

Dear All,

There is a challenge ahead. A huge chunk of our budgeted income has gone. This is no-ones' fault. There is no one to blame. It is though the reality. Covid means that many of our lettings and activities are not happening. This has drastic financial consequences for us.

We may not be using the building as much but the bills still have to be paid. We still need to pay into the Ministry and Mission fund. This pays ministers' stipends and other central functions -like retired ministers still need their pensions paid and we want the URC to speak out on other issues in the world at this time.

We were always going to have a gift day. Now the situation is more urgent.

Of course the easiest thing to do would be move out of the building and do everything on line. KURC could not do that. Other churches could but not us.

We have a mission to Kingston town centre. We have a place where we gather and offer space, hospitality to others. At this time that looks very different.

Yes during this time we have developed new ministries we want to continue. We want to increase our on-line and international life.

All of this costs money.

How much should each of us give?

God knows

You could ask God.

We know there is a challenge and we are encouraging people to do something to symbolise this challenge. For more detail please see our other letter. Basically it is 8 things in the week in the run up to the gift day which will be Sunday 27th September.

How to give. -Making your 2020 Gift Day BIG 8 donation.

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, we would like to keep Gift Day donations as cash-free as possible. It would be helpful if you could use one of the following options:

- the Virgin Money Giving page on the KURC website (www.kingstonurc.org). Please write 'Gift Day' in the message box on the first page and complete the GiftAid declaration later in the site if appropriate
- payment into KURC's bank account: (20-46-73) 60921289
- a cheque made out to Kingston United Reformed Church and sent to The Treasurer at KURC's address
- use of the KURC card machine.
- To make a cash donation, please mark an envelope and push it through the manse door – 12, Regent Road.- Or let us know that is how you wish to donate and we will collect it. Or if it is possible for you bring it on a Sunday at 5.00

In all cases, please identify your payment as a Gift Day donation

God knows that some of us are facing major financial problems in this time. Anxious about jobs and rents.

Others though are not spending as much and we have more cash than usual.

This is a time when we need each other, young and old, as well as God who holds us together.

Thanks in anticipation

Lesley M Charlton

Kingston United Reformed Church