

REPORT ON GIFT DAY 2021

Once again, we were delighted with the response to the Gift Day campaign and the generosity of the Sunnyside congregation. A final total of £55,000 has been given that has now been distributed to our mission and charity partners. This is somewhat lower than the figure in 2020, due to several factors which will be addressed in the 2022 campaign where possible. It is interesting to note that 87% of gifts were made online.

We were grateful to Rev Paul Thaxter (formerly CMS Director of International Mission) who launched the Gift Day campaign with a powerful and thought-provoking sermon. We are thankful too for the ample publicity both in services and online given to the Gift Day campaign this year and for the regular mission slots where we can hear about current work being undertaken.

As previously agreed, we reduced the number of mission/charity partners from 29 to 25 and our target of 24 will be reached before Gift Day 2022. The reduced number enables us to pray both as a congregation, in small groups and as individuals for two of the donee per month, to have a greater opportunity for hearing from them at the monthly mission slots and at other events like 'In Conversation With' and, where possible, for individuals to take a more active interest.

Of the £55,000, £33,000 was available to the Gift Day International group (GDI) to distribute to their 12 mission partners and £22,000 to the Gift Day UK group (GDUK) to distribute to their 13 mission/charity partners. The amounts can be seen on the attached spreadsheet, but some more detail is given below.

All decisions are made after prayer and discussion, having gleaned relevant information from the individuals and mission/charity partners. The reasoning behind each decision is shared with the PCC, as it is their responsibility to finalise payments considering the two groups' recommendations. All conflicts of interest are declared, and appropriate steps taken to ensure that gifts are decided fairly. The PCC agreed to the recommendations at their November meeting and all payments were made by Christmas 2021.

GDI - After much prayer and discussion the group made the decision to cease financial support of World Vision and Hope for Justice. Whilst we continue to recognise the invaluable work done by these two organisations, it was felt that, for now, we should give to our other mission partners. Although Heidi Longworth and the Prices have returned to the UK, they both remain

dependent on their Christian supporters – Heidi has been working as an Outreach worker in her local Church and studying for an MA in Transformational Leadership and James Price has joined Frontiers UK in a Far East role which enables him and Jo to continue their focus with the Rohingya people. Personal support to Bex Henderson at JENGA CDO was increased in recognition of the invaluable work she is doing. It was lovely to welcome her home to Berkhamsted for a short break over Christmas

GDUK- As GDI, the decision to cease financial support of Liberty Tea Rooms (we continue to support the local group of Christians against Poverty – CAP – who are closely linked) and The Children's Society was made after much prayer and discussion

We are grateful to all those who help to make Gift Day such a success and to our Assistant Treasurer for ensuring all payments are made as soon as we can provide him with payment information. We are always open to recommendations and for new people to join these groups. GDUK would especially welcome new members as our numbers are currently severely depleted

We are also very thankful for the generosity of our Church Community and to our God who has abundantly blessed us that we might be a blessing to others

Peter Hyatt

Penny Harrison

(Chairs of GDI/GDUK)

**SUMMARY OF THE ALLOCATIONS MADE BY GDI/GDUK FROM
GIFT DAY 2021**

GDI		GDUK	
CHARITY	Alloca- tion £	CHARITY	Allocation £
Wycliffe Bible Translators	4000	CAP Debt Centre	500
Bible Society	4000	Chilterns MS Centre	2100
Church Mission Society split between;		DENS	2700
Chris & Veronica Padayachee	2750	Homestart	2700
General Fund	1250	Hospice of St Francis	3000
Serving In Mission: Rob Eldred	2000	Rennie Grove Hospice	1700
Frontiers UK: James & Jo Price	2500	Sunnyside Rural Trust	2400
Stewardship: Heidi Longworth	1500	Swan Youth Project	1600
MAF UK: Sam & Abby Baguma	2750	Age UK-Dacorum Branch	1700
Leprosy Mission England & Wales	2750	Good News For Everyone	600
Meider Jonno Asha-Whittles	2000	Playskill	1300
Bulawayo Shelter	2000	Dacorum Street Pastors	600
Jenga CDO UK Bex Loved Children	3000	Open Door	1100
Embrace the Middle East	1500		
Go Grants	1000		
Total	33,000	Total	22,000