



The Tron Church

Buildings Appeal - April 2024

We are so greatly blessed to have three buildings across the city which are used almost every day for our own ministries, as well as by gospel partners such as Hope for Glasgow and Melville Knox School.

- Our **Bath Street** building gives us an important foothold in the **City Centre** – near two of our city’s universities, the three main public transport hubs, and at the heart of our city. Most visitors (about 60% of all our new attenders) come to Bath Street initially.
- We also need, and have, a large space where the whole Church family can meet together. **Kelvingrove** (KG) is an ideal Sunday venue for us and Sunday evenings there are a particular highlight – and so important in bringing our different morning congregations together in fellowship. It is also a blessing to both Melville Knox School and Hope for Glasgow with whom we gladly share our KG building on weekdays.
- The **Queen’s Park** building was given over to us in 2015 with the aim of revitalizing the church meeting there, and now it is so encouraging to witness a thriving church family once again worshipping there.

It is now over 10 years since we have had an appeal to raise funds specifically for building works. In November 2013, we raised over £700k to merge 33 Bath Street into 25 Bath Street and to internally enhance the building, including the new entrance foyer, lifts and much more. That work has proved a great blessing to our ministry since and our hope is that our buildings will continue to be useful for gospel ministry for many years to come.



Preserving our Buildings for the Future

We have, rightly we believe, prioritised spending on things more directly related to our ministries in recent years. However, we do now need to spend money to keep our church property safe, secure, and fit for purpose. We currently have two pressing building needs which we have no option but to address.

Stonework at Kelvingrove

You will have noticed the scaffolding which has been put up all down the Fitzroy Lane elevation of Kelvingrove and realise some repairs need done.

During the time the RSNO had the building stone repairs were done which have proved to be substandard, resulting in large cement sections working loose and now being at risk of crashing down. Some have fallen, and we are thankful no harm has been done to anyone or anything. As soon as the danger became clear we put up scaffolding to keep everyone safe.



Roof Repairs at Bath Street



We have had leaks on the front section of the building for quite some time and, thanks to Alec White, have been able to nurse it along with localised repairs for years. However, the roof is now long past its useful lifespan. It is so much beyond repair that the danger is that irreparable damage will be done to the building structure if we don't properly and completely re-roof it now.

Financial Costs of Building Works

The total cost of repairs is going to be in the region of **£300,000**; having obtained various quotes The Epaphras Trust trustees are satisfied that these estimates reflect good value for money.

Some good news is that over the years the trustees, who manage our congregational funds on behalf of the Session, have exercised good stewardship by each year allocating some money into a building fund to help us cover periodic larger expenses. As a result, **25% of the cost of these repairs (£75,000) can be contributed without over-depleting the building fund.** (We believe it is prudent fiscal management to retain some of this fund in case unforeseen issues cause costs to rise, as well as to anticipate other ongoing upkeep of older buildings.)

This means that our responsibility as a congregation to raise cash to pay for these essential repairs will come to **£225,000**. We clearly need everyone to do their part to contribute to this church family expense.



Those of us who have been here for some time will remember the blessing of sacrificial giving to previous building appeals and once again we trust the Lord to help us all, older and newer members alike, to be blessed as we give in this way.

£225,000 is a substantial sum, but if each contributes what we can from the resources the Lord has generously given us we know from previous experience that it will be achievable.

It's often hard to know where to pitch our giving – most of us will no doubt be around the middle of this table – but as a rough example if those with differing financial resources give as follows we'll be home and dry (quite literally in Bath Street!).

Number of households giving	Gift given as lump sum...	...or gift given monthly for 24 months	Total Raised
1	£20,000	£833	£20,000
3	£10,000	£416	£30,000
10	£5,000	£208	£50,000
25	£2,500	£104	£62,500
30	£1,000	£42	£30,000
60	£500	£21	£30,000
10	£250	£10	£2,500
			£225,000

Instead of our usual Easter Offering, this year we are going to make April a *pledge month* when we ask the Church family to pledge either to give a *one-off gift* (as we are used to doing for our Easter Offerings) or to pledge to give *monthly over a two year period* (or both). Please complete the enclosed pledge form which contains details of how to give and/or pledge in a variety of online/offline ways.

Do please be prayerfully considering how you will respond to this appeal in the light of the Lord's generosity to you. Our prayer is that with these repairs we will be able to continue our gospel ministry across the city for many years to come. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

With warm best wishes,

The Tron Leadership Team/Session

(Alan Clark, Douglas Hamilton, Richard Henry, Tom Magill, William Philip and Arthur Porteous)

