



## Bulletin 27

Dear Church!

20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Unusually I find myself writing two bulletins in a row! There is nothing hugely different to report or prepare ourselves for this week but I wanted to write to commend John Phillips' accompanying treasurer's bulletin to you and to further the thanks of the church to you in your faithful giving. Thanks to the latter both churches are able to be in the process of expanding our ministry and not having to contract it.

At St Paul's, the aim is to add a long term temporary building on their premises to continue their food box ministry and to provide more room for meetings and community work. Please remember the planning and eventual ministry in your prayers and thanksgiving.

At Emmanuel, Holly Martin launches into her new ministry in ten day's time. Please, equally, remember to pray for her, Emmanuel's families and in particular, the youngsters between nought and eleven which Holly's work with soon focus upon. Please also pray for more help to be forthcoming for Bert and Kate Tayler as they currently head up the 11-14s ministry.

Finally, may I offer a word of encouragement on what, outside my window, looks like an exceptionally gloomy day! We've prayed hard that the Lord would sustain us through these times and he has remained true to his promise to do just that as we seek to proclaim Jesus as Lord and Saviour...

***"... I am with you always, even to the end of the age."***

Matthew 28:20

This is probably the worst bit of the pandemic to go through. Some now know the personal safety of the vaccine yet still endure the hardships and consequences of how we have to deal with it, others still do not have that security and continue to risk their health, and even lives, in the service of others. It's tempting to lose patience until it's our turn. It's tempting to be jealous of our neighbour's circumstances. But this is the hardest lap of the race to run until it's all over. Now is the time to show our mettle and remain confident in God our heavenly provider. After all, manna came down from heaven one day at a time!

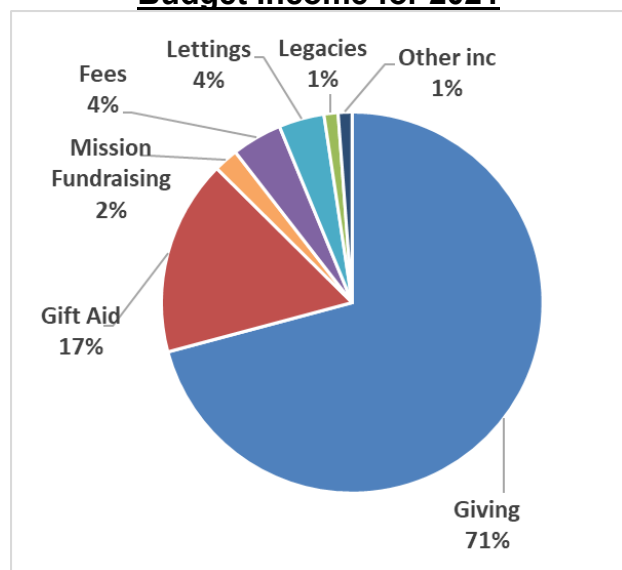
***Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.***

Hold fast to Christ and he will hold fast to you!  
in His Grip and Grace, Rev Karl

## Emmanuel finance update

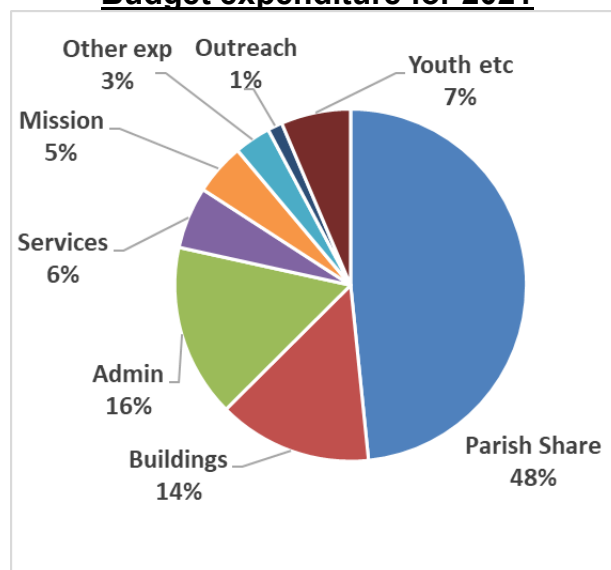
You will be interested to see how Emmanuel intends to use its financial resources in the coming year. The charts below give a summary of the budget set by the PCC for Emmanuel Church last December.

### Budget Income for 2021



Total budget income £204,720

### Budget expenditure for 2021



Total budget expenditure £204,657

- The budget is neutral. We are not expecting a surplus or deficit in 2021.
- The actual outcome for the year will depend on how quickly we get back to normal following the effects of Covid-19.
- You can see that the great majority of the income is from the generous and voluntary donations by the church members, together with the associated Gift Aid.
- The parish share, our largest expense, provides us with our two vicars as well as other support from the diocese.
- We are now employing a Children's Worker, who will encourage and expand our work with children inside and outside the church. There is £10,000 in the budget as it stands, but that will be a little too small to sustain the work. Reserve funds will be used if necessary. We would also like to employ a Youth Worker.

### A request for your thoughts and prayers

As we begin the New Year, seeking to help our children follow Christ and reaching out to the parish and beyond, can we encourage you please to consider carefully and prayerfully whether you are able to increase your regular level of giving. It would be most encouraging for the whole church if we had sufficient income to employ both the Children's Worker and a Youth Worker without reducing other aspects of our work for the Lord here at Emmanuel.

Please also pray that the church leaders will understand how to use all our resources wisely, under our Lord's guidance.

If you have any queries about any of this, please contact me.

John Phillips  
PCC Treasurer