



the story so far...

# Beginnings

In 1938 a group of Christians purchased a piece of land in Salisbury Road that had originally belonged to the War Department. The bungalow on the land had been a large army hut, a relic of the 1914-18 war, and this was converted for use as a church building. It was opened in 1938 as "Testwood Baptist Mission".

The building was supposed to be a temporary measure until a new church was built, but with the outbreak of World War II, it was another 21 years before the church was rebuilt in 1959 at a cost of £7,000.



## Phase 1

The 120 strong congregation in the mid-1980s started dreaming of a larger building that would provide much needed facilities for the growing church and the community it served.

The idea took off in the early '90s, and work by around 70 volunteers resulted in "Phase 1" being completed – comprising a sports hall (doubling up as a place of worship), crèche, pre-school facilities, as well as offices and rooms for church & community use.



# Phase 2

Construction work on "Phase 2" began in 2006, funded almost entirely by individuals in the church keen to invest in a resource that will benefit others; the cost being kept down by skills in project management, carpentry, electrical work, tiling, plumbing & decorating being given for free.

## A place of worship



Two thousand years after he walked the earth, Jesus of Nazareth remains one of the most talked-about and influential people who has ever lived.

Jesus was a legend in his own lifetime. "Who is he?" people asked. It's a question that is still asked and answered. We believe that Jesus – the Son of God who came to earth and who conquered death when he rose from the dead - welcomes all who turn to him. **Our response is to worship him.**



# Where people matter

Whether it's when we meet together as a church as a whole or in small groups, in the youth & children's groups, in the support that's offered to local families through the community project "Youth & Families Matter" or on the Streetwise bus, our goal is that individuals should know that they are valued.

**We're committed to our local community.**



# With a message to tell

In a world that seems increasingly full of problems, we believe that Jesus cares for us and can change things. We have experienced that through Jesus Christ, no matter what our past, God offers the chance to start again. Trusting in Jesus, we can know forgiveness, freedom and hope for the future. He is able to change lives and mend broken relationships. Jesus offers us acceptance, fulfilment & purpose.

**We are ordinary people, but we have an amazing God and our aim is to show His love to the community in a relevant way.**

Jesus said, "I will never turn away  
anyone who comes to me".

John 6:37

“Coming to church has kickstarted me  
into a living faith.”

“It’s helped me to know God.”

“People have been friendly, warm &  
supportive.”



You'd be welcome to join us.

For more details visit  
[www.testwoodbaptist.org](http://www.testwoodbaptist.org)  
or call 023 8086 0320