

## Rededication Service on Sunday 3 December 2017

More than 70 people including the Deputy Mayor of Barnet attended a special rededication service at St John's United Reformed Church, Somerset Road, New Barnet on the morning of Sunday 3rd December.

The Rededication Service was led by the Minister, the Reverend Julian Templeton, with a contribution from the Deputy Mayor of Barnet, Councillor Val Duschinsky. The Moderator of the United Reformed Church Thames North Synod, the Reverend Dr Andrew Prasad, presided at the Lord's Supper and commended the church for being "a strong and vibrant community, looking outwardly to serve God by serving the community, irrespective of faith or colour."

The sanctuary had been closed for 4 months while a new refreshment-serving area, fully accessible toilet, audio-visual system, improved lighting and re-ordered seating were completed. During this time the congregation worshipped every Sunday in the Church Hall. Atkinson-Roe Architects designed and oversaw the cantilevered extension and improvements, carried out by Michael P Doyle Contractors and Creative Audio-Visual Solutions. The architect of the innovative 1969 building, Jon Finlayson, provided invaluable assistance.

"Due to the generosity and vision and expertise of many, we've succeeded in opening up our building as a community-wide resource and a hub of worship and fellowship," said Julian Templeton, Minister of St John's Church.

St John's Church was formed in 1963 by the union of St Augustine's Presbyterian Church and the New Barnet Congregational Church. It became part of the United Reformed Church in 1972 when Presbyterians and Congregationalists united nationally.

Picture Left to Right: Julian Templeton, Val Dushinsky, Andrew Prasad

