

LEGACY BUILDERS

2021



*LEAVING A
LEGACY
IN PEOPLE...*

Dear Friend,

Following on from our 2020 three year Legacy Offering, I am pleased to let you know that we are creating a new initiative from 2021 and beyond called “Legacy Builders”.

This is an annual fund that we will look to create that will enable Arena Church to lay foundations and sow seeds into our town, creating a legacy for generations to come.

Over the past three years we have been given over £200,000 through our partners! This is incredible. Prior to us launching this three year legacy offering, the church had never been involved with something as big as this! So to see people catch the vision and run with it has been amazing.

We have been able to invest into so much as a result of this money and also sow into countless hundreds and thousands of people because of this vision.

PRIMARILY,
THE 2020 FUND
HAS BEEN INVESTED
INTO FOUR
PARTICULAR AREAS:

1. Campus Development and Planting

Over the past three years we have invested into both Ilkeston and Mansfield whilst also pioneering five new campuses in Toulouse (France), Nottingham, Belper, The Hub (Ilkeston) and Online. This has meant we have restored buildings so that they can become effective ministry hubs, we have sent and released people and families into the locations and we have launched services and ministries that we hope will impact the locality for Jesus.

2. Community Transformation

As we love and serve our communities practically, this takes huge amounts of faith, love, charity, generosity and resource as it's forever giving out and away! We have pioneered brand new giveaways, food banks, coffee clubs whilst also serving the homeless, seniors and young people. We have invested in new facilities in Mansfield and have also purchased a new community vehicle. We also seeded all locations with an additional £5,000 each which is helping them to go and practically serve the neighbourhoods.

3. Relational Worldwide Mission Partnerships

We are a local and global community. We have numerous fruitful partnerships in the UK through our Moving Forward Partnership, with between eight to ten churches and also into the world with a number of key relationships that minister and serve across the continents! The Moving Forward Partnership is a huge blessing to the Pastors and all the churches that we are now partnering with are stronger, stable and being filled with vision as they seek to make a difference in their locations. We want to see the British Isles set alight!

4. Training and Development of New Leaders

Over the past three years we have pioneered the Arena Ministry School; over 13 weeks of training each year, which has trained 25 people in ministry training in 2018 and 2019. We have also seen numbers of these students carry on in ministry, be a blessing to local churches and impact their world of ministry and marketplace! Our passion is to send leaders and plant churches, so this is an important part of our vision.



WE HAVE INVESTED

LOCALLY,

NATIONALLY AND

Globally!

What a legacy that you have been involved with. At times this money has felt like elastic. God has caused the resource to stretch and touch so many more people than we anticipated. It felt at times like the feeding of the five thousand in the Bible with five loaves and two fishes - How can so little feed so many? But it has and does!

Also the Arena Finance Team, Board, Central Team, Campus Pastors and ministry leaders bring a great stewarding to the church making sure every pound counts! We have also had thousands of volunteer hours that have been given whilst renovating buildings, painting and serving that has also enabled us to stretch the effectiveness of this money and saved us tens of thousands of pounds!



Newly refurbished Arena Hope store



New minibus purchased by Arena Community

Olivia Richardson and Mel Woollins - Arena Community, Ilkeston

The 2020 fund has enabled us to reach more and more people, and has allowed us to help people with more than just essentials.

Through the 2020 giving we have been able to provide hundreds of Christmas hampers to those who wouldn't normally be able to spend money on Christmas items for themselves.

We have also been able to purchase a minibus, which is to be used in our Arena Afterschool program, which will aim to help feed families that are struggling.

Stuart Watt - Mintlaw Community Church

Friends, I cannot emphasise strongly enough how much I have benefitted from having a relationship with Arena Church, and a partnership with the Moving Forward Network.

I've said to Kristian and many others before, that any time I come down from Scotland to visit, my spirit is refreshed before I've even arrived! This is because my heart knows what's coming.

It's hard to put into words how privileged I feel to receive input from men and women of God who possess not just outstanding gifting, but a depth of character to match.

More than this, it's my privilege that I can call these people friends. My life is larger, and I am indebted to Arena for a servant heart that is to be both envied and applauded.

Thank you so much.

The background consists of a dense pattern of diagonal hatching lines. A large, dark gray diamond shape is centered on the page, creating a focal point for the text.

TODAY

IS THE

DAY OF

SALVATION!

2 CORINTHIANS 6:2



Fully refurbished kitchen in Arena Church Mansfield

Louise Richardson - Arena Community, Mansfield

The 2020 fund has enabled Care for a Coffee to grow and become an established and vibrant community meeting place, which is known for its care towards the people of Mansfield.

This foundation stone has meant that in December 2020, Arena Mansfield provided 60 families with a Christmas lunch hamper.

This will springboard the launch of a Food Club, plus other inspired initiatives during 2021 in Mansfield.

We have also received a newly refurbished kitchen, which the Food Club will be able to run out of.

SO ONTO NOW/TODAY!

Yes we have walked, and continue to walk, through a global pandemic but God has been faithful and as we continue to live out the principle of “Sowing a Seed in a Time of Need”, then like Isaac in Genesis 26, we can experience increase and blessing because God is with us and His blessing is upon us.

The things that we are sowing into will help us to move forward with vision, constantly laying a foundation both now and into our future.



Arena Church Belper



Arena Church Nottingham



*HAVE YOU EVER
SAT DOWN AND
ASKED YOURSELF
THIS QUESTION:*

*WHAT DO I WANT
MY FUTURE TO
LOOK LIKE?*

I have! I have asked this personally and also for our church.

What do I want our church to look like in the future? You see what we do now, the decisions we make today, determine our future. We are storing up, planting seeds, sowing, sometimes in barren places, but we know that God's word will not return void. I am believing for Arena Church to continue to grow, multiply, and be strengthened. For it to serve, touch and reach the generations. For us to impact and minister to the poor and broken. For us to train, empower and facilitate hundreds of leaders and churches in the days ahead that make an impact across the world!

This will only happen through the generous sowing of money, faithful and consistent partnering and serving from many who will feel the gulp but still step in!

As I have said many times:

What is the point of dreaming small?

If you are going to dream, DREAM BIG!

Will you dream with me? But will you also sow with me?

My family and I have sown financially and sacrificially as have so many others. Will you continue to do so, but will others arise who may have not done so before? You may be new to Arena, may have recently given your life to Jesus but will YOU help us with this great mission?

And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. And they exceeded our expectations.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5



Arena Church Mansfield

**Over this next financial year
April 2021-April 2022,
we are specifically wanting to sow into two of the
four areas.**

The two specifics are:

**1. Training and Development of New Leaders
(with the renovation of the Arena Ministry School)**

**2. Campus Development and
Into Our World (with Arena Church Toulouse)**

1. Renovation of the Arena Ministry School (AMS)

As many are aware we purchased an old engineering factory around the corner from our Ilkeston Campus. It was bought in faith, but with no additional resource to renovate.

We want to create an excellent modern building that will house our ministry school training and staff, and also will house our Central Team and Moving Forward Partnership ministry for generations to come.



Arena Ministry School - Under Construction

The estimated cost for build and renovation is £151,000

However, we want to start a Nehemiah initiative within the Legacy Builders.

You see, Nehemiah, the Old Testament leader, broke the rebuilding of the wall down into sections and with the help of families and individuals, he rebuilt the walls in record time without anyone being overwhelmed. EVERYONE played their part and it also enabled families to take ownership of certain sections.

I wonder if we could do the same.

Could a family, group of families, small group or individuals take on a certain section of the below rebuild?

See below estimated breakdown of costings:-

Rebuild walls for additional floor £27,000

Windows £22,000

Electrics and fire and air conditioning £21,000

Plumbing and heating £12,000

Bathrooms and kitchen £10,000

Joinery £15,000

Roof £13,000

Painting £3,000

Landscaping £4,000

Office furniture/IT/fabrics £12,000

Flooring £12,000

Estimated Total: £151,000

We were given a £42,000 gift in the autumn for the Ministry School. This was an answer to prayer and a miracle gift as it came from an individual who does not even attend Arena. In fact they live in another part of the world! They have connections with the leaders and God spoke to him and his wife to sow this seed into Arena! We have also been given other small seed gifts for AMS and we have saved money over the year so we have an additional £21,000 in hand. So in total we have £63,000, but we are asking for an additional £88,000. It's a faith step!

This will be a one-off investment for the renovation as the ongoing running costs will be underwritten through the fee that the students pay and also through tithes and offerings of the ministry. The staffing of this school is undertaken by the Pastors of Arena and any outside ministry is given free of charge by those who speak!

We really want to begin this work in summer/autumn 2021 and would look to complete this project by summer 2022.



Arena Ministry School (AMS)

2. Campus Development and Into Our World

Patrick and Lucile have been given a great open door opportunity in the city of Toulouse, France. Many immigrants are coming to Toulouse from other nations and our church in France wants to love and serve them practically. It's a great need in the city.

Many, if not all, come empty handed fleeing many troubled and disturbing contexts. Patrick and Lucile are working with Toulouse City and the Mayor to provide support and help. They have an open door with the City Leaders and Mayor and in their minds nothing has ever been done like this through the church before in Toulouse.

They would like to provide:

Food and produce - creating a Food Bank/Club idea

Education - They have people who will teach French to families and young people

Baby supplies

Furniture

Sports and football clubs - Many of the young people and teenagers are fanatical about football. These outreaches will both reach people and serve people in a practical way.

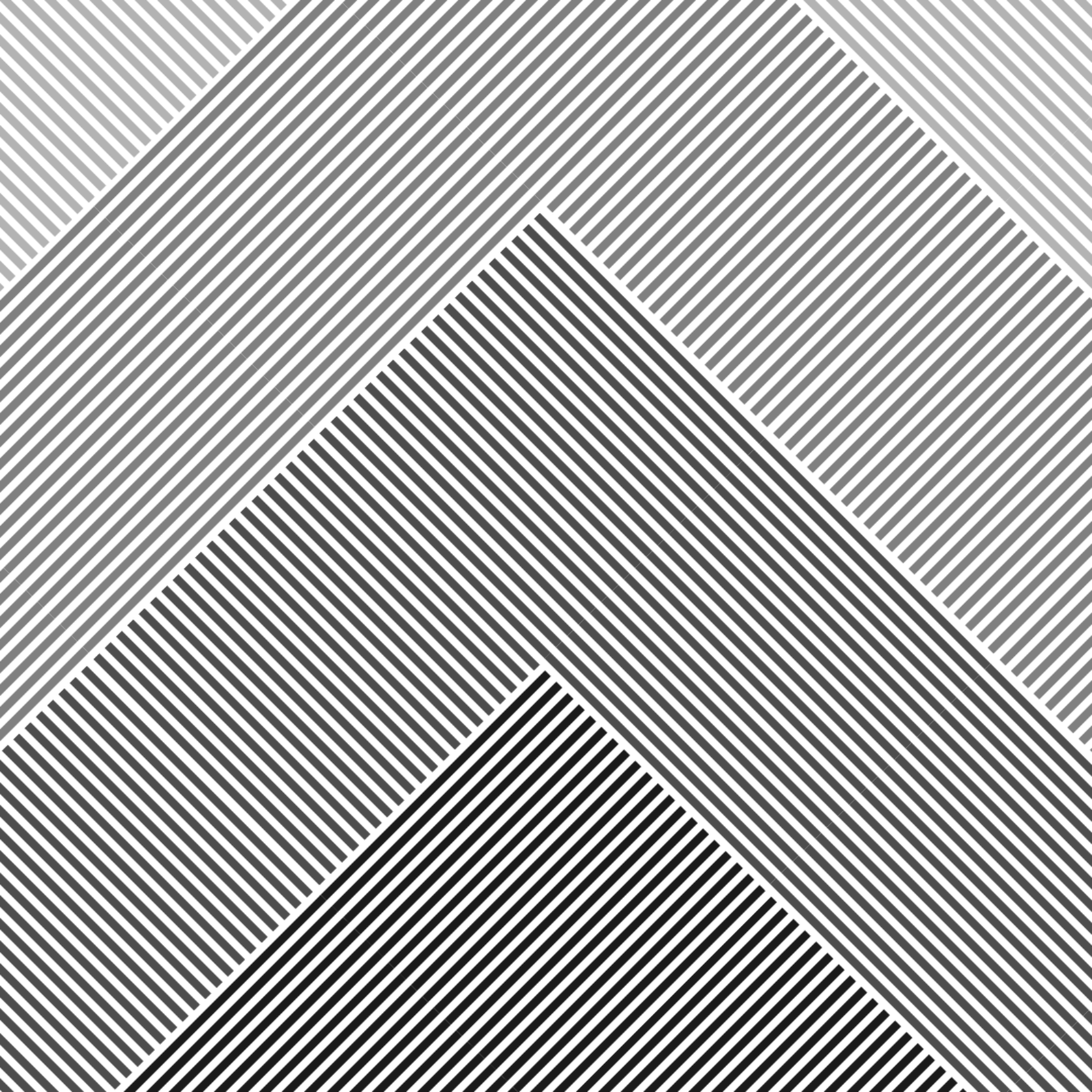


Arena Church Toulouse, France

The hope would be that Patrick and Lucile would work with the Mayor, local businesses and individuals, and French grant-making bodies to create a financial and volunteer sustainable project moving forward.

In the UK we want to continue to support our campuses with staffing, utilities and building renovation - all of which require our continued ongoing assistance. Of course tithes and offerings will also help financially in our locations too, and our ongoing legacy fund will bring further support to them as we continue to develop and grow the ministries at each location.

For the above we will need £30,000.



Conclusion

This gives us a total of £118,000 for the year. Any surplus that we create would be used in ensuing years!

Will you get involved, will you give, will you pray, will you consider becoming a Legacy Builder?

I am aware there are different financial situations that people have. There are people with a little and some with a lot. All I ask is that we give of our best. We are sowing into our future beyond our days, and the foundations that we lay and the seeds that we plant now have the potential to change the course of hundreds and thousands of people; impacting villages, towns and cities.

FAQs

What is Legacy Builders in short?

This is an annual fund that we will look to create that will enable Arena Church to lay foundations and sow seeds into our future, creating a legacy for generations to come.

How can I get involved?

By prayerfully considering pledging or giving to this fund each year.

What happens if there is a surplus?

We desire to create a margin that would allow us to do so much more in these key areas. The more we give, the more we are able to sow into ministry locally, nationally and across the world.

Who administers the fund?

This fund is administered by the Financial Team of Arena Church and the accountant auditors of Arena Church. It will be set aside as restricted funding for these areas only.

How can I give?

You can give weekly, monthly, annually or in whatever frequency you would like but please ensure when you give that you clearly mark on the envelope or on your online payment “Legacy” so that we can ensure this money is restricted for this purpose.

One off gift - £100 / £250 / £500 / £1,000

Monthly gift - £10 / £25 / £50 / £100

Business gift - £1,000 / £5,000 / £10,000

Example:-

If 50 people gave £100 per month and another 100 people gave £50 per month we would see £120,000 given in one year!

The easiest way to give is to set up a standing order if you are able.

The bank details for this purpose are:-

Account: Arena Church

Sort Code: 40-25-29

Account No: 61477196

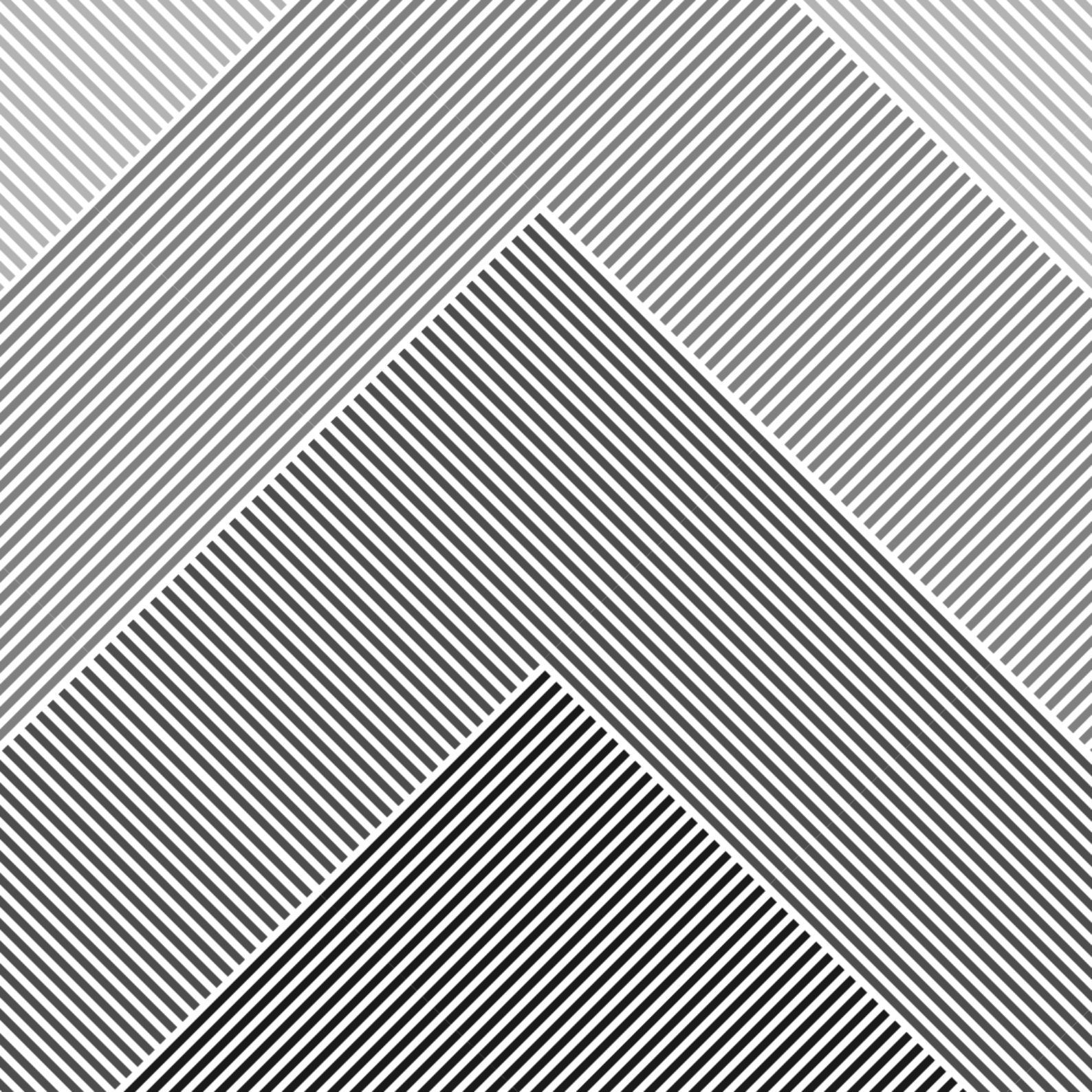
Reference: Legacy

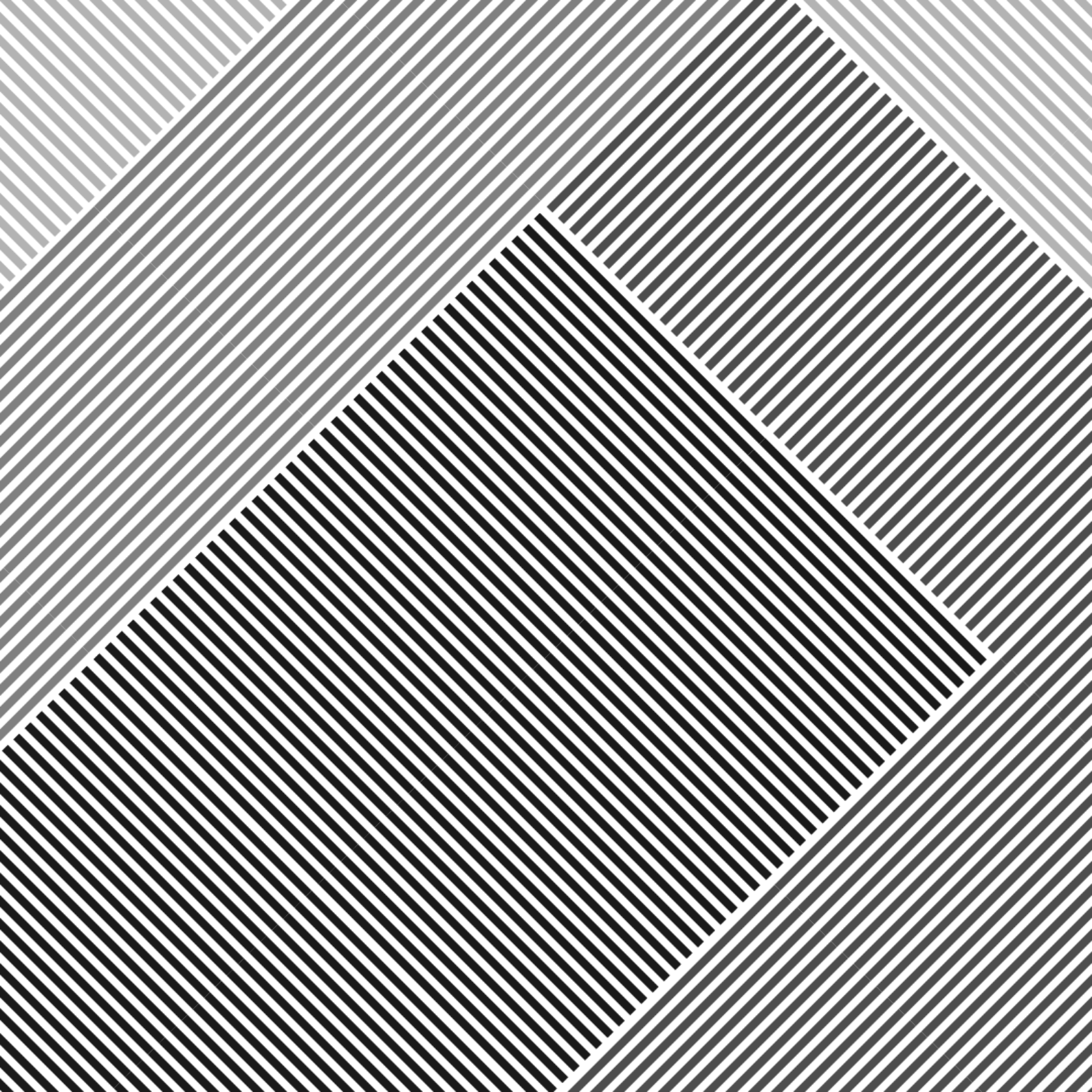
Can I Gift Aid on this amount?

Yes. If you are a taxpayer we can claim Gift Aid of 25%, which means £100,000 from UK taxpayers gives us a massive £25,000 extra! Please complete an online Gift Aid form:- www.arenachurch.co.uk/giftaid

Can I give through my business?

Over the years we have also had business owners who have wanted to sow into the fund from their businesses. This is possible and a very efficient way of giving. We are a registered charity and you are able to give from your profits to Arena Church Legacy Builders, thus making you more tax efficient. This can be done weekly, monthly or as a one off. Please speak to your accountant or financial adviser for further guidance with this. The generosity of businesses and business people has really swelled the fund and has helped us to achieve our goals. We love our business people and we are grateful for many who sow generously, knowing it's not just people but also businesses that are making a difference!





Finally, Caroline and I would like to thank you Legacy Builders!

Your generosity and service do not go unnoticed... You are all champions!

You are leveraging your resources for something bigger, greater and more powerful than we can even comprehend. Your giving and generosity will be a testimony for generations to come! Thank you and let's begin this good work (Nehemiah 2:17).

Love you loads,

Kristian and Caroline Thorpe

Lead Pastor

On behalf of Arena Church Leadership



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Arena Church is a registered charity no. 1052643