

PRESS RELEASE

Leavesden Road Baptist Church's Ministry to be brought to completion.



Leavesden Road Baptist Church has had an active role in the life of the community for over 125 years, but will, sadly, close its doors at the end of December 2021.

The church building was given Grade II listing by Historic England early last year, and this, together with the Pandemic, has added extra pressures on an already stretched congregation.

Revd Maureen Hider said: "The decision to close the church has not been an easy one, but after 125 years of service to God, and the local community, we feel that we have been led to bring this phase of God's vision and plan for this community, to completion."

"As a church we see the need to adapt and respond to the changes in society, and with regular church attendance in decline, new ways need to be found to connect with the community we are called to serve. We had plans, at an advanced stage, to transform our buildings into an extensive, modern, facilities suitable for our own use as a church, and, also, that of the local community. However, these plans were thwarted by Watford Council's decision to seek Grade II listing of the building. As the church is, financially, totally self-supported by the congregation, and had already spent a lot of money preparing the plans for the renovations, it became clear that the added demands on maintenance of a listed building would make it unrealistic to continue."

"We are sad that the church is closing, but our faith is strong, we believe God has something new for us as we move forward, and we are trusting Him for whatever the future holds for us."

A service of celebration for the 125 years of Ministry will take place on Sunday 28th November 2021 at 10.30am which will include a 'Completion Ceremony'. We would love to welcome anyone who has had an association with the church at any point, to join us for that service.

The church family will then continue to hold services throughout Advent and the Christmas period with the final Service being held on Christmas Day.

Further details can be found on our website <https://www.lrbc-watford.org.uk/>
