



# St Columba's

*Presbyterian Church*

Minister:  
Rev Melanie Cook

Family Pastor  
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Standard Bank  
Rosebank  
Branch 004305  
Account: 001948776  
Name: St. Columba's  
Presbyterian Church

Dear Members and Friends of St Columba's,

## 27 AUGUST 2025: PLANNED GIVING (PLEDGE) APPEAL 2025/26

Warm greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

You may have noticed that we are doing things a little differently lately with regards to the annual pledge appeal. Last year, the financial year end of the pledge was moved to the end of June to align with the financial year end of the Church. This means that we currently find ourselves two months into the 2025/26 Pledge Year.

In the past, the pledge appeal was incorporated in the Stewardship Brochure. This year, the Board of Management has decided to do a separate pledge appeal and a separate brochure on the Life and Work of St Columba's. The thinking being that there is a lot of information in the Stewardship Brochure, (St Columba's is after all a very busy place!) and the pledge appeal may not get the attention it deserves. We have also changed the name of the pledge appeal from the 'pledge' to 'planned giving', as we feel this aligns better in the current environment.

As members of St Columba's, we are blessed to be part of a vibrant community rooted in faith, fellowship, and service. Our church's mission thrives because of the generosity and commitment of individuals like you, who support our ministries, outreach programmes, and daily operations.

As mentioned above, we are already two months into the 2025/26 Planned Giving campaign, and I invite you to consider making a planned contribution to our Church. Unlike the donations made in Plate during the Sunday Service, planned contributions enable the Board of Management to budget and make plans for the new financial year, which started on 1 July. Such gifts, whether large or small, help ensure that our mission continues to flourish, not just today but for generations to come. Your support enables us to nurture our youth, care for those in need, and sustain the spiritual life that binds us together.

Please take a moment to read the letter from our Rev Mel below and to consider and reflect on how you might contribute to the ongoing work of our church, there are numerous options which are detailed at the end of this letter.

Thank you for your continued faith and generosity, your thoughtful and prayerful consideration will make a lasting impact. Should you have any questions about planned giving, feel free to reach out to Andy White or myself.

May God's grace and peace be with you always.

Yours in Christ,

*Alethea*

Alethea Homewood  
Stewardship Convenor

***“And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”***

***— 2 Corinthians 9:8***

Dear Friends,

As we look toward a new stewardship year, from July 2025 to June 2026, I write to you with a heart full of gratitude.

Thank you—for your generous giving, your time, and the gifts you have shared so freely over the past year. Whether it has been through financial support, volunteering, prayer, hospitality, leadership, or simply participating in Sunday worship, your contributions have sustained and strengthened the ministry and life of our church.

Each act of stewardship—big or small—is a visible sign of faith. It tells a story of trust: that we believe God is at work in this place and through this community. Your generosity has enabled us to offer meaningful worship, ministry to our children and youth, care for those in need, and to be able to maintain the beauty and integrity of our sacred spaces.

Now, as we enter a new cycle, we invite you to continue partnering with us. Your giving allows us not just to meet our practical needs, but to live into our calling as a church—a place of welcome, worship, justice, and love.

Please prayerfully consider how you can support the church in the coming year:

- Through **financial giving**—by contributing regularly (monthly or weekly) or making a once-off contribution for the year.
- Through **time and talents**—by joining a ministry, offering your skills, or helping with events.
- Through **prayer and presence**—by continuing to be involved in the life and worship of St Columba's.

We know times are not always easy. But we believe, as Paul reminds us, that God is able to bless us abundantly, so that we will have all that we need—and more—to do good works in Christ's name.

Let us move forward together in faith, hope, and love—trusting that God is using us as his witness in the world.

With thanksgiving and hope,

*Melanie*

Rev Melanie Cook

## *HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND WORK OF ST COLUMBA'S*

### Donations into the Plate during the Sunday Service

### Planned Giving

Planned giving, enables the Board of Management to budget and plan for the year ahead and can be made in any of the following ways:

- By clicking on the following [link](#)
- By sending an email to [admin@stcolumbas.org.za](mailto:admin@stcolumbas.org.za)
- Contacting Andy White at the Church office on 011 646 5420.
- Creating a recurring payment on your banking app

Please attach your name to the planned giving to enable us to thank you!

### Donations

- directly into our bank account:
- By Zapper

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We want to make sure that your donation goes for the purpose that you intended, so please include your name and the purpose of your deposit to ensure it is properly allocated.



## Bequests

Bequests are an opportunity to leave a legacy gift to St Columba's by stipulating St Columba's as a beneficiary in your Will, or nominating St Columba's as a beneficiary on your Life and/or Endowment Policy.

Should you wish to make a bequest to the Church, please contact Andy directly through the Church office, or if you prefer, kindly complete the Memorial Form available on the St Columba's website [www.stcolumbaschurch.co.za](http://www.stcolumbaschurch.co.za)

Bequests and donations to the following options are available:

<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>Used for</b>
St Columba's Trust	Outreach and St Columba's funding
St Columba's Memorial Fund	Maintenance and improvements to our property
St Columba's Church	General running costs and UPCSA Support
St Columba's Specific Projects	For example, the soup kitchen

Although this appeal focuses on financial giving, there is also opportunity to give of your time and skills. Should this interest you, please get in touch with the Church office.