

Missions

From the Finance Committee

Tithing

As a Parish we tithe all our income except for:

What we do not tithe:

- Donations directed to “named” Missions, CWS and other special appeals etc – all money received is sent on to that Mission.
- Transfers from Special Funds as the income from Special Funds is tithed as it is earned.
- Building Use – is recorded in the printed accounts after deduction of GST and is often more a refund of expenditure.
- Jumble Sale proceeds, as it is all sent to Missions.
- Council or other grants from beyond the Parish – spent only as per funding application unless change of use is applied for.
- Donations for Youth Ministry.
- Money raised for special projects – each case decided and publicised by Vestry.

At the Annual General Meeting we decide on *targets* for the undirected Mission money for the current Parish financial year, ie money we *hope* we will be able to pass on to specific missions. Whether we achieve the *targets* depends on the overall income received by the Parish, the amount distributed to specified Missions as requested by the donors, the payments of the Anglican Board of Mission quota, and other Parish Mission commitments, for example – support of Alexa Evenden at Bible College.

At the 25th November 2003 meeting, Vestry determined that the following Missions be targeted in order of priority - Mbale Project - Uganda, Liz Giller – Pakistan, City Mission, Christian World Service, and St Ambrose, Aranui.

Overseas mission

Why Mission overseas? To quote “Because Jesus’ command to make disciples of all nations has never been cancelled.” (Diocesan Council for World Mission - webpage)

As a Parish we pay a monthly quota of \$600 to the Anglican Mission Board(AMB). Read all about the AMB in the latest “Mission Action” May 2005 where it informs us that 43c in every dollar is forwarded to the NZCMS. Talk to Ross Elliott who was General Secretary of NZCMS from April 2003 until February 2004.

Each year each Diocesan Synod sets a target figure as their mission commitment then each parish decides through its Vestry what that parish’s target will be. Our Parish traditionally meets our AMB target. Our Christchurch Diocese funds more than its target.

The Christchurch Diocesan Council for World Mission exists to empower parishes to meet the mission giving targets the parishes adopt each year. Fellow parishioner, Helen Pugh, is a member of this council. Advertising now is a Diocesan Mission quiz requiring a team from this parish during August. Find the details on our Parish’s notice boards.

Distribution of funds from larger entities ensures some security for the mission workers in the field, reduces the inevitable administration costs and bank charges, allows evaluation schemes to be established and provides, with fairness, financial support to work whether it is new or ongoing, or whether short term or long-term projects are involved.

As a Parish we also pay the Diocesan Quota of \$1,309 per month. This too has some funding for local mission. Further information can be found on the Christchurch Anglican Diocese webpage: <http://www.chch.anglican.org.nz> or the Christchurch City Mission webpage <http://www.chchcitymission.org.nz>

Not only is money flowing out for mission but of even greater value is the faithful prayers, letters, and other forms of support and loving work. I have only written of a fraction of this fascinating subject.