



## Building Update 20th Jan 2010

**Contract:** The building contract was finally signed on 19th January!

**Progress on site:** Despite losing 5 days due to the cold weather, T.J. Evers report that they are on schedule with the building work. Work on the foundations has been completed, and work on the drainage system is in progress, with the steel frame due to be erected around the first week of February.

**Coming up:** The next site meeting is on 4th Feb. A new internal lighting specification should be presented then.

**Kitchen:** A deadline for a grant application for the kitchen is approaching and Mikes S and H are working on the required paperwork, which needs to include tenders from three companies.

**Time Capsule:** Both White Court and Notley Green schools have shown an interest in the Time Capsule competition and we will soon have a date for early February when the capsule and its items will be buried, a good chance for some further publicity. We would welcome your own ideas about what should be included in the capsule!

**Foundation Stone:** The design for the foundation stone has been agreed and will contain the phrase 'Building together for the glory of God.' We are soon to approach local stonemasons and are looking for funding for this.

**Furnishings:** The church council and buildings committees are beginning to think about furnishings inside the church: design of communion table, lectern and font, a design for the internal East wall (possibly wall hangings), the staging and seating.

**Fundraising:** Gifts continue to be sent and the contract sum has been raised. There is still a large amount to be raised for the furnishings, sound system and possible second partition.

## The Call to Prayer

*'Upon your walls, O Jerusalem,  
I have posted sentinels;  
all day and all night they shall never be silent.  
You who remind the Lord,  
take no rest,  
and give him no rest  
until he establishes Jerusalem  
and makes it renowned throughout the earth.*

Isaiah 62.6-7

## Please pray for:

- ⇒ The building team, led by site manager Roy.
- ⇒ Decisions regarding the lighting design
- ⇒ Grant application re: further funding for the kitchen
- ⇒ An offer of funding for the Foundation Stone
- ⇒ Publicity for the Time Capsule
- ⇒ Fundraising for:
  - The second partition inside the building, a cost of £12,000
  - The sound system, a cost of £9,500
  - The furnishings, estimated cost £36,000
- ⇒ The Buildings Committee and Church Council members as they represent the whole church.

### **A Prayer for the People of the Church**

Most gracious God, we humbly pray for our church.  
Fill us with all truth and all peace. Where there is corruption, purge it.  
Where there is error, direct it. Where there is need, supply it.  
Where there is fear, calm it. Where there is hurt, heal it.  
Over all, embrace us in your love. Amen.

### **A Prayer for Answers**

We turn to the one who can supply all our needs:  
Where wisdom seems lacking, Lord inspire us.  
Where money is needed, Lord supply our wants.  
Where vision is divided, Lord unite our will.  
Where purpose seems weak, Lord strengthen our hearts.  
Where answers are missing, Lord direct us.  
Where help is needed, Lord make us receptive.  
Where cooperation is required, Lord make us flexible.  
Where patience is flagging, Lord stiffen our resolve.  
And if your answers surprise us, help us not to say 'No'. Amen.

### **A Prayer of Thanks**

For good planning laws – Lord we thank you.  
For wise decision makers – Lord we thank you.  
For able leaders – Lord we thank you.  
For skilled and trained experts – Lord we thank you  
For committed volunteers – Lord we thank you.  
For gifts and resources – Lord we thank you.  
For timely answers – Lord we thank you.  
To the one who is the source of every good gift.  
We offer our thanks and praise. Amen

### **A Prayer to the Master Builder**

O Christ, the master carpenter,  
who at the last, through wood and nails,  
purchased the salvation of all;  
Wield well your tools in the workshop of your world.  
Transform our rough-hewn lives,  
through the craftsmanship of your hand.  
Renew us and remake us,  
through your recreative power.  
Reshape all that we are,  
and reveal the glory of your name. Amen.  
*Please use these prayers to focus on our current situation in your prayer life.*

**The Church in Great Notley**  
**Praying our way towards a new church building**

**A Prayer of Confession** *(We put behind us all our past certainties.)*

God of mercy and grace,  
you know the workings of our hearts and minds;  
how blind we are to our own faults,  
yet how quick to judge the words and deeds of others;  
how eagerly we defend our position,  
yet how slowly we build up another's;  
how certain we are of our worth and pride,  
yet how grudging we are in praise of others.  
Bring us afresh the healing and cleansing power of your Spirit,  
transform us and save us from all sin,  
that we may walk in new ways,  
to the glory and praise of your name. Amen.

**A Prayer of Confession** *(We put behind us all weakness and frailty.)*

God of power and might, Creator and Redeemer of all;  
we confess to you our frail and hesitant ways.  
We have not spoken out your words of hope and peace,  
we have not been willing to serve others,  
we have not felt able to follow where you lead.  
We repent of all our failures, failing to speak and serve and follow;  
so that others have not heard, have not been served,  
have not seen our clear example. Our weakness has been to their disadvantage.  
We trust in your transforming power. With us, or despite us, may your kingdom  
come. Through us, or without us, may your will be done.  
You have the power to accomplish and transform all things.  
Let it begin in me. Amen.

**A Prayer for Unity**

Lord God, we thank you for calling us into the company of those who trust in  
Christ and seek to obey his will.  
You invited us as strangers and welcomed us into your family.  
You led us out of isolation and called us to journey as pilgrims together.  
Draw us closer to you and to one another,  
in the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace.  
Open our ears to hear you speaking, open our eyes to see where you lead,  
Strengthen us for mission and service together,  
for the sake of your kingdom. Amen.