

Vision Sunday Feb 1st 2026 - *“I will put my Spirit in you and you will live,...Then you will know that I the LORD have done it, declares the LORD.” Ezek 37:1*

Dear Church Family,

This Sunday is our Vision day. I hope we will be **inspired again by our church's vision**. We will also be inviting you to **make a financial pledge** to support it in the year ahead.

These two things go together. Our giving follows our goal. The PCC's vision was born out of earnest, collective seeking the Lord for our church. Now we look back and celebrate how it has already taken shape (see "[Our Vision in Action](#)") and prayerfully look for new commitment and imagination for the future.

At a time of nationwide “quiet revival”, we will be focusing on that aspect of our vision through the famous revival-themed passage of Ezekiel 37. The Prophet is reminded that revival is first the Lord's work. The *Lord* puts *His* spirit, *His* breath into our dry bones. The energy, the impetus and spiritual life we long for comes from Him. So before anything else I invite you to make this Vision Sunday a time of **prayer** where we look above all to the Lord's power.

It may seem strange to emphasise God's initiative on a day where we are being called to engage our own effort. But to look for revival is not to sit back and wait for something to happen. It is to work strenuously to make ourselves available, like the prophet Ezekiel, to the Lord, so that as opportunities arise we are ready to respond.

One of the ways we do so is to give sacrificially to the mission of our church. That involves **giving our capacity, our gifts and our time**. Last Sunday evening we commissioned almost 150 volunteers for the year ahead. This is a good moment to consider further how you might serve.

It also involves **giving financially**. Jesus himself highlighted the spiritual significance of financial generosity. It is part of our obedience as believers – a challenge but also a great freedom when we realise the power of sharing what we have. Over the next week you are invited, as you are able, and as you feel called by God, to indicate what financial commitment you would like to make to our ministry for the year ahead. Whatever contribution you are able to make, whether small or large, whether you are able to start contributing or need to maintain, increase or reduce it for this year please know that what you give matters. Thank you in advance for your generosity this year.

Rev. John Adams



"A place of unconditional welcome, Christ-centred revival and deep discipleship, for our generation and the next, in South Croydon and beyond."

Pursuing our Vision

As a church, we have been able to do amazing things through the immense generosity of so many in both time and money. Over the past year:

- Through our weekly services, we continue to reach people with the Good News of Jesus. We have had a wide range of Christmas services, a joy-filled baptism service, as well as Alpha and other courses.
- We are becoming an increasingly diverse community – more representative of our parish. Through our regular activities, we are building connections with our local community, including growing groups such as Saturdads, Bumps and Babies and Storytime.
- Our children's and young people's work included weekends away at CYE and Carroty Wood and the Satellite camp.
- We came together for Mayhem, Rendezvous and the Re-Connect weekend.
- We introduced a monthly Bring and Share lunch, and provided Christmas lunch for those who were alone on Christmas day.
- We continued to deepen our discipleship, including through Home Groups. Our first 24 hours of prayer engaged and blessed many people. Rooted – our study group for those in their 20s and 30s has established itself.
- We provided support for our Mission partners and other Mission organisations and also, through the Parish Share, supported needy inner-city parishes in the Diocese.
- We supported Dima Horda as our Ministry Trainee and so much more.

You can read more about some of the exciting encouragements in "[Our Vision in Action](#)".

As we enter 2026, our year of fellowship, our prayer is that we continue to be generous in using what he has given us to serve Him and to enable others to know the richness of his grace.

Our Plans for 2026

The table below shows the outturn for 2025 and the budget for 2026. Our budget envisages that we will further develop our ministry activities in support of our overall Vision. In addition, it includes allowance for work on the Church roof, secondary glazing for five windows in the Church, which will improve heat-retention, and work needed to underpin our health and safety.

Over the past couple of years, our income has not quite matched our operating costs. So we have had small deficits on our General Fund. There was a very generous response to the mid-year appeal in 2025, without which there would have been a large deficit last year. However, most of the additional donations in 2025 came from significant one-off gifts.

Our challenge now is to move from one-off gifts to more regular income, so that we can plan on a more confident basis. All gifts, whether regular or one-off, are greatly valued, but regular monthly giving helps enormously in planning future expenditure.

	2025 Actual £000s	2026 Budget £000s
Donations	564	526
Other Income	63	65
TOTAL INCOME	627	590
Staff Costs	237	208
Parish Share	173	179
Mission Fund	81	81
Ministry Costs	137	159
TOTAL COSTS	628	627
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(1)	(37)

On top of the General Fund provision shown above, we continue to have a number of planned capital spends. These include a new platform in the Church and the phased transition of the lighting system in the main Church to comprise LED-based sources, which will require Diocesan approval. Subject to PCC approval, the Development Fund has sufficient money to cover these exceptional costs.



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My Response

We would ask each member of Emmanuel to consider prayerfully their giving to Emmanuel for the coming year.

It would be very helpful for planning purposes if you would kindly complete a Response Form and return it to the Treasurer. (Note that to maintain confidentiality, only the Treasurer and two other members of the Finance Team who are approved by the PCC to assist him for this purpose have access to information about giving by individual members of the congregation).

How to give?

By bank transfer (free of charge)

Our preferred method of giving is by bank transfer direct to our bank account as follows:

Bank:	CAF Bank Ltd
Sort Code:	40-52-40
Account name:	Emmanuel Church, South Croydon – Income Account
Account number:	00021710

By debit or credit card (charges apply)

If you would prefer to make a donation by debit or credit card, please follow this link to the Donation page on the Emmanuel website: [Donate · ChurchSuite Donate](#). Please note that processing charges of 2.5% will be deducted from every card transaction.

By Cheque or CAF / Stewardship Voucher

Cheques and CAF / Stewardship vouchers should be forwarded to the Treasurer via the Church Office.

Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer and have NOT completed a Gift Aid form, you can do so by downloading a copy from the Emmanuel website at [Give - Emmanuel CROYDON](#) and returning it to the Treasurer via the Church Office.



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You can complete this Response Form online by clicking on the link below:

Make my Pledge

Alternatively, you can print this page and complete the form as a hardcopy.

Copies of this form are also available in Church.

Response Form 2026

Name:

Email address:

I / we intend to give to Emmanuel Church during 2026:

£ per month / quarter by regular bank transfer

And / or £ as a one-off gift in the month of

Please add below any other information you would like to give the Treasurer regarding the amount, timing or method of your planned giving.

If you complete as a hard copy, please return the form to the Treasurer, either:

- By email to treasurer@emmanuelcroydon.org.uk

or

- In an envelope marked “Confidential” addressed to the Treasurer, Emmanuel Church, and deposited in the post box outside the Church Office

Thank you very much for your planned giving towards God’s work at Emmanuel