

## HEBRON BUILDING PROJECT 2011 – 2015

This church, one of the oldest in Aberdeen, was built in 1771 for the many handloom weavers and their families who stayed in this Gilcomston area in the eighteenth century and who would be joined by other families from across the Denburn to worship God in this place. While many other churches in our city have been turned over to secular uses, we continue the worship of God in this place 243 years later!

In those days this church on the hill was connected to an area below the present location of the Triple Kirks on Schoolhill by the steep winding Mutton Brae where Mary Slessor the missionary heroine of Calabar was born in 1848. We continue to support mission today.

In the 1800's when Dr James Kidd was the minister, audiences of 2000 squeezed in. Kidd was a courageous preacher who started the first Sunday school in Aberdeen. We continue Sunday School classes here today.



Then at the beginning of the 1900's, a group of Christians established on Thistle Street what became Hebron Evangelical Church whose congregation are now here. We preserve and add to this rich Christian heritage.

Hebron Evangelical Church purchased the Denburn Church buildings in March 2011 for

£610,000 covered by the proceeds from the sale of Thistle Street premises and existing funds of £200,000. The initial cost of Phase 1 refurbishment by Banchory Contractors was reduced from £650,000 to £450,000 due to members of the congregation helping with demolition work, laying carpet tiles and to prudent cost savings throughout the work until its completion in January 2012 when we relocated from Thistle Street. Thank you to everyone for their help.



Phase 1 provided us with the refurbished hall seating over 200, toilets, kitchen, crèche, office and the atrium where around 50 students have lunch every Sunday.



The atrium is also used for community meals, drop-in cafe, acoustic evenings, international café, dialog dinners and Christianity Explored courses.



These facilities have also allowed the expansion of Mums and Toddlers with now 20-30 attending. We gratefully acknowledge generous contributions from the congregation, from

Christian businesses, from Christian Charitable Trusts and from Secular Charitable Organisations which along with a bank loan helped to cover the £450,000 costs incurred.

In the autumn of 2012 church members again helped to remove the organ, pews and pipeworks from the main church in preparation for AMS Contractors beginning Phase 2 in January 2013.



Phase 2 involved constructing a mezzanine floor in the main church, locating a larger sanctuary on the upper level and dividing the ground floor into a conference room, toilets, circulation area and meeting rooms for Sunday School, Bible Classes, Youth Fellowship and other activities. We established a good relationship with AMS who worked according to our cash flow, identified savings which offset increases in the costs of raw materials and additional excavations.

Throughout 2013 we had further donations from members and external sources totalling around £90,000 which allowed work to continue into 2014 during which time the foundations were excavated and padstones were formed for the bases of the steelworks that



support the upper floor; the steelworks were erected; the ground and upper flooring was laid; the whole area underneath the upper floor was covered with a double layer of fireboard which also encases the steel beams; the baptistry was formed; and on the ground floor the foundations for the lift shaft and the fire escape are built and initial plumbing works completed.



Further works included fire regulation treatment of steel pillars and tower stairways; electrical wiring for sockets and lighting; audio visual wiring; plasterboarding of exterior walls and ceilings; partitioning of ground floor; windows to be fitted; stained glass window being repaired; lift shaft and lift installation; plumbing, drainage and sanitaryware; underfloor heating; lighting; entrance vestibule and exterior doors; paintwork; fire alarm system and security system; groundworks.





Our vision is that this church will be, until our Lord Jesus comes, the place it was built to be, a place where the Word of God in the Bible is faithfully taught, where the people hunger for the truth, and where you and I come to worship God, and may this church exist for the glory of God, and the exaltation of His Word through the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

**FACING A TASK UNFINISHED  
THAT DRIVES US TO OUR KNEES  
A NEED THAT UNDIMINISHED  
REBUKES OUR SLOTHFUL EASE  
WE WHO REJOICE TO KNOW THEE  
RENEW BEFORE THY THRONE  
THE SOLEMN PLEDGE WE OWE THEE  
TO GO AND MAKE THEE KNOWN**