

Church Finance Officer report

For me this time of year is like a new year preparing accounts for the AGM, looking at what has happened over the last financial year and seeing if we are keeping to our new budgets for this year. It makes me look back over what God has been doing in my life and the life of the Church in the last year.

The greatest challenge in my life was swimming a mile in The Thames in London and the greatest blessing was the birth of my first grandchild. However great these were we have greater challenges and blessings.

Our greatest challenge in the busyness of this life is not practical things. But to make time to spend with our God, to learn about him, to grow closer to him, to experience his love and to know the purposes and plans that he has for our lives.

And our greatest blessing is that we have a Father who loves us so much that he gave his only Son for us so nothing can separate us from his love and that God has given us a Church family here at OCC for us to support and love each other.

On behalf of the Church session I would like to thank all of you who have generously given to the work here at Oasis Christian Centre, whether it be financially or in food to the storehouse, for without your generosity we would not be able to touch as many lives with the love of God as we do.

Again this year I would like to remind you about the gift aid scheme. As a church if you are a taxpayer we can claim money back from the Inland Revenue. It does not matter how little or how much you want to give there is no commitment to any set amount. This scheme applies to any money that you give to Oasis Christian Centre. This is not restricted just to tithes and offerings but to money given for any other purpose, for example, missions or building fund. Any money or cheques must be placed in your numbered envelope for gift aid to be claimed. If you are not part of this scheme please see me for a very simple form to be completed. I would also like to remind you that any regular giving whether gift aided or not can be given by standing order, if you are able to do this it would be a great help.

And finally I would also like to thank all those who help count the collection each week a job that is unseen and means missing out on the fellowship after the service.

Diane Tolson