	Weekly Envelope Scheme	£_____ per week	and*
	Bank Standing Order	£_____ per month	and*
	Bank Standing Order or Cheque	£_____ per quarter	and*
	Bank Standing Order or Cheque	£_____ per year	

(\*Please delete as applicable)

If you would like to use weekly envelopes then we will forward them to you, and if you use a new or changed Standing Order then we will send you the form for you to sign and forward to your bank. Any cheques should be made payable to "St. Luke's PCC"

## SINGLE DONATION

We would particularly welcome single donations in addition to regular giving pledges, to help us reduce the size of the deficit. If you would like to give this way then please make your cheque payable to "St. Luke's PCC" and return it with this form.

	£_____
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# If You Are A Taxpayer...

Please tick the box if you are a taxpayer and you intend that this pledge be given under the Gift Aid scheme so that for every £1.00 you give the taxman adds an extra 28p, at no further cost to you.

# Thank you...

...for reading this form. Once completed, please return it in the supplied envelope either to the box at the back of church or directly to:

Adrian Quick  
Stewardship Recorder  
29-31 Risborough Road  
Maidenhead  
Berks  
SL6 7YT

We will give thanks for all that has been promised at our 10.00am service on Sunday 29th November 2009.