Money Matters goes electronic!

This will be the last entirely paper-based edition of Money Matters. In an effort to save printing and postage costs and to provide a newsletter which makes the most of what modern technology can offer, the next edition of Money Matters will be sent to Treasurers and Planned Giving Secretaries by email and through the website.

We will no longer be limited by space or by timing and we can bring news to you much sooner, rather than printing information that can be weeks, or even months, out of date by the time you receive it. The new format will include links to useful websites and will, of course, be in full colour!

To make sure that you receive your copy, please ensure that we have your current email address in our records.

All editions of Money Matters will continue to be posted on the Diocesan website.

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Diocese of Lincoln

MONEYMATTERS

A Quarterly Newsletter for PCC Treasurers & Planned Giving Secretaries No 15: October 2010

Giving for Life-
what have *you* been doing?

The Bishop addresses this year's Parish Treasurers' Conference at the Old Palace

Throughout the year so far, The Resources Consultancy has been visiting Deanery Synods, Chapter meetings, PCCs, gatherings of treasurers and churchwardens and many other groups.

We've been spreading the word regarding the General Synod's "Giving for Life" report and the excellent resources provided to support clergy and parish officers.

And we've been delighted with the response as groups have explored Christian Stewardship and in particular, the "Four Key Tasks."

But we'd like to hear from you. What has your Deanery or PCC done since receiving the resources? Has the PCC guide been used? Have the leaflets been used with your congregation? What changes have been made to the way your parish encourages generous giving? Let us know what has been achieved, so we can share ideas

If you want to know more about Giving for Life and the Four Key Tasks please get in touch.

The Four Key Tasks

- Support those who teach or preach on Christian Giving- clergy, readers and others;
- Make obvious the link between what people give and the mission that it enables;
- Encourage regular renewal of giving- something could be done each year;
- Find ways to thank people for all that they give to the Church

Resources Consultancy
www.lincoln.anglican.org
Tel: 01522 504060
Fax: 01522 504051

Director
Andy Wright
Tel: 01522 504064
andrew.wright@lincoln.anglican.org

Consultant
Simon Bland
Tel: 01522 504061
simon.bland@lincoln.anglican.org

Administration
Lesley Elkington + Trisha Cook
Tel: 01522 504065
resources@lincoln.anglican.org

Will Aid

This year we are once more supporting the Will Aid initiative. Every year, during November, a number of local solicitors agree to write a will or a codicil to an existing will free of charge. Clients are then invited to make a donation to one of the Will Aid Charities, which include Christian Aid.

This service is available regardless of whether a gift is left to the church. A pack, including leaflets and posters has been provided for each parish and distributed via your Deanery. Further supplies are available from us or by visiting the website at www.willaid.org.uk where you can also find details of local participating solicitors.

Deanery Giving Officers

Every Deanery has been invited to nominate someone to the role of Giving Officer. This role is based on the Parish Giving Officer initiative which has proved very successful in many other Dioceses. The role of the Giving Officer is distinct from that of Treasurer or GiftAid secretary and encompasses the following:

- Being an encourager of giving and stewardship among the parishes of the Deanery;
- Championing stewardship initiatives such as Giving for Life;
- Bringing a stewardship perspective to Synod discussions;
- Passing on resources to parishes as they become available;
- Acting both as a contact point for parishes on stewardship issues and a liaison with the Resources Consultancy

Has your Deanery appointed a Giving Officer yet? Ask at your next PCC or Synod meeting or look for the link to DGOs on the Resources Consultancy webpages.

Free services for parishes

Are you looking for free professional services? Of course you are!

ProHelp is group of professional firms who have joined to provide free professional services to voluntary and community organisations in their local area.

These professional firms undertake one-off projects, which could include feasibility studies, structural surveys, developing PR & marketing strategies and business plans, legal and accountancy advice and property valuations. ProHelp can support you at each stage of your organisation's development.

For further information call Lezli Hall at Business in the Community on 0115 924 7404, email lezli.hall@bitc.org.uk or see their website www.prohelp.org.uk

Coming soon: SwitchOn and save with the Diocese of Lincoln

Are you looking for a way to make savings on your church's electricity and gas bills?

This autumn we will be launching a Diocesan purchasing scheme in partnership with wholesale energy broker, LSI to help you find the best possible saving on the market .

Look out for more information soon!

Recovery of VAT on Building work

For the remainder of the current financial year, the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme (LPWGS) which provides a mechanism for reclaiming VAT on certain types of expenditure on work to church buildings is being amended.

The scheme will be restricted to its original scope.

This means that VAT will no longer be refunded on organs, bells, clocks, pews and professional fees. The last date for claims on those items is 31st December.

There is more information in a circular from the Churches' Legislation Advisory Service available at **www.lincoln.anglican.org/vat**