

God has been so good to us as a church family over the years and that continues to be the case over the last few months. We have seen –

- People come to faith through our recent Christianity Explained groups.
- People growing in faith through reading the Lent book Forgiven which we were delighted to have 100 copies taken.
- The setting up of a homegroup from our Thursday Bay Ignite congregation which now meets weekly.
- The possibility of a homegroup starting after Easter from our Check it out congregation.
- The interaction with the preaching series on the sermon on the mount with people hearing God speak to them especially on the issue of being salt and light.

There is more we could say but today I want to update you on the funding of an associate vicar role which we launched earlier this year. The PCC when it decided to go for the role knew that they were taking a step of faith and that it was challenging to raise the nearly £250,000 over five years. I want to thank a trust which has helped us and the church family of Christ Church St Andrews for their generous response.

All this means that after just 32 days Richard our treasurer could ring me and say this amazing statement. **We now have enough pledges to fund the role for the five years.** This is such amazing news and I have already been able to inform the diocese of this great news. God has honoured the step of faith we have made as a church family and God's people at Christ Church St Andrews have been amazingly generous. I want to thank God and thank His people. If you still intend to return a form please do so as we will still be able to use it, we will give more details in the weeks ahead but today can we just rejoice and be amazed by how God has blessed us through His people.