

## HOW DO WE MEASURE UP?

We have been measured! A team of surveyors set to on the church at Parrs Wood Road and have sized it all up to give Roddie Maclean, our Architect, a really accurate set of drawings to begin getting our ideas, and his thoughts, onto paper. It's an exact picture of our church.

Of course, they measured only the bricks and mortar. How would the drawing look if they'd attempted to "measure" us? How would you want the drawing to look? Would you like Church to be painted as a picture bursting with life, colour, movement and energy? Would it be a picture of circles, of unity and togetherness? A landscape of great awe, vast space and gigantic mountains? So many possibilities!

Part of the difficulty in picturing how Church should be imagined is that we all have different understandings of God - differing theology. To some, it's really important that God is our closest friend, always present and ready to listen; for others, that God is gathering people together from across the world and across time; for still others, that God is a figure of great power, someone to be revered. We need each other so that we can see more of God!

Perhaps the most important question though, is, "What does God see when He looks at us?" He's not blind to all that we do, our cracks and breaks, even if we think we have the right motivation. We can't hide any of it, good or bad, but He looks with the eyes of a loving Father - on us and all creation - and longs to gather us all in.

God's picture for the future of His world is something of a miracle: pure, clean rivers running through cities giving life to trees that bear the fruit of healing for all nations (Revelation 22:2). How does that sound?

I want to be sitting on the edge of that river! I want our church to be rather like those trees.

Grace, peace and the fruit of healing be with you all!

**Andy Hall**

- On Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March we are going to have a special meeting after morning worship to look over Roddie's designs for the Parrs Wood Road church building. This is an opportunity for us to get the picture right before we start building it. Please make every effort to be there!