

MEMORIAL BUILDING

AND

CHAPEL OF PEACE



OLD BERGEN CHURCH



# OLD BERGEN MEMORIAL BUILDING



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TO BE ERECTED AS A TRIBUTE  
TO OUR MEN AND WOMEN  
SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES  
IN WORLD WAR II

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## *. . . Foreword . . .*

I have very much pleasure in writing the Foreword to this brochure on the Memorial Building which we of Old Bergen are planning to erect.

With much enthusiasm I commend to the members and friends of our church, this project, confident that they will respond with their usual characteristic generosity.

The readiness of our people to recognize the fitness of this Memorial as a tribute to the men and women of the armed forces, and also as essential to an equitable distribution of our multiplying activities, has been most encouraging.

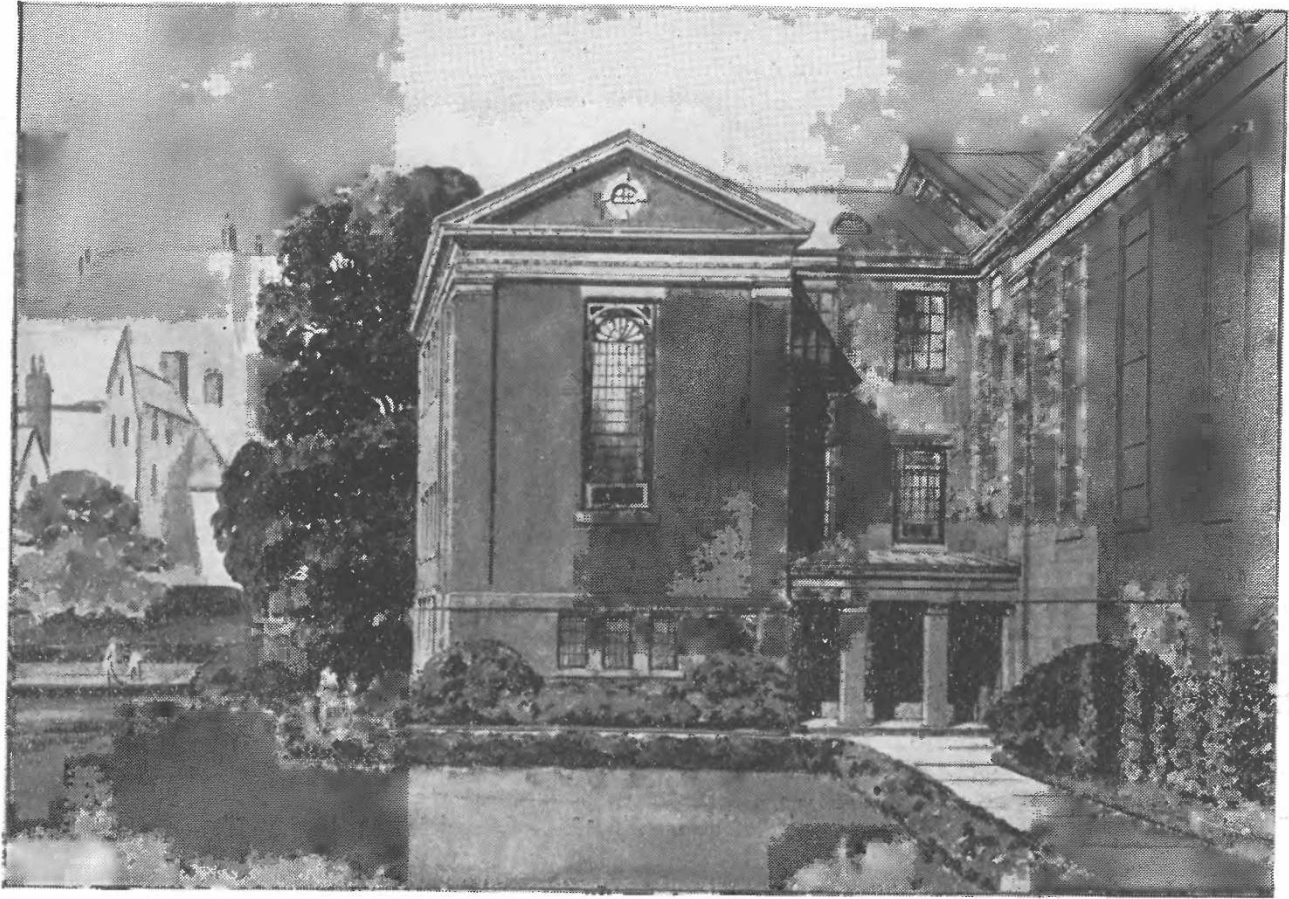
One feature of this proposed building makes an especial appeal to me. I refer to the Chapel of Peace. We of the Protestant tradition are inclined to regard the Church as a place of preaching, and we come to church, as we go to a lecture, to hear someone talk to us.

We often reduce Worship to a few exercises of devotion before the sermon. Such starvation diet cannot sustain our souls. We need to be reminded that the central act of religion is Worship, and that worship is an act that the minister cannot perform for us but one which we must do for ourselves. We rejoice therefore that we are to have a structure made for private as well as public worship. This Chapel is to be open every day for men and women who desire a refuge from the city's confusion, a place where private prayer may be natural and the fever of the world is stilled.

In the long tradition of Old Bergen we have been given something to live up to. We are justly proud of our great heritage. Let us not forget, however, that just because our heritage is so rich our obligation is correspondingly heavy. It is our privilege and challenge to carry on the work which our predecessors began.

Our multiplying activities and enlarging responsibilities require more adequate equipment, if we are to render the service which is expected of us. The honor of our church is certainly involved in carrying to fruition the plans we have made. Let us all take seriously the open doors which are set before us in this new venture to minister effectively to the spiritual needs of our community, our city, and the world.

REV. THOMAS LAMONT.



## *Old Bergen Memorial Building Housing the Peace Chapel*



Entrance through the cloister at the lower right, is approached from the walk leading from Bergen Avenue on the Glenwood Avenue side of the church.

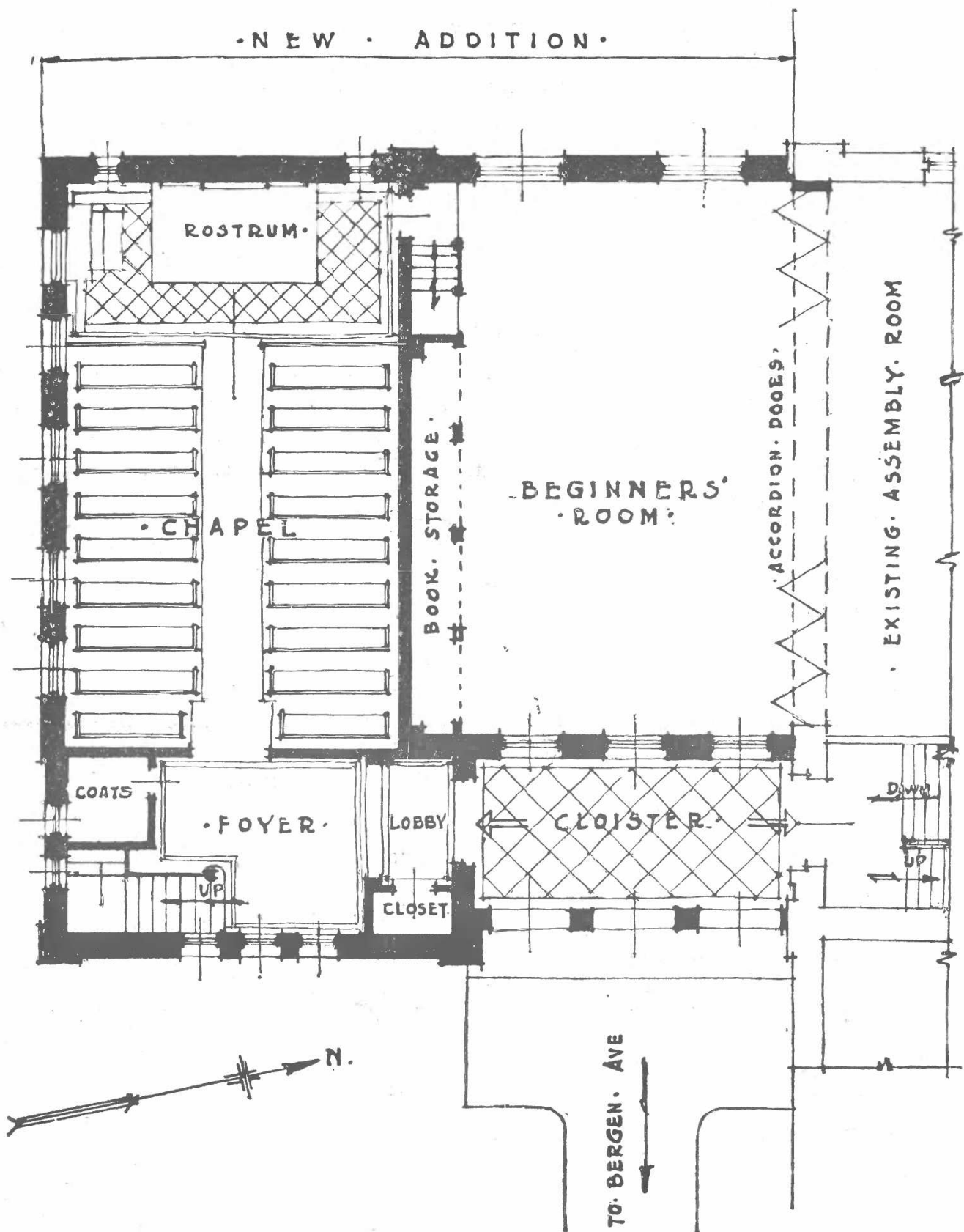
To the left of the cloister is the foyer and above the foyer the stair well leading to the upper floors fronted by a full length stained glass window. The carrying-out of the general style and type of architecture of the Church serves to make the Memorial Building an integral part of the present structure.



Old Bergen Church, a vital religious force in our community, in the family, and in the life of each of us, can look back over 284 years of its history from its founding in 1660 to the present and may justly be proud of its record of progressive Christian influence individually and through our denomination in our city, state, and country throughout that period.

At this time, rather, we direct our attention forward. Over 150 of the boys, men, and women of our church are in distant parts of the world in the armed forces serving our Country, offering all they have—even to life itself—for the preservation of those things which we hold dear including the right to worship as our conscience dictates. They are fighting for us—for our church. We pray for the safe return of our men and women and eagerly look forward to the day when they will be back with us. We recognize an urge to do something constructive that will be an evidence of our love and respect for these of our members who are actively fighting our country's battles and that will indicate our thoughtful anticipation of their return.

It is fitting that we establish a memorial for these fighting men and women of Old Bergen. It is proper that such a memorial shall serve the purpose which they fight to preserve. Old Bergen's program of activities for all of the members of our families and for all of the members of our church family demands expansion of our facilities—of our physical plant. A building to meet the demands of our program is to be erected and will serve both purposes; it will establish a lasting and fitting memorial to the service men of our church family, and also will create a needed expansion of Old Bergen's facilities to maintain our present program and, as well, to meet the challenge of the days ahead for a vital continuing religious force in the life of our returning men and in our community. Our country's successes in this armed conflict have been possible only because the factories and plants of our country expanded to meet the demands put upon them. As we carry on Old Bergen's comprehensive program and prepare to have our fighting men "reconverted" on their return from scenes of death and destruction to life in business, home, and church, we too must be prepared to expand.



• FIRST FLOOR PLAN •  
 • SCALE IN FEET - 0 1 2 3 4 5 10 15



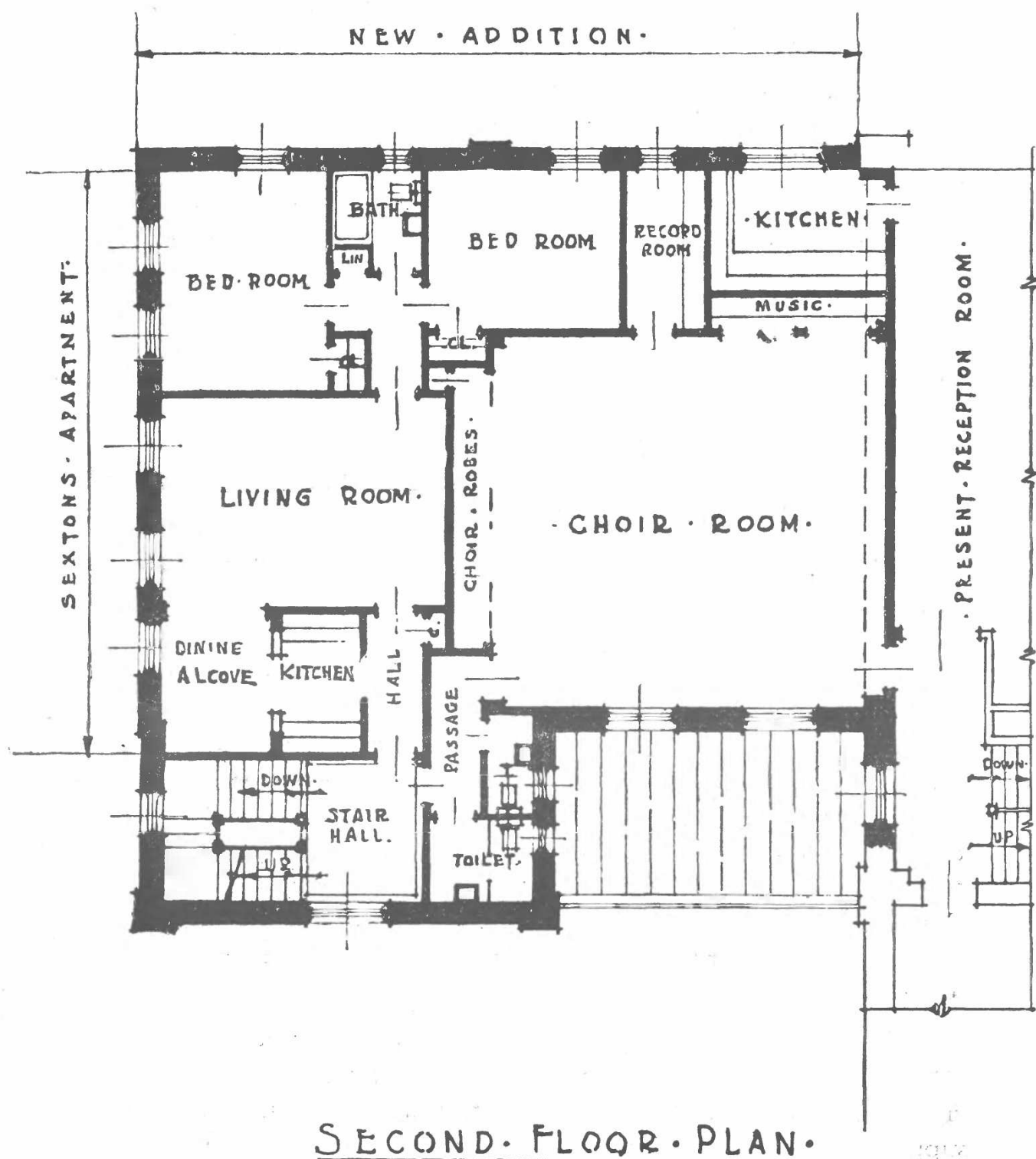
Our new Memorial Building, which will cost \$60,000. will be erected as a three story forty-five foot addition on the south side of the present Brett Hall and will be of the full width of that part of our church structure. The Memorial Building is planned so as to make it an integral part of the present building and the architecture and design will be consistent throughout with the present building in appearance, construction and style. The added facilities which the Memorial building will afford and create are shown in detail on the floor plan sketches.

The entrance of the new building which is approached from Bergen Avenue and along the walk on the Glenwood Avenue side of our church, will be especially attractive: two columns fronting the open entrance way form a small cloister which not only adds beauty to the building but also affords a particular advantage for entering worshipers especially in bad weather.

To the right of the cloister a stairway leads to the present part of our building and to the left, entrance is gained to the foyer of the new part of the building. From this foyer a stairway leads to the upper floors and this is fronted by a full length stained glass light. Entrance is also gained from the foyer to the Memorial Chapel—that part of the structure which may well be dedicated to those of our boys who have already been called and to those who may be called before the end of this devastating conflict, to make the supreme sacrifice.

The Memorial Chapel will have sufficient room to accommodate seventy persons. This will be open at all times; thus one may go in at any time for a quiet moment of prayer and meditation; in times of great loss or of the parting of loved ones or of perplexity and adversity, or in times of great gratitude, our members, any man or woman, may find rest, peace, and sanctuary for communion with God. The chapel too may be used advantageously for smaller church functions such as weddings and evening communion services.

On the same level with the chapel is an extension of Brett Hall which, by affording added room, will avert the necessity of limiting attendance at social functions such as church dinners, the Young Peoples' Christmas Dance, and the Annual Minstrel Show. Sliding doors will permit use of the new portion of Brett Hall for the Beginners' Department of the Church School. Added space for storage of books and church records is provided.



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.

*Back of the present reception room, or church parlor, the choir room and record room affords a needed center for the musical activities of the church. A new kitchen opens to the present parlor. Adequate sexton's quarters are provided.*



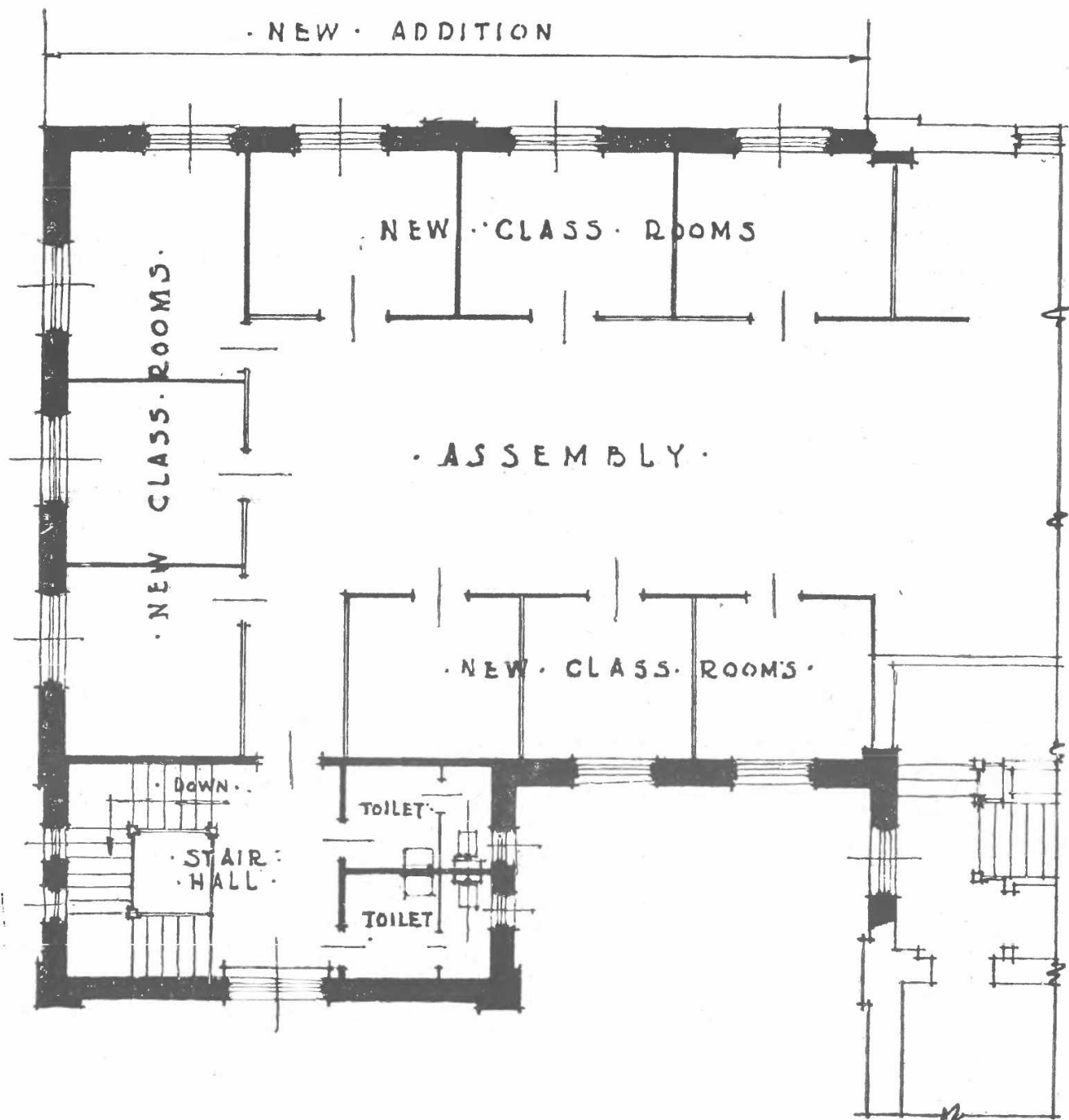
Entrance to the second floor is gained from the present structure and from the stairway leading from the cloister and foyer. This floor will provide a much needed choir room with storage space for choir robes and for musical supplies. The present kitchenette will be replaced by a modern kitchen, and added wash room facilities will be provided. On this floor a sexton's quarters will be constructed—a four room apartment with kitchen, dining alcove, living room, two bed rooms and bath.

The third floor furnishes additional classrooms needed now for the adequate carrying-on of our graded Church School. These several small classrooms are grouped about an assembly hall which will permit accommodations for a small department or expansion of the larger existing departments. On this level added lavatories are included, and adequate entrances and exits are provided as on the lower floors.

This project and plan requires, for its successful completion, the whole-hearted support of every member and friend of Old Bergen: your financial support and your moral support—your interest, your aid, and your help. Talk to your friends about it—back it yourself. Funds are being raised now; the building will go up when the funds are on hand and when construction of new buildings is feasible and possible. The required funds for construction will be raised by a doubling of our present income for two years. This means that our pledges, our gifts, our church support, our donations must be doubled for a two year period or increased to the equivalent of double their present value for a two year period.

The church organizations have pledged their support of the project. The children of the Church School started the march of the church groups in support of this program; it is fitting that we support the program to sustain and encourage their interest in the further advance of Old Bergen. While the plan is for a structure to memorialize our fighting men, it also affords needed room for our Church School where these children, the men and women of tomorrow may have spiritual guidance in their plastic years and where they learn of The Man who taught love for our neighbors.

Besides the advantages which the structure will afford—beside the worthy memorial to our men and women in the services which it creates—this will be a rallying and a unifying force within the church, supplementing and paralleling our spiritual leadership.



· THIRD FLOOR PLAN ·

The floor plans indicate the expansion of church facilities afforded, with the beginner's room on the first floor creating an expansion of Brett Hall. On the third floor, the new assembly hall and added class rooms, with the beginner's room on the first floor permits carrying on the graded church school work to better advantage and will correct the present crowding.

## *What shall you do?*

Learn about it—keep informed about it—talk about it.

Find a church group or activity whose interests are similar to yours and which will be affected by your influence and enter that group's activities: the Choirs, the Church School, the Married Couples' Group, the Guilds, the Singletons—every group is working for the Memorial. Add the weight of your influence.

Send a token donation for acknowledgment on your birthday or anniversary or at the time of any other special event which you wish to recognize and commemorate.

Contribute regularly through the weekly envelope—or make your contributions at other regular intervals.

Your gifts may be bonds previously bought and transferred to us—or any other security as well as cash.

Bequests for this project and its future expansion may have your consideration.

This is a worthy task and will require special gifts, regular smaller contributions, and especially the concerted action of all our people. Christ said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again." (Luke VI:38.)

As we unite in this effort we work in the name of our splendid men and women now in the service of our country for the advancement of the Kingdom of God through Old Bergen.



Donations may be sent to the Church Office or to Mr. William Tully, Memorial Committee Treasurer. Checks may be drawn to The Bergen Reformed Church Memorial Committee.

Bequests or bonds should be made out in the corporate name of the Church: Minister, Elders and Deacons of the Reformed Dutch Congregation of Bergen in New Jersey. Bonds may be sent to Mr. Henry Foulkes, bond treasurer.

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# *The Old Bergen Church*

Founded A. D. 1660

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Minister

REV. THOMAS LAMONT

Assistant to the Minister

REV. ROBERT M. MOORE

Director of Music

W. JUDSON RAND, Jr.

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## COMMITTEES FOR THE MEMORIAL BUILDING

### Church Memorial Committee

THE MINISTER AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE SUB COMMITTEES WITH THE  
CHAIRMAN OF THE MEMORIAL COMMITTEE OF EACH CHURCH GROUP

CONSISTORY

CHURCH SCHOOL

CHOIR

AFTERNOON GUILD

MARRIED COUPLES

LADIES AID SOCIETY

EVENING GUILD

BIBLE CLASSES

SINGLETONS

WORLD FELLOWSHIP GUILD

### Committee of Consistory

HAROLD C. BENJAMIN, Chairman

WILLIAM TULLY, Comm. Treas.

HENRY FOULKES, Bond Treas.

JAS. GLASSEY, Jr., Church Treas.

ROBERT POTTER

### Committee of Families of Servicemen

ERNEST HILLYER, Chairman

WALTER GREENWOOD

DR. GEORGE GRIM

JAMES ALLEN

WILLIAM TULLY

LESTER VAN PELT

### Solicitation Committee

LAWRENCE LANDRINE, Chairman

EDWARD JONES

DONALD SPENCE

JOHN GRAFFIUS

### Members of Consistory Cooperating

ROBERT MEEHAN

JOHN WILLIAMS

ALBERT MARTIN

RUSSEL COYKENDALL

EDWARD LATERMAN

ARTHUR JONES