

- ◆ That God will indeed bless us
- ◆ That we will continue to look to Him
- ◆ Giving thanks that we have been led this far
- ◆ That we will be a blessing to our Community
- ◆ For continuing good relationships with the Planning authorities as we work through the details of our Planning Conditions
- ◆ For successful results from our Funding Appeal applications
- ◆ For success in settling the price of the additional land
- ◆ For good media coverage and a positive and genuine “curiosity” about our activities
- ◆ For the Building Management & Building Finance Teams—for wisdom and inspiration as they work through the project
- ◆ For Provision & ProMay our Architect and Builder

Chris Gledhill — on behalf of the Building Teams

Lord God Almighty, the Heavens cannot contain you, yet you are pleased to dwell amongst us and call us your friends.

We bring to you our need for a church building which will bring glory to your Name and which you will use to serve our community.

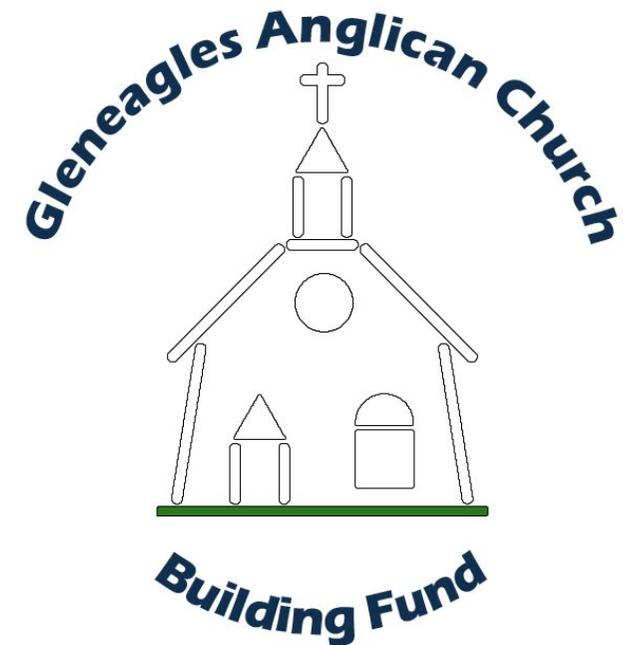
We depend fully on your guidance, wisdom, inspiration, provision and grace to build a church that will be a symbol of your truth,

And a witness to your love from generation to generation.

Bless our efforts, O Lord, and help us with the task that lies before us.

Send us the resources, the finances, the advice and the expertise that we need.

Above all send us your Spirit to help, equip and sustain us. Amen



Church Prayer Week

January 2014

"It's awfully big this 'ere new church building, can we do it?"

**Prayer Notes &
Building Project Update**

Building Project Update - January 2014

I recently looked back across my Building Project e-mail box and 2013 really was a real roller-coaster of year with so much going on and it seemed as if we were constantly on a knife edge, acting and reacting to the possibility of getting Planning Permission in April.

On Wednesday 18th December after a long evening listening to so many applications in the list before us being turned down we got to our application.

As Melvyn and I drove to meet the Architect prior to the Committee Meeting he told me of a word from Dan Hulland who was reading in the book of Haggai, chapter 2. The book is all about building the temple... ring any bells? v18 mentions the 24th day of the 9th month and says in v19 "From this day on I will bless you." That day in the Jewish calendar equates to December 18th in ours.

I don't know about you but when God speaks everything suddenly almost audibly just clicks into place and that for me was one of those times.

So we went into the meeting confident in God who was saying "From this day on I will bless you." It was incredible to hear so many positive endorsements from the Councillors of our work to date and the feeling that the Councillors were looking forward to our building as a positive addition to the community. It felt so much like "From this day on I will bless you."

Well we got it!!! Hallelujah!!!

So, I'd like to try and sum up the year's activities.

February - as a joint Building and Finance Team we met to consider the overall cost of the building.

We had been given a baseline cost of baseline price is £1,333,378.

But there was the opportunity to look to the future and include some additional works at the outset of the building; which if done at the time of the original construction would be significantly cheaper than having to bring builders back onto site a few years later. The most significant of these were:

- ◆ the addition of a mezzanine floor over the main foyer
- ◆ the provision of a lift to the mezzanine and also to prepare a suite of offices above the main worship area
- ◆ a baptistery
- ◆ a full disabled ramp from the front pavement
- ◆ plus there is a whole list of other extras – upgraded heating and lighting specs, wood finishes and items such as CCTV and door entry systems.

If you haven't studied the plans please do go and have a good look.

During our discussions around the subject of the additional works we felt very much that God was saying to go forward and trust him to provide.

So at that point our new baseline price was then close to £1,634, 699

March – most of the Building and Finance Team visited the Welcome Centre, an AOG Pentecostal church in the centre of Coventry, as an example of Provision's work. It gave us an opportunity to see what we liked/disliked about our options and was a very good exercise, it really was impressive quality.

April – the Planning permission month, generally we were very well received but it was clear that car parking was going to be an issue and the figure the Councillors were looking for was going to be in the order of 40/50 spaces. So back to the drawing board **and** emails **and** meetings **and** letters **and** telephone calls which went on for nearly 6 months!!!

So that was goodbye to May, June, July, August, September, October and November!!!

But as a result we managed to get an agreement to be able to take on the ownership of the plot of land to the rear of our site. This allowed us to resubmit plans that showed a car parking facility of 60 spaces. This has not been without cost – to construct these extra spaces will be of the order of £72,600 and then we have to allow costs to cover the footpath to the side of the site and a sum to cover archaeological investigations all as outlined in our Planning Conditions

This takes our baseline cost up to around £1,734,099.

To that figure we will need to add such things as chairs, crockery, carpets, PA and general furniture.

So that figure rises to give us our final price of £1,803,402 including VAT which gives us a fully functional building ready for worship and our desired community use.

THE CHALLENGE

Our most pressing job for early 2014 is to resolve the cost of the additional land. Our request would be to have it as a gift or peppercorn rent for community use. We were encouraged to seek financial support from the Community Empowerment Funds held by the 6 County Councilors for Wellingborough which potentially could have gained us £6,000, but to date that has only netted us £1,000.

We also have to finalise the Funding Appeal document.

That will be followed by the launch of our appeal for funding support.

It is without doubt a challenge – so when God says "From this day on I will bless you," I feel encouraged that this is a challenge that we will not face alone.

Let's Pray...