

CHURCH FINANCES FOR THE MONTH TO 13th MAY 2018

Budgeted offerings needed (incl. Gift Aid) for the month of May = **£3,479.17**

Cumulative offering for May = **£1,674.41**

Gift Aid still to be claimed for May = **£296.10**

SHORTFALL from budgeted offerings for the month of May = **£1,508.65**

(Shortfall is determined by Gift Aid still to be claimed)

LOVE YOUR CHURCH (1)

EPHESIANS 5 v. 25

Before you criticise your church, remember *'Christ...loved the church and gave Himself for her.'* He hasn't given up on His church, so don't you give up on it! And stop talking so much about what you don't like. If your church was perfect, you'd be out of place!

Noah didn't sail on *The Queen Mary*; he sailed on a glorified cattle boat. Can you imagine the noise, the confusion, and the violent tossing of a ship in a storm big enough to destroy the world? And how about the smell? All those animals and only one funnel! But here's the thing – everybody inside the ark was saved while everybody outside of it was lost.

The story's told of an aristocrat bragging about his lineage and pure-blooded ancestry. Irritated, one of his listeners remarked, 'I suppose your forebears were on board the ark with Noah!' 'No,' he replied, 'my people had their own boat!' You may smile, but there's only one craft that's guaranteed to make it safely into heaven's port, and that's the old ship of salvation.

Do things sometimes stink in the church? Sure. Jesus issued one of His harshest rebukes to Peter, the disciple who was destined to become a leader in the church: *'Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest [smell] not the things that be of God, but those that be of men'* (Matthew 16 v. 23 KJV). But the great thing is that when you mess up, the same grace that restored Peter will be there for you too. So, the word for you today is: **love your church!**

PENTECOST

is the moment when a
heart of stone
is shattered and a
heart of flesh
takes its place.

How beautiful on the
mountains
are the feet of those who
bring good news,
who proclaim peace,
who bring good tidings,
who proclaim salvation,
who say to Zion,
"Your God reigns!"
Isaiah 52:7



God gave you a gift
of 86,400 seconds
today. Have you
used one to say
"thank you?"

William A. Ward

Pentecost People

Come, Holy Spirit, and make us Pentecost people.

Let your wisdom and right judgment guide our decisions
and temper our impulses.

Let knowledge and understanding increase our capacity for
empathy and compassion.

Let reverence and awe fill us with gratitude and respect for
all of creation.

Give us the courage to witness boldly to our faith in word
and deed.

Through and with and in Jesus Christ, we pray.
Amen.

LOVE YOUR CHURCH (2)

ACTS 27 v. 31

Every church has problems – and the people who cause them. It has always been so. Consider the Corinthian church. Some members got drunk during communion, and others wouldn't attend unless their favourite preacher was speaking. One guy was even having an affair with his stepmother (see **1 Corinthians 5 v. 1**). Sitting beside you on Sunday mornings are some very messed-up and dysfunctional folks. But God keeps working with us, because He sees our potential value to His kingdom.

After writing about murmurers, complainers, the lustful, and the greedy, Jude ends his short book with these words: *'Unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and...present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy'* (Jude 1 v. 24).

Noah didn't jump ship for the same reason you shouldn't leave your church – there's no better alternative. Paul and 276 others were in a storm that looked unsurvivable. Nevertheless he told them, *'Unless [you] stay on board the ship, you cannot be saved.'* Does that mean it's always wrong to leave a church? No, but make sure your reasons are scriptural and not self-centred.

You say, 'But the pastor's sermons are too long.' Paul once preached so long that a man sitting in a third-storey window fell asleep, plummeted to the ground, and died. And what did Paul do? He laid hands on him, revived him, set him back in the window and made him listen to the rest of the sermon! (see **Acts 20 v. 9 - 11**). Seriously, if your church has problems, don't leave; stay and pray. That's how things get changed.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH

An advance notice to say that the **Fellowship Lunch on 3rd June** will be **Jacket Potatoes and fillings**. All are welcome to stay and enjoy time together.

Many Thanks Today Goes To...

Serving Tea & Coffee today are ...
Norma Hall & Sue Hall

Flowers today were provided by ...
Hillary & David Lambert

Our Stewards today have been ...
Sheila Rayner & Rene Duff

PRAYERS POINTERS

- Pray for those of our fellowship who are still unwell at this time.
- Please pray for those who work in the Tourist Industry on the Island.
- Pray for those who will be spending their holidays on Isle of Wight.
- Pray for the Street & School Pastors on the Isle Of Wight.
- Pray for those who will be sitting exams in the next several weeks.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 21st May

Play & Praise Toddler Group 9.30am – 11.00am

Tuesday 22nd May

Prayer Meeting 10.00am - 11.00am

Wednesday 23rd May

S.O.C. (Sandown Outreach Club) 4.15pm - 5.15pm (ages 5 – 7)
5.30pm - 6.30pm (ages 8 – 11)

Thursday 24th May

Housegroups 7.30pm

Friday 25th May

Noah's Ark Toddler Group 9.30am - 11.30am

Sunday 27th May

Morning Worship 10.30am

(Rev. Nigel Cox will be leading the service today)

Minister:

Rev. Ian Lovell Tel: 01983 402119 E-mail: pastor@sandownbaptist.church

Children's Co-Ordinator:

Olga Lovell Tel: 01983 402119 E-mail: children@sandownbaptist.church

Church Website: www.sandownbaptist.church

Welcome to SANDOWN BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Vision is to ...

Reach others with Christ's love as we learn to follow Him

SUNDAY 20th MAY 2018



We give a warm welcome to everyone who has joined us today, especially if you are new here or are just visiting us for the day.

If you are visiting then please take the opportunity to sign our visitor's book before you leave today. If you are new to the church and wish to find out more of what we do here, then please make yourself known to our Minister or one of the Welcome Team.

Please stay seated throughout the service if you prefer. Refreshments are served at the end of the service in the vestibule and you are very welcome to stay and fellowship with us.



10.30 am Morning Worship

Worship Leader: Rev. Ian Lovell

Preacher: Rev. Ian Lovell

Theme: A Day To Celebrate The Holy Spirit

Reading: Mark 1 v. 1 – 13

Our Church Text for 2018

I will praise you, O Lord, with all my heart;
I will tell of all your wonders.
I will be glad and rejoice in you;
I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

Psalm 9 v. 1 - 2