



DUNDEE METHODIST CHURCH



Scottish Charity Registration Number: SC037954

Angus, Dundee & Perthshire Circuit: 31/11

18.5.14

Dear Friends

Gift Appeal 2014

It has often been said at Church Councils and General Church Meetings that the members and friends of Dundee Methodist Church are very generous in their regular giving, both through the plate and also from Standing Orders, some of which are set up by former members. This continues to be the case for which we continue to be very grateful but sadly due to diminishing numbers and rising costs, our income is not keeping up with our expenditure.

In the recent accounts submitted to OSCR (the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator) our expenditure for the Connexional Year 2012-13 exceeded our income by just over £3000 (£40627.58 viz-a-viz £37582.56), so that we started this year with total funds of just £7101.81.

Last year in one of the quarters we were unable to pay our full Circuit Assessment, so that we paid £2205 less than we were asked for. After discussion at Circuit level, we were able to get our annual total reduced from the previous £32820 to £24000, and, coupled with the Circuit agreeing to waive the current quarter's assessment, these decisions are helping greatly.

However other expenditure continues to rise. One striking example is the cost of electricity. Last Connexional year we paid £4082 but this year the monthly figure has risen from £363 to £447, both of which are more than the average weekly plate collection. The expected total bill on electricity alone for the current year is now £5112.

We are extremely indebted to the work done to secure income from users of the premises and from Gift Aid. Last year between them, the Church gained over £11000. Without these sources we would have started this year in the red.

The position we are in has resulted in the Church Council deciding that we hold a Gift Appeal this year to try and reverse the decreasing trend in our accounts. Accompanying the letter is an envelope for any response you are able to make, which may be gift-aided to help even further. The response may be in cash or as a cheque made payable to "Dundee Methodist Church". We would ask that these are returned by Sunday 15th June if at all possible so that the following Sunday (22nd June) at the General Church Meeting they can be dedicated to the ongoing life, work and witness of Dundee Methodist Church. You may return them through the normal plate collection or to Sandy or David directly.

Each and every gift will be gratefully received.

Yours in Christ

David A Eason
Church Treasurer

Sandy Laurie
Convener, Finance & Property Committee