



8th December 2025

Dear Friends

WECC BUILDING PLANS UPDATE

This year has seen a number of significant milestones in our planning for the redevelopment of our Church Centre.

Where are we now?

Over the Summer your generosity in response to our internal fundraising appeal was a real encouragement, and along with funds already allocated to the project, means that we have a total building fund of over £500,000 (a combination of money in the bank and projected giving over the next three years).

In September we received news that our planning application to MK Council had been approved, meaning that our dreams have a chance of becoming a reality!

This term the main piece of work has been a renewal of the cost plan of the project. Thank you to Grindley Architects for their responsive, professional support through this process. As you might imagine, there is some discernment to be done around the wisest way forward given the funds we can reasonably expect to raise, and the cost of different options available to us.

Thus, you are warmly invited to attend a

Joint Fellowship Breakfast
Saturday 17th January 2026
at WECC
9.30-11.30am

Over breakfast we will share more about the current process and future possibilities. There will be time to pray, ask questions and share feedback. Please come along to dig into some of the details and take the opportunity to engage directly with the Client Team and Architects.



Failing roof over the Media Room

In the meantime, many of you will be aware that the roof over the Media Room and Lounge is now failing, and the Media Room is out of use. Investigations into the ceiling above the Media Room show severe damp and associated structural issues. There is also no insulation.

On balance, the Joint Church Council have come to the decision to address this problem not with a temporary fix (which would likely cost upwards of £15-20,000) but by bringing forward this portion of the building project as a distinct work in the coming months. Currently our Client Team and Architects are working with the aim of implementing a solution in the first half of next year, which would see the building stripped back, rebuilt, insulated, and given a green roof. It is possible that we could address the question of direct access to the garden also.

Fundraising

The major 'limiting factor' in all this will be the funds we have available. We are working with our fundraising consultant, and contacts at The Diocese of Oxford and The Baptist Union, to organise ourselves for the challenge of making applications to grants and trusts. We will also be reaching out to potential significant donors who can join with us as we make the Church Centre fit for the next generation. If you have expertise or capacity to support us in this, please get in touch.

Please pray

We will continue to facilitate opportunities to come together to pray for these plans – we want to listen to what the Spirit is saying as we seek to follow God's lead as best we can. Please hold in prayer our Church leadership teams, our Client Team, our Architects, our Fundraising contacts, our user groups, and all who might generously support this project in the future. May we stay close to the Lord and may this project be a blessing to us and our neighbours.

As ever, if you have any questions regarding any aspect of our plans, please get in touch. Put Saturday 17th January in your diary now, and we look forward to seeing you then!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Catherine".

Revd Catherine Butt (St Frideswide's)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mung".

Revd Mung Hatzaw (Spurgeon Baptist)

On behalf of your Client Team (Lesley Dungate, Karen Downing, Bosco Choi, Nick Lingard)