

Eternity

STEWARDSHIP 2026



FULL FINANCE DOCUMENT

Introduction

Jesus said,

'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven.' Matthew 6:19-20

Opportunities abound! Churches around the UK are reporting a spiritual hunger among young adults that hasn't been seen for many years. We are witnessing that in Lindfield, with regular visits from those seeking to know more about the Christian faith. Outreach among the seniors in our local area is growing too, not only through **Tiger@Ten**, but through the new **'Forget Me Knots'** group for those living with cognitive impairment. We are beginning to partner with Blackthorns School through the **'Transforming Lives for Good'** mentoring scheme – at a time when both village primary schools are coming under the Hurst Education Trust, a partnership between Hurstpierpoint College and the Diocese of Chichester.

Beyond our immediate horizons, we give in Christ's name to a number of practical projects, among them: the Diocesan charity, **Family Support Work**, **Haven Pregnancy Centre** in Burgess Hill and **St. Peter & St. James Hospice**.

This year we are looking to increase by 5% our giving to evangelism and mission in UK and overseas. Please read the Stewardship letter and watch the video message for details of these opportunities and others. With the staff team, the Finance Committee has worked hard to prepare a budget to deliver what we believe God is calling us to do in the year ahead.

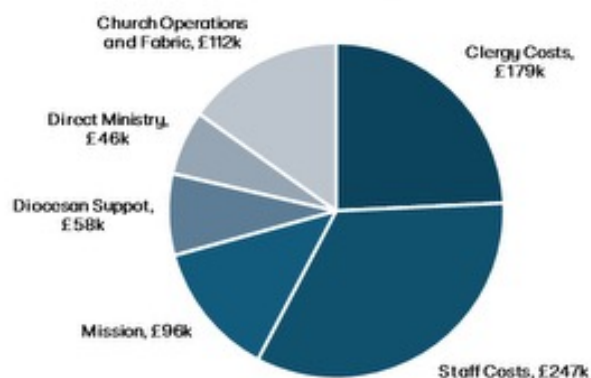
We are aware that this Stewardship season falls a few months after our recent 'extra' giving to the **Under One Roof Tiger project**. Again, a big thank you to those who shared in that.

The Finance Committee has taken great care that to ensure that we are good stewards of the sacrificial giving of the church family. I am very grateful to our treasurer, Oli Taylor, and the Finance Team for their tremendous hard work on our behalf. Below you will find a report prepared by, them, outlining our financial situation, our needs and commitments.

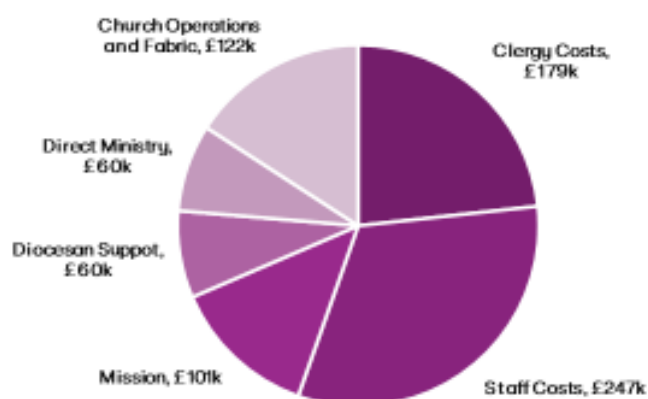
The following income and expenditure budget has been approved by the PCC for 2026:

	2026 Budget	2025 Budget	2026 vs 2025
Income	£765,000	£735,000	+4%
Expenditure	£769,000	£737,000	+4%
Surplus/Deficit	- £4,000	- £2,000	£32,000

2025 Budget



2026 Budget



2026 Expenditure Highlights

- Increase in local evangelism and outreach **£1,500**
- Increase in UK & overseas mission giving **£5,000**
- Additional events for young people, including increased hospitality after Cornerstone service **£3,600**
- Increase in the pastoral fund to support those in financial need **£2,500**
- New ministry projects: Forget me Knots, Transforming Lives for Good mentoring at Blackthorns School **£2,600**
- Widen charitable giving beyond simply Haven Pregnancy Centre to include also our local hospice **£1,500**

2026 Expenditure Breakdown

The 2026 expenditure budget of £769,000 represents a £32,000 (4.4%) increase on the 2025 Budget. This includes:

a) Clergy Costs **£179,000** up 1% vs 2025 budget

These costs cover the Stipends Pensions and NI payments for our full time clergy (excluding Matt, our curate who is funded out of the Diocesan support costs below), housing costs associated and general expenses.

Breakdown as follows:

Stipend/Pension/NI	£140,000.
Expenses	£3,700.
Housing	£35,300

b) Staff Costs **£247,000** up 1% vs 2025 budget

These costs cover all our paid staff both full time and part time and including our Ministry Trainee and Additional Needs Coordinator (excluding our full time clergy).

Breakdown as follows:

Salaries	£215,000.
Pension	£16,500.
NI	£15,500

c) Mission **£101,000** up 5% vs 2025 Budget

This budget is split among sixteen mission partners, charities and other links that we have as a church. The increased expenditure has been allocated to those which we believe need additional support. It is important to note that there is additional giving to a large portion of these partners through generous individual giving.

d) Diocesan Support **£60,000** up 3% vs 2025 Budget

All Saints Lindfield contributes funds to the diocese to support Training, Ministry Support and General Parish support. There is no legal obligation for us to do so. However, we remain committed to support these through our parish share. The Diocese has recently shared a 2026 budget which includes a 3% increase in support over the 2025 budget. The PCC has committed to increasing our funding to meet this requirement and continue to support the work that takes place.

Breakdown as follows:

Curates/Ordinands Training	£32,000
Ministry Support	£10,000
Parish Support	£2,000
Restricted funds additional funds	£16,000

e) Direct Ministry **£60,000** up 27% vs 2025 Budget

Costs relating to all ministry areas across the church to support children's work, young people, seniors, music and the pastoral needs of the church.

This is the area in which a large number of the highlights above sit. As you can see, we have increased the budget considerably and hope that these investments will help to spread the good news around our community.

f) Church Operations and Fabric Fund

£122,000 up 9% vs 2025 budget

This comprises overheads of the church for the day-to-day running, including utility bills, IT costs and other professional supporting items we require. These will generally increase in line with inflation. However, this year there are likely additional charges due to the Under One Roof Tiger project.

Each year we transfer £60,000 over to the fabric fund to support future building works, this has helped us start to build the funds for the Tiger project that the congregation so generously added to on the Tiger Gift Day earlier in the year.

2026 Income Budget

An income budget of £765,000 would ensure income covers expenditure in 2026 and would allow us not only to continue our current ministry, but to take hold of the new opportunities we see in 2026. To do this we are seeking a 4% increase in giving in 2026.

The church family has continued to give generously throughout 2025, for which we are enormously grateful, and we give thanks to God for His goodness.

Summary

Thank you for your generosity to the Under one Roof Tiger project in April/May. We are excited about the gospel opportunities this will offer both us and generations to come in All Saints! Meanwhile, like all churches, we are dependent for all that we do on the generosity of the congregation and on the PCC's continued stewardship of our finances. We do not receive money from the Church of England, the Diocese or the Government (except for tax returned under the Gift Aid scheme).

We are in a good financial position, but do not wish to presume on this. We see opportunities in 2026 that we would like to take. Stewardship season is a chance for us all prayerfully to review what we can give in 2026 so that together we can take these opportunities and continue to play our part in the spread of God's Kingdom, not only in our local community, but around the world.

Our Response

We invite everyone to pledge before God how they will give financially to support the mission and ministry of All Saints in the coming season.

Every gift – small or large, regular or one-off – is greatly appreciated and will be stewarded wisely. You can make your pledge either online or on paper.

1. Pledge online or on paper

A) To pledge online, use the following link to access the **Promise of Planned Giving Form**. You will also need to complete the Standing Order Authority Form and/or Gift Aid Declaration if required. Ensure you press 'Submit' at the bottom of the form.

B) To pledge on paper print off and complete the **Promise of Planned Giving Form**

In addition, you may need to print off and complete the **Standing Order Authority Form** and/or the **Gift Aid Declaration**

Place your completed paper form(s) in an envelope marked 'Stewardship 2025' and put them through the letterbox in the front of the Tiger, or post to

All Saints Church Office
122 High Street
Lindfield RH16 2HS

2. Make your payment

There are various ways to make a payment:

Online payment via your bank (Recommended)

The most efficient method for regular giving to the church is for you to set up (or update) your regular giving with your bank yourself. The church bank account details to be used are as follows:

Account Name	Lindfield PCC Covenant Account
Sort Code	20-49-76
Account Number	90408913

Standing order

Please complete the Standing Order Authority form, and our Stewardship Recorder will liaise with the bank to ensure that it is correctly set up.

Church website* Access giving online **HERE**.

Contactless card reader*

This is kept at the back of the church under the tower, and is good for one-off giving.

CAF/Stewardship Services vouchers

Cheque

These should be made payable to 'Lindfield PCC', and sent to the Church Office in a sealed envelope marked for the attention of the Stewardship Recorder.

Blue envelopes

These will be sent by post to those who still prefer to donate in this way on a monthly basis.

Cash

During services cash can be placed in the collection bowl at the back of the church.

** Both of these options incur a small processing fee for the church*

3. Dedicate your pledge

This year Dedication Sunday is **26th October**.

At each of the three main services (9.30am, 11.15am and 6pm) there will be an invitation to come to the front of church and place a token of the pledge you have made into a bowl at the front. If you have not already made a pledge (either online or by paper) you can also place your pledge in the bowl on Dedication Sunday. This is a moving way to celebrate and signify our giving as a church community. There will no doubt be some who are unable to attend Dedication Sunday for a range of reasons. Pledges can still be posted into the Tiger Office via the letterbox.

Thank you

Thank you for taking time to read this material as you prayerfully consider your giving for 2026.. If you have any questions regarding the finance elements of the budget please have a word with our Treasurer, Oli Taylor or contact him by email: **treasurer@lindfield.info**.