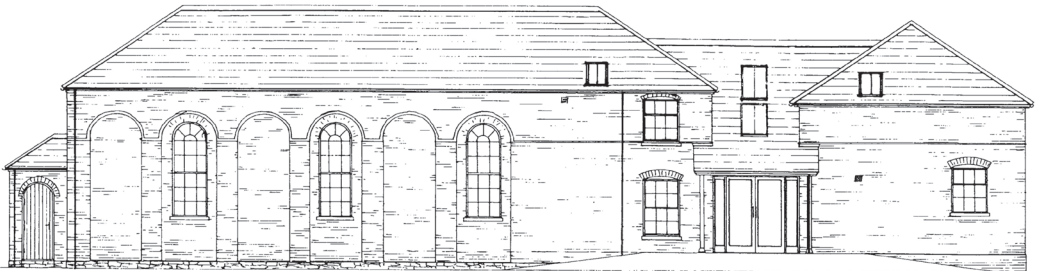




WELLINGTON CHAPEL
Herefordshire HR4 8AX

June 2010

NEWS FOR
PRAISE AND PRAYER



Architect's drawing showing the extended chapel as viewed from the east

Causes for thanksgiving

At long last, work on improving and extending the chapel has begun! When completed it will provide us with a spacious entrance area, a good kitchen and decent toilets, a small hall and four classrooms – in addition of course to the present chapel. The new access road and car park having been completed, the builders started work on May 24th and expect to finish by the end of the year.

The Lord has already provided wonderfully for our needs in various ways. The cost of the access road and car park was significantly less than we had estimated, as has been the quotation for the building work. We had been given to understand that we would be required to replace all the roof tiles of the chapel but have been recently told this will not be necessary. Together, these represent savings of tens of thousands of pounds! We have also received some very generous gifts towards this work. Another very important provision has been the arrival in our congregation of a very experienced building surveyor who is now overseeing the whole project. In all of this we sense that the hand of the Lord is upon us for good and are persuaded that He who has caused our fellowship to grow slowly but significantly over the past few years, and has provided for us thus far, will supply all else that we need.

A call for prayer

At the present time, taking into account current levels of giving and expenditure, it appears that we will need an additional £30,000 before the end of the year in order to complete the work. We believe that it is important that the church should not be distracted from its ministry by being left with much of the finishing work still to be done or by significant, long term indebtedness.

We own the cottage next door to the chapel. Whilst this is providing rooms for children's classes, a crèche on Sunday mornings and valuable storage space during the building work, it requires a large amount of money to make it habitable with modern standards of living accommodation.

This could cost between £90,000 and £150,000 depending on whether we simply repair and renovate the present structure, extend it into a four bedroom house or, if the planners agreed, replace it with a new dwelling. Obviously this could be a very valuable asset for the church in the future. Moreover, its very close proximity to the chapel might also make it preferable for the church to retain it.

However, in addition to completing the building work, we are also anxious to be able to appoint a full time pastor as soon as possible. If we were able to sell the cottage in its present state we anticipate the proceeds would not only cover any shortfall on the former but provide a capital sum which could supplement our regular giving and enable us to support a pastor adequately for several years. During that time we would hope that the congregation would grow sufficiently to enable us to support him entirely out of regular giving.

The decisions we face therefore (and we are exploring one or two other possibilities in addition to those mentioned above) have large implications for the future of the work of the Gospel here. There are, necessarily, many unknown factors which will only be revealed in the course of time. We need to pray earnestly therefore to Him who knows the end from the beginning, and who is able to supply all our needs, that He will grant us wisdom with regard to both the property and the pastorate. We would be so grateful if you would join us in prayer.

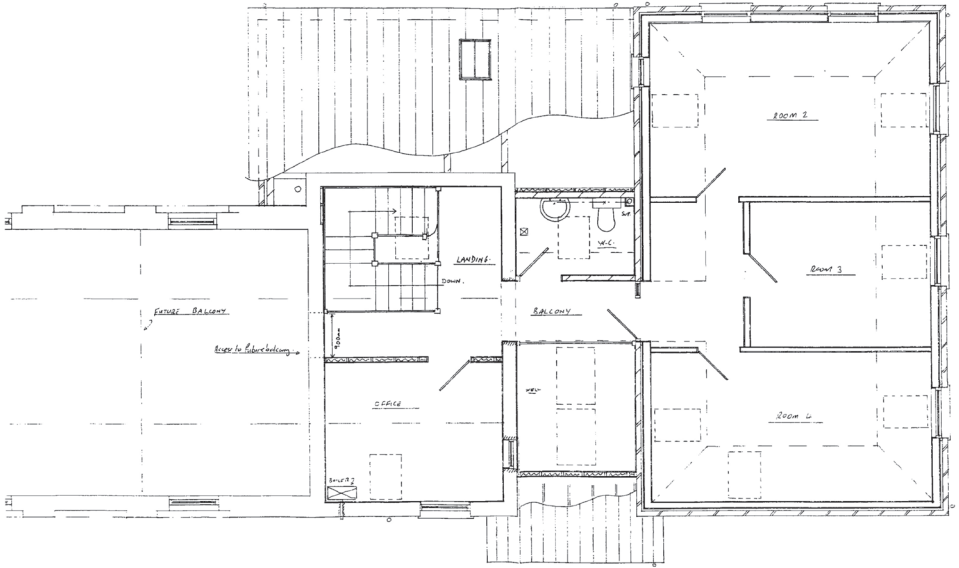
But there are also far more important things for which we would ask you to pray! People and their eternal destiny are far more important than buildings which, as useful and necessary as they are, will one day be no more. So please pray that God will grow the living church here, not least by bringing many others to faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Derek Backhouse
Elder

Mark Roberts
Elder

Peter Seccombe
Temporary Pastor

*Samuel took a stone and...named it Ebenezer, saying
"Thus far has the Lord helped us." 1 Samuel 7:12*



Above: Extension first floor plan

Below: Extension ground floor plan

