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Holy Week and Easter are naturally uppermost in our minds at the moment, but here at CUF we're also looking beyond, bringing the hope and renewal of Christ's promise into the coming months.

Dear <<First Name>>,

We've launched our Lent and Easter campaign to help more churches to offer communities the hope they need.

An increase in the cost-of-living has pushed more people into difficult situations than ever before – none more so than people, families and communities who were already struggling due to inequality and financial stress.

That's why we support local churches to offer hospitality through <u>Places of Welcome</u> - a growing network of community spaces providing local people with warm and safe places where everyone can feel safe to connect, belong and contribute.

This Lent, we're asking people to support us on our mission.

Our colleague Mia visited St Paul's Church in Stalybridge after hearing of the incredible work volunteers are doing there.

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She met Kath – the Places of Welcome co-ordinator at Stalybridge who interacts with all of the volunteers and visitors. She's a bit of a superhero – the logistics of running a Place of Welcome is vast and requires a lot of commitment, but Mia could see how passionate Kath is about opening up the church.

Kath told Mia about the widowed people in their 80s who attend for a simple chat, but leave with a sense of inclusion that often makes their week. She told her about the young mums that are stretched for free time but make an effort to volunteer because they know the impact Places of Welcome had on their grandparents.

Thanks to local churches and volunteers like Kath, 610 Places of Welcome have been established so far, but they all need support.

Find out more or help support community social action, like Places of Welcome and volunteers like Kath, to continue their brilliant work.



The cost-of-living crisis is a concern for all of us

Just Finance Foundation <u>Money Help Hub</u> provides information and guidance on cutting costs, keeping track of your spending, and looking after your wellbeing.

If you are just about managing or want to avoid getting into difficulty, the short guides give you practical ideas for cutting costs, getting support and keeping track of your spending.

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If money worries or debt are becoming unmanageable, you will also find suggestions for where to get additional help and support.

Visit the Money Help Hub



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