



# Knowle Parish Church

*Dear friends,*

There are moments in every church's life when you find yourself at a hinge point. As we approach our Pledge Days, after four years of re-envisioning and sensing what God has been saying about our building, I believe we have reached such a moment. This might be the most important juncture we have faced for several generations. Are we going to embrace the risk of moving into a new phase of ministry and mission through our building at KPC or will we remain as we are?

As we reach this moment, at stake is our ability to be a House of God's light for all peoples and generations. Are we going to embrace the new opportunities for serving our community and building connections or will we stick to the status quo? Are we going to transform our ability to use our building in worship and hospitality or will we carry on with the rigidity of what we already experience? *For Future Generations* places the needs and preferences of those who do not yet know Jesus or worship with us firmly at the forefront of our priorities.

We are asking all of you to consider giving sacrificially to help make our vision a reality. Please ask the Lord how he wants you to respond. Only you will know what he says. No-one else can tell you what to give. If we are to reach our target, it's going to be akin to moving to running a half-marathon when you've only ever run 5 or 10k before. There's a step up in terms of the level of sacrifice; a whole new level of trust to embrace. However, rather than fearing this, we can be confident that as we step out in faith, God will provide.

Sacrificial giving is not giving money that we don't have. It's giving money that we may have put somewhere else. There's a sense of going above and beyond the safe minimum. Paul writes about the Macedonian Christians that "they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability." Only we will know if we are giving less than our ability. For some of you, a small amount may feel sacrificial. This is about the orientation of our hearts. As we read in 2 Samuel 24:24, David declares, *"I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing"*.

May we discover together the abundant joy that comes from sacrificial giving. May we also see that the responsibility is shared across all of us in different ways. Thank you so much for joining in this adventure in mission. God bless you in your conversations with the Lord.

Best wishes in Christ,

*Geoff*

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