



FOR THE HOUSE
LEGACY BUILDERS 2024



ARENACHURCH

A message from Kristian and Caroline Thorpe

Dear friends,

We hope that you find this brochure both informative, and more importantly, inspirational.

Over the years there have been countless people, families and businesses that have sowed into this Legacy Builders ministry and they have done this with a joyful and generous heart and I'm also sure many people have sacrificed too. Legacy Builders enables us as a church to do so much more and to be a blessing to so many.

Please read the contents of this brochure to see what we've done historically. It's good to honour the past whilst at the same time with fresh eyes and fresh vision look forward to what God would want us to do and be part of in this next 12 months.

This is a year of growth and we are believing for growth this year in our house. The emphasis on the year is 'For The House'. I would encourage you to get involved and play your part and let us see what God will do as we work together and sow generously into this fertile ministry.

On behalf of all the pastors and the team please note that you are loved and appreciated.

May God bless you richly

The Year Of
GROWTH

***Get Ready
Opportunity Waits
Take Hold***



FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN FOR LEGACY GIVING

APRIL 2018 - MARCH 2024

(These figures do not include our tithes and offerings giving)

**2018-
2020**

2020 VISION OFFERING

Our 2020 vision offering commenced in 2018 and ran for 3 years, from 2018 to 2020.

Total given over 3 years: £213,861

2021

IN 2021 WE REBRANDED TO OUR LEGACY FUND

2021 Income: £67,145

Given into the below 4 areas:-

Community Transformation	£20,000
Campus Development	£12,145
Ministry School	£30,000
World Ministries	£5,000

Total given in 2021: £67,145

2022

2022 Income: £54,783

Given into the below areas:-

Mission India	£8,500
<i>(Church planting in India)</i>	
Campus Development	£20,000
<i>(Strengthen and support for Toulouse, Nottingham, Belper and The Hub)</i>	
Ministry School	£9,777
Community Work & Outreach	£16,506

Total given in 2022: £54,783

(a further £10,000 was given through Legacy for a specific need which is not included in this figure)

2023

2023 Income: £71,675

Given into the below areas:-

Mission India	£8,500
<i>(Church planting in India)</i>	
Campus Development	£37,828
<i>(Strengthen and support for Toulouse, Nottingham, Belper and The Hub)</i>	
Ministry School	£3,546
Community Work & Outreach	£21,801

Total given in 2023: £71,675

TOTAL GIVEN

APRIL 2018 - MARCH 2024



£407,464



Given into:-
Community Transformation
Campus Development/Planting
World Missions
Ministry School

Breakdown over 6 years:

Community Transformation and Outreach	£112,075
Campus Development/Planting	£184,086
<i>(Four campuses launched in 2019)</i>	
Ministry School	£82,546
World Missions	£28,757

(This figure is International missions giving which is above and beyond what we already give every month through our giving and our tithe fund - this tithe giving amount is reported at our Vision Day annually. On top of this amount we give to local and national missions through our giving)

OUR FOUR AREAS OF GIVING



Over the years our legacy offering has been given to principally 4 areas:

1. Campus Development
2. Community Transformation
3. Leadership Development/Training
4. World Missions

It's always 'gone out' but this year we strongly feel that we need to attend to areas that are local to us, in essence for 'the house.' I have some friends in the North East of Scotland who are involved in fishing, in fact they have fishing boats. But it is necessary overtime to make sure they attend to the

maintenance and structure of the boat. They want to catch fish but are unable to do so if they do not look after the boats.

This is where we presently are at, the main thrust of this year is to look after home and some of the structures of buildings, vehicles and houses that are necessary for us to keep reaching people. Please read ahead.

Campus Development and Leadership Training

It is necessary for us to support the work of our campuses. In particular, Belper, Toulouse and Nottingham need further financial assistance due to the size of these campuses. We thank God for growth but we want to continue to see these campuses become strong. So, we need to financially assist them practically, providing resources to help them reach out to their localities thus helping to strengthen, develop and build these campuses over the next 12 months.

Missions

Partnering with world ministries is a major part of Arena Church, our Legacy offering enabled us to get involved in a brand new ministry called Mission India. This ministry is influencing India for Jesus. We have had the joy of partnering with around a dozen church planters resulting in churches being planted and literally hundreds of families being won for Jesus. As a church leadership we have agreed that we want mission India to be an ongoing partner in Arena Church so, we will no longer use the Legacy offering as the vehicle but we'll support mission India through our general tithes and offerings.

For further information about our mission's supports and partners please visit the website at www.arenachurch.co.uk/world or contact admin@arenachurch.co.uk.

So, you will see below 4 areas that we specifically want to give to that will help us to strengthen the base and allow our roots to go down deeper.

SO NOW TO TODAY

In this year of growth we are continuing to get ourselves ready because there are many opportunities that await us. So we must take hold. This is the opportunity that is before us, to build on future years and establish and grow our base at home. This year's emphasis "For The House" will enable us to keep reaching out both locally and into the world.

This Legacy fund is not just for today but is about future generations and establishing our presence to be an effective witness into many locations for years to come.

After much prayer and discussions with our Board here are the FOUR areas for our Legacy Fund this year:-

1. Buildings

2. Van

3. Supported Living Housing

***4. Campus Development and
Future Church Planting***

1. BUILDINGS

**TESTIMONY:
NEIL SIMPSON
ARENA CHURCH BOARD MEMBER**

Having been a trustee of Arena Church for many years now, it has been a great privilege to play a small part in the purchasing, renovating, renting, and, in the case of Arena Ilkeston, building the great facility which we now enjoy.

With buildings, either old or new, purchased or rented, there is a great responsibility to maintain and upkeep them all. The time, effort and financial commitment is always high to achieve this.

However, I believe that as a church, we need to show our reverence for God by looking after that which He has given us. Lives turning to Him is more important than buildings will ever be, but buildings are the boats from which we fish and I believe it's not good to have holes in your boat!

The buildings and the condition that we pass them on to the next generation of Arena Church is part of our combined legacy.

THE NEED

Our buildings are such an important part of our church ministry, and in essence, everything we do flows from them, to some extent. You may have heard the analogy of the church building being likened to a fishing trawler, the boat from which we 'fish' from. But as is the case for any sea going

2. BUILDINGS

vessel that wants to continue being effective, maintenance and upkeep is essential.

As far as the Arena ‘fleet’ is concerned, we are in real desperate need to carry out maintenance to some areas;

The roofs of both the Ilkeston and Mansfield buildings are at breaking point, literally. The longer this is delayed the more damage will occur and the bill to fix will increase substantially.

We also would like to provide our media team a facility within The Factory [formally known as the Pollards building in Ilkeston] to record and produce all of our outgoing media. Why is that essential? Currently the team is setting up and setting down very expensive equipment regularly which will need replacing with the way things are going.

Each Campus has further areas they would love to develop/renovate that we believe would benefit our ministry - renovations, repurposing rooms, lighting upgrades to save money just to name a few.

**FOR BUILDINGS,
WE ARE BELIEVING FOR
£60,000**

2. VAN

**TESTIMONY:
LISA HARRISON
COMMUNITY PASTOR**

When most people think about a van it does not usually invoke excitement I know (unless you're a man or one of those rare women that gets excited about such things). I don't, but I'm about to talk about a VAN. You see, though the van itself doesn't excite me, the job the van is responsible for in Arena Community does. This is not just an ordinary van. This van serves it's community across all Arena sites, across ALL locations and towns.

This van collects furniture from houses where there has been the loss of a loved one and the family needs someone to help them clear the house respectfully and re-purpose their loved ones furniture in a positive way. The furniture is taken to our warehouse and restored, reinvented or repainted and sold in one of our two shops. The money from this creates employment opportunities within the community and helps towards the cost of our many programmes such as the food bank. Some items of furniture are set aside for families in hardship who cannot afford any furniture no matter how cheap the price. We have provided beds, wardrobes, sofas and much more to mothers, fathers and children who otherwise could not have items that most people take for granted.

We at Arena Community have been responsible for garden and house restorations for families in hardship. The van has collected all the rubble and delivered goods to these restorations. At Easter and Christmas the van delivers chocolate eggs, food hampers, toys, selection boxes and much more to a wide range of schools across Arena's communities. This van has created employment opportunities for two drivers.

2. VAN

This van has helped restore broken lives. I told you this van had an exciting job. I hope you understand now why our van is a diamond in the rough and I hope you get excited about our van too. Without a van it is impossible to achieve all of this and the other ways it serves our communities that are not mentioned here. When you give to Legacy, when you give to THIS van remember, you're giving hope and help to people who get excited to see OUR van pull up outside their house. Thank you for your continued support.

THE NEED

Our current Community Van, which is so much more than just a van, has recently broken beyond good economic repair. We have received donations in the past to repair the van but this is no longer possible and to continue the tremendous work which the Community Team do across all the campuses using this van requires, demands, that a new van be purchased.

In the meantime our two drivers are week in and week out using the mini bus to be able to carry on the work within Arena Community which serves many of our campuses and localities. This also means extra time and work installing seats when the minibus is required and removing them again when a van is required. We are not looking to purchase an expensive van but a van that will be reliable, with less maintenance and upkeep costs and allow the team to continue in their work and the minibus be restored to its original purchase needs.

**FOR THE VAN
WE ARE BELIEVING FOR
£15,000**

3. SUPPORTED LIVING HOUSE

TESTIMONY:
GEMMA CLARKE
SUPPORTED LIVING MANAGER

The significance of Supported Living lies in providing individuals in need with a secure living environment.

This accommodation addresses homelessness, offering a safe haven conducive to fostering independence and addressing various needs, encompassing financial, mental, and physical well being. Our comprehensive support extends to facilitating access to local services such as medical professionals, job centres and financial institutions.

Through personalised assistance, we aid in fostering personal hygiene, cultivating healthier lifestyles, maintaining household upkeep and managing living expenses. Additionally, we facilitate attendance to appointments, aid in form completion and provide guidance in pursuing educational or vocational opportunities.

For those arriving with minimal possessions, we endeavour to meet these needs in-house; by providing clothing, food, furniture and the material needs. More skilled professional help required is met by connecting them to specialised services including those for addressing substance dependencies and mental health concerns. Our support network also offers a vital avenue for emotional support, reaffirming their worth and providing avenues for communication and connection.

Although the job at times can be challenging, it can also be extremely rewarding to see someone who has hit rock bottom of life to slowly start

3. SUPPORTED LIVING HOUSE

rising higher.

If you wonder if you should give to legacy I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you these individuals that I work with on a daily basis have arrived having lost all basic things that you and I take for granted, such as somewhere to call home, somewhere to access hot running water, somewhere to cook and store food and most importantly, at the days end, somewhere to lie down and sleep safely and peacefully.

THE NEED

In Arena we are not only building for today but for tomorrow also. Currently we have 4 homes and 1 flat which we are renting for our Supported Living Tenants. In our Mansfield Campus we are considering options for Support Living accommodation also.

Not only does our Supported Living Accommodation make a difference in individual's lives but it provides employment and financially supports the ongoing work of Arena Community. The hope is to be able to, over the next few years, make a larger legacy impact by purchasing properties for Supported Living, as opposed to renting these properties. We need to start somewhere and it is our hope to be able to have sufficient funds for a down payment on a mortgage. This property would provide a warm, welcoming home for scores of tenants over many years and a financial legacy alongside.

**FOR SUPPORTED LIVING
WE ARE BELIEVING FOR
£25,000**

4. CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT/ FUTURE CHURCH PANTING

TESTIMONY:
JULIE TURNER
EXECUTIVE PASTOR

In 2019 we planted four campuses in one month; something I would strongly recommend no one should ever do, but we did it and I'm so thankful that we did. We were also told that we would need around £100,000 plus to plant each Campus; if only we had this amount of money - I'm sure our buildings, media and worship teams alone would have been delighted to know that they even had a budget. Yet against what would seem not humanly possible from our Ilkeston and Mansfield Campuses we planted Belper, Toulouse, Nottingham and The Hub and all four campuses continue to be a light and hope in their communities.

Being around Kristian as long as I have means I know there will be more church plants in the future as well as ongoing support for all those within our buildings and campuses; there will be further training and equipping of leaders, development of new materials and resources for reaching more people with the Good News of the Gospel. I'm delighted that at Arena we are outwardly focussed yet inwardly growing and developing. I'm thankful we get to see new people coming through our doors day in and day out and so grateful for our amazing Father who continues to lead us into the more.

Through our Legacy fund we have continued to support these four fledgling campuses and continued to train and equip leaders and ministers alike. Thank you for your giving which has enabled us to continue in our growing mission to Go and Grow and Love and Serve our World.

4. CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT/ FUTURE CHURCH PLANTING

THE NEED

Yet there is much more work to be done; there are more campuses to plant, ongoing needs and support, particularly for Belper, The Hub, Nottingham and Toulouse.

This is part of our values, it is part of who we are at Arena and currently it would not be possible to plant another Campus. But we do believe that through our Legacy Giving we can create a fund that allows us to start planning and thinking about future church plants. We will also continue to invest into our four developing campuses and strengthen, reach, and financially support the work in these areas.

Your financial giving supports pastors, teams and ministry outreach costs also.

**FOR CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT
AND CHURCH PLANTING
WE ARE BELIEVING FOR
£25,000**



**SO... IN TOTAL WE
ARE BELIEVING FOR
£125,000 TO BE GIVEN
THROUGH OUR LEGACY
FUND IN 2024**

*Could it be that our Legacy giving this year is
unprecedented as we not only sow into the here
and now, but for the years to come?*



What's the point of dreaming small?

**IF YOU'RE GOING
TO DREAM,**

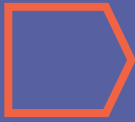
DREAM BIG!

Will you dream with me?

But will you also sow with me?

*Me, my family and our team 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?*





FAQ'S

Frequently Asked Questions:



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 pledging and giving to this fund.

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.

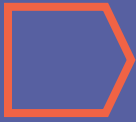
Who administers the fund?

The 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".

The easiest way for regular, ongoing giving is to set up a standing order if with your bank. The bank details for this purpose are:-



FAQ'S

Frequently Asked Questions:



Account: Arena Church
Sort Code: 40-25-29
Account No: 61477196
Reference: Legacy

Alternatively, you can see our website, www.arenachurch.co.uk/giving, for further ways to give, or complete one of our giving envelopes which can be found at your campus location.

Can I Gift Aid on this amount?

Yes. If you are a UK taxpayer we can claim Gift Aid of 25%, which means if you were to give £100 to Legacy, we can claim £25 extra from the government. If you haven't done so already, please complete an online Gift Aid form at www.arenachurch.co.uk/giftaid.

Can I give through my business?

Over the years we have also had a number of business owners who have wanted to sow into the fund from their businesses. This is possible and a very efficient way of giving.

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 individuals but also businesses that are making a difference.



*the world of the generous
get's larger and larger
the world of the stingy
get's smaller and smaller*

Proverbs 11:24



THANK YOU

Finally Caroline and I would like to thank you Legacy Builders.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5 says:

Now I want you to know, dear brothers and sisters, what God in his kindness has done through the churches in Macedonia. They are being tested by many troubles, and they are very poor. But they are also filled with abundant joy, which has overflowed in rich generosity.

For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. They begged us again and again for the privilege of sharing in the gift for the believers in Jerusalem. They even did more than we had hoped, for their first action was to give themselves to the Lord and to us, just as God wanted them to do.

These verses are many people's stories, they don't have much but what they have they share freely and joyfully. Thank you for using what you have been given to something bigger and greater than yourselves.

Your giving and generosity will be a powerful story for generations to come. Let's keep doing what we do for Jesus.

Kristian and Caroline



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Arena Church is a registered AOG Church and charity no. 1052643