

## HOW CAN WE EACH GIVE IN THE LIFE OF QEANBEYAN UNITING CHURCH?

**OUR PRAYERS:** QUC WILL NOT THRIVE RELYING JUST ON ITSELF!!

**OUR TIME:** YOUR TIME IS VERY PRECIOUS, SHARE IT WISELY AND WELL

**OUR 'GOD GIVEN' GIFTS AND PASSIONS:** THE BASES FOR ALL OUR MINISTRIES

**OUR 'NO-LONGER NEEDED' POSSESSIONS:** THROUGH OUR JUMBLE SALE WE  
CAN PASS THEM ON TO THOSE IN NEED

**OUR FINANCES:** GIVING TO THE WORK OF GOD WITHIN AND BEYOND QUC



## THE NATURE OF GIVING AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

WE SEEK TO ASSIST YOU TO GIVE  
INTENTIONALLY, SACRIFICIALLY AND REGULARY  
BY:

BY DIRECT GIVING: (YOU SPEAK WITH YOUR BANK)

OUR DETAILS: QEANBEYAN UNITING CHURCH AT CALL ACCOUNT  
B.S.B. 634-634 ACCOUNT NO 100 020 066

OR

WEEKLY GIVING ENVELOPES - ARE ALSO AVAILABLE (ANONOMOUSLY – JUST  
TAKE A BOX) FROM THE BACK OF THE CHURCH.

REFLECTIONS BY STEVE COSTER  
MINISTER - QEANBEYAN UNITING CHURCH

**GIVING IS NOT JUST ABOUT OUR FINANCES, IT IS ABOUT WHO WE FOLLOW (CHRIST),  
WHO WE ARE (DISCIPLES) AND WHAT WE OFFER/SHARE (OUR GIFTS AND TALENTS).  
GIVING IS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR DISCIPLESHIP.**

**THANKYOU** Firstly, I take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank all those who have given in so many ways, often over such a long time.

I also take this opportunity to encourage everyone to prayerfully and intentionally review how we each give and how much we each give. I want to acknowledge that for some it may see an increase in what they give and for others who have experienced a reduced capacity it may see a decrease in what they are able to give.

**GIVING IS ABOUT** far more than just what we financially give to the church, it's not even based on how much the church does or doesn't need. Giving is about a spirit of generosity, of sharing, of being community, of being a neighbour, it's about being part of the actions of God within and beyond the church.



**DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO FINANCIAL GIVING...** When thinking about the giving of what we have, it's important to note there are several approaches. Within some parts of scripture, especially the Old Testament, giving is thought of in terms of tithing, the tradition being 10% of income was to 'go to God'. In many ways such an approach may serve as a reasonable guide. However, as followers of Christ how are we to view giving?

**GIVING AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.....** As people who have committed ourselves to being disciples (followers) of Christ we have committed everything - including our finances. A starting point may be to ask the questions: As a follower of Christ, how do I share what I have? How does Christ call me (my household) to live? How does Christ want me to treat my neighbour? How am I to be a global citizen? Such an approach, especially in an age of unprecedented greed and personal accumulation of wealth, can be very threatening and you may, like me, find this approach rather confronting.



#### **GIVING - THREE KEY ELEMENTS:**

- I. intentional - we need to stop and think about it,
- II. sacrificial - we don't start from the premise 'what can I spare',
- III. regular - not just a series of 'one off' moments when we have spare change or our memories are jogged.

**THE CHURCH'S ROLE:** The Church (universal and local) has a role when it comes to peoples giving. We must honour that which is given and the giver behind the giving. We must never act in a way that treats giving lightly, is taken for granted or abused.

We must also know what it means to give. We must hear the call of Christ in the voices beyond ourselves and share who we are and what we have.