

FRIAR LANE & BRAUNSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH



Building for

Mission

History

Friar Lane Baptist Church has witnessed to the people of Leicester since 1651, and many churches over the years have been founded by members of Friar Lane.

Even during the war in 1940 the church continued its mission by starting to work on the new Braunstone estate on the edge of the city.

After the war, as the city expanded, people moved away from the town centre, and new roads cut the church off from people. So the old city centre church was closed and the money released was used to build a

new church on the Braunstone estate. The ensuing church, Friar Lane and Braunstone Baptist Church was completed in 1962 and continues its witness to those around its present buildings.

Unfortunately we discovered major problems with our roofs in 2009.

At the beginning of the year a survey confirmed that acid rain had damaged the main church copper roof, which had cracked along its seams. It needs replacing as soon as possible.

The seriousness of the situation was compounded soon afterwards with the news that 6 flat roofs had also started leaking and needed replacement urgently. The cheapest total estimated replacement costs were in the region of £62,000.



Unfortunately the damage to the roof can be seen clearly inside the building.

The Church Project provides a way for Baptists to join together to help other East Midlands churches with work on their buildings which will help widen their mission.

**Please Give Your Support
Pray and Provide**

Why is this a threat to our mission?

Our buildings are used a lot both by the community and ourselves.

- ▶ They are used on a weekly basis by community groups like the scouts, guides, brownies and rainbows, exercises groups and often by a rock band. They are also used for other occasional events like children's parties, club meetings, resident's meetings. The church is also used by the community for weddings and funerals
- ▶ The church runs regular groups which are attended by members of the community, like a modellers club, a carers and toddlers group, craft group, pensioners afternoon group and open youth group. We also have occasional events like Swishing evenings where local ladies can acquire new items of clothing within a social framework. This year the holiday Bible Club, Hallelujah party at Halloween, and Christmas party all had 50 children coming 90% of whom do not attend the church.
- ▶ Alongside these events we use our buildings for our own prayer and worship needs.
- ▶ We open our buildings to other local churches, schools, the EMBA and the BU when required.

We want to be able to continue and expand our mission in an area which has few buildings with the space which we can offer.

What have we done to help ourselves?

- ▶ We have prayed about it a lot.
- ▶ We have patched the main roof to give some time to raises funds.
- ▶ We have replaced all the flat roofs at a cost of £15,000
- ▶ We have held a gift day and had small events which have raised a total of £16000
- ▶ So in a year we have raised half our cost, which leaves us with £31,000 still to find.

Why do we need your help?

The area next to the church was designated a Government New Deal area in 2000 because it was rated as the most deprived ward in the East Midlands. For example it had the highest death rate in Leicestershire, high crime rates and a third of it's population were on income support. This means:

- ▶ We can't charge much to use our buildings, and our members don't have high income jobs.
- ▶ Over half our members are retired and living on limited pensions.
- ▶ Our buildings are important to the community as well as to us, because facilities are still limited despite the government money being put into the area.

Lastly we are in interregnum and don't want a new minister to have to start ministry in this church with the repair of the roof being the main priority, when there is so much more to do working in our community.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and for your prayers and any other support which you may be able to give us.

This year's appeal will run until the 1st of March 2011.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

Invite someone from Friar Lane and Braunstone Baptist Church to speak about their project.

Contact Mrs Christine Cook (Church Secretary) Tel:

0116 289 8678 or email:

christinecook60@btinternet.com

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CHURCH PROJECT

1 Decide how much your church wants to give

2 Send your cheque (payable to EMBA Church Project)

to the following address: EMBA Office, c/o West

Bridgford Baptist Church, Melton Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7NF

3 Please DO NOT add Church Project money to a cheque for Home Mission as they go into separate accounts.

2009/10 CHURCH PROJECT

Thank you to those churches who contributed to last year's Church Project which was supporting the work at Greenhill Community Church.

2011/12 PROJECT - YOUR CHURCH?

Later this year all EMBA churches will be sent details of how they can apply to be a Church Project church for 2011/12.

Printed on behalf of
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