

As you know, Jared Michelson was appointed as Lead Pastor last summer. You will also be aware that we have recently become members of the United Free Church of Scotland. From September we are required to provide the Lead Pastor with a family-sized home; in Scotland this type of dwelling is often called a Manse. Providing this home is part of the salary package for the Lead Pastor.

As a Leadership Team we feel that renting is not a long-term option and that good stewardship would lead us to purchase a suitable property. Alongside this, the UF Central Body has committed to setting aside £150,000 towards such a property as they know that house prices are unusually high in St Andrews. This is an incredible act of generosity and one that we only became aware of after we had committed to joining with the UF denomination. We are requested to match fund that figure and this is one reason for us drawing your attention to this just now.

The second reason is rather dramatic! On Tuesday 9th April 2019 our offer was accepted on a suitable property; 18 Canongate. We prayerfully considered its location and future development potential and felt this would be the only desirable property fit for purpose in our price range which was currently on the market. The UF church wholeheartedly supported our decision to offer and, after a fascinating turn in events, our offer was accepted with an entry date of 28th June 2019.

Meantime we have just launched this appeal towards the Manse Fund. Raising the money now to cover these immediate costs provides more financial stability for the church for the future; as soon as the loan is repaid, Cornerstone St Andrews will then be left with a property which will be an asset for the church and a solid home for the Lead Pastor for future generations.

We are able to take out a unique type of loan in that we can put any raised monies towards it without penalty or early redemption fee. Any loan repayment will be in the region of £1200 per month and we are also liable to cover Council Tax for the property. Obviously the sooner we successfully match the £150,000, the sooner we can be relieved of this onerous monthly outgoing; and the longer we have the loan, the greater the interest we will also need to pay.

**DO YOU FEEL THAT YOU ARE ABLE TO PLEDGE A GIFT ON TOP OF YOUR CURRENT COMMITMENT TOWARDS MEETING THAT £150,000 TARGET?**



Any contributions are appreciated. For example, students, if 100 of you were able to commit an extra £5 per month that would raise £6000 in a year.

Please prayerfully consider how you may be part of this adventure of faith. If you have any questions please speak to Sylvia, our Treasurer. If you would like to be involved, email her on [sylviaroberts30@gmail.com](mailto:sylviaroberts30@gmail.com) indicating the financial commitment you feel you could make. Naturally this is all confidential information which the Treasurer alone will hold.