

The Drive Methodist Church

Newsletter

July / August 2010

A MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER.

This Month we leave. I hope you will be able to come to our farewell service on Sunday evening 25th July @ 5.00 p.m. The twelve years we have been here seem to have passed very quickly and yet whilst we have been here we have seen our, and others', children grow from children into young adults. We will save all the reminiscing till the farewell do.

I have always been confident about The Drive's future and remain so. I am sure Rev Bernadino Mandlate is the right person to be The Drive's minister and he will add his range of gifts to those of the congregation and together it will be a great team. Church ministry is about working together as a team and each member of the congregation has a significant part in that team. There are those who labour tirelessly throughout the year to whom we owe much thanks for all they do, there are of course many but I want to particularly pay tribute to those who oversee the property, lettings and finance.

A common cry in churches is that nobody wants to take up responsibility for doing the jobs that need doing. At the Drive I marvel at all the duty rotas there are. I am sure there is a rota somewhere for the making of the rota! These rotas allow people to make commitments to tasks such as greeting people at the door, handing out hymn books, transport, stewarding, junior church, etc. If you have not yet been recruited for a rota then I encourage you to offer yourself for a many Sundays as you are able. We are a team.

Over the years I have often said that The Drive needs to see itself as a church that isn't just for the local neighbourhood but for a much wider area. In fact this is already the case with many of our congregation living more than two miles away. We need to reflect upon this and ensure that those on the edges of our community are constantly included.

I am delighted that the church buildings are extensively used and that we are developing community around our premises' users. I know Bernadino will want to develop this further. What we mustn't lose sight of though is the church's mission to the wider society and world. Our uniformed organisations and the JMA collecting are good examples of such but to involve everyone then the Aquabox filling we did a couple of years ago is the type of mission activity we might usefully do again. We need tentacles of mission into the world or we just become a holy huddle.

When we return to take the Church Anniversary in a few years time (of maybe we won't get an invite!) I look forward to seeing how the church has continued to prosper and grow and I am sure we will always be keeping in touch with what is going on in one way or another.

Thanks to everyone for their love and support.

Stephen.

EDITORS NOTE.

This edition is a combined July & August publication. It is therefore the last time we will hear from Stephen through the newsletter, and it is an opportunity for us to record how much we have valued his ministry. Phillipa and the young people of their family have also been very supportive and important to us. Janet and I feel that we have known them all for much longer than the 12 years they have been with us. We have seen Robert and Suzanna grow up, and in that time they have always been there, helpful and very pleasant. They are a credit to their parents.

They are now to move on, or should it be north to Settle, which according to my map is in north Yorkshire, right on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales National park. No doubt they will soon lose any "London" accent we have managed to teach them, and the language will be back to their roots.

The farewell service will be held at the Drive on July 25th, and his welcoming service at St Johns Methodist Church Settle will be on September 5th. Our thoughts will be with them at this busy and exciting time. Having looked at the website of St Johns I feel sure that Stephen and all the family are set for an exciting but busy time. It looks like a very lively place, with a good community and a variety of activities. I hope Stephen, you will write an article or two for our newsletter once you are installed and settled in Settle.

I now turn to the arrival of the Reverend Bernadino Mandlate and his wife Elizabeth. For the past 10 years he has been in the Harrow circuit and has been very active in many fields including Christian Aid. I have tried to find information about his recent ministry, but it appears that whilst he is currently at Gospel Oak Methodist Church, that church does not appear to have a web

site, which makes things difficult, especially as he is not around at present for me to ask him questions.

FAMILY NEWS.

We have two of our young people celebrating birthdays during this next two months :-

Timothy Wright

Bambo Banjo

We wish them both a happy birthday and a good year to come.

Church BBQ on Sunday the 11th July at the Rodings 1 pm.

Everyone is welcome to join the fun, fellowship and food.

Lifts to the Rodings can be arranged. Please see Michelle.

If you would like to bring some food, please see the list at the back of the church.

Please also sign to say you are coming so we know how many people to cater for.

Jo and Michelle.

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

The last meeting of the current 09/10 Church Fellowship programme will be held on Tuesday July 6th beginning at 8.00pm in the Church Parlour, when **Krystyna Hebb** will talk about her work as our Circuit Lay Worker. If you have never been to a meeting of the Church Fellowship, please give a try. The evening will be light and refreshments are served.

Frank Sayers

Women's World Day of Prayer.

In order to raise funds for the local committee, there will be a tea party and sale of work in the church parlour on Friday 30th July at 2.00pm. Please come and support us.

Catherine Sayers.

AUTUMN FAYRE

Plans for our Autumn Fayre on Saturday 13 November are going well. We now have commitments to run 20 stalls/activities ranging from a Car Wash to second hand Media. There will be a full range of catering throughout the day including morning coffee, hot lunches and afternoon tea. In addition, we are hopeful that Ilford Art Society are going to put on an exhibition and we have invited a local West Indian Steel Band to perform for us.

This is a really important event for our Church and I really hope that everyone has the date ruled out and will support both in supplying items for the stalls and by attending on the day. The plan is to open the Fayre at 10.30am and to run through until 5.00pm.

There are a number of stalls that will require stock and we are really keen to start collecting items from now on. Specifically:

Doreen & Eddie are looking for **second hand books**

Florence and Amie are looking for **CDs, DVD's, computer games, videos**

Janet Wragge is looking for **Christmas gifts** such as soap on a rope; gift sets etc.

Anne Dellow is looking for **Bric a Brac**

Corinne, Susan and Peter are looking for (full) **bottles, cans and jars** for the Tombola

Pre School are looking for **second hand toys**

We can store items at the Church so why not start turning out your shelves and cupboards now and bring items up to Church ready for the Fayre.

Jeremy

Autumn Fayre.

I have agreed to run a plant stall at the Autumn Fayre in November, and would be grateful if some of our gardening enthusiasts in the congregation could help me stock the stall by perhaps growing a few plants that could be sold on the stall. If you would be willing to help, could you please have a word with me so that we do not get too many of one or two types of plant. Any help you can give in stocking the stall would be greatly appreciated. One thing that I would like is Hyacinth vases. If anyone has one that they can spare could you

please let me have it so that I can obtain some bulbs ready for sale. Thank you.

Brian Grinham

Christmas Wrapping & Cards.

As this seems to have become the time for appeals I thought I would add mine. I have agreed to run a stall selling Christmas wrapping paper and Christmas cards. If any of you have either of these lying around from past years (which are unused of course), please consider donating them for this stall. Also if you know of a wholesaler who might be prepared to supply us at wholesale prices (or lower) I would be pleased to be put in contact.

Roy Brunnen.

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2010

Tuesday October 5	Speaker: The Rev. Marie Segal
Tuesday November <u>9</u>	Speaker: Mr. Timothy Nicholls
Tuesday December 7	A Christmas Miscellany

ALL MEETINGS BEGIN AT 8 pm
REFRESHMENTS ARE SERVED

?? PROGRAMME FOR 2011 ??

Unless we get more support there will **NOT** be a programme in 2011! If you have never been to one of our evenings, sometimes serious and sometimes lighthearted, please try one of these Autumn evenings. The Rev. Marie Segal is our good friend from St. Andrew's Church, and Tim Nicholls will talk about "Homelessness".

December's programme will be seasonably lighthearted.

VALENTINE SINGERS

With Jericho Ensemble
Conductor: Christine Gwynn

Invite you to a

Mozart Evening

Vesperae Solennes de Confessore K339

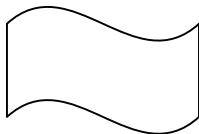
Piano Concerto in D minor K466
Soloist: Tim Smith

Saturday 17th July at 7.30 pm

**St Gabriel's Church
Aldersbrook
Wanstead E12 5HH**

**£15 £13 (seniors) £8 (students/benefit holders)
£2 off every ticket bought before 17th July.**

**Tickets available from
Andrew Taylor.**



SCOUT & GUIDE GROUP NEWS

The Fun Day and Barbecue which we organised in an attempt to get more people to our AGM proved to be a great success. We had at least 30 adults at the meeting which was encouraging. The children had a fine time with the sideshows, field activities and camp fire and the barbecue after the meeting was well received.

The leaders would like to thank everyone who helped to make the afternoon a success - to Anne Dellow who provided and served the refreshments all afternoon, to Andrew Taylor who led the camp fire whilst the adults attended the meeting and to Peter & Lorraine Bendon who seemed to have a hand (if not a foot) in everything.

However not everything in the Group is rosy. Having congratulated ourselves on having recruited two new leaders for the Brownies we regret to have to report that both Deborah and Angela have had to leave the Brownies because of work related issues which means that the Pack is without leaders for the second time in six months. It is hoped that the girls can continue to meet until the summer break under the guidance of Rosemary Smith and her helpers. This will give us until September to attempt to find a new leadership team. If we fail the Pack will be in danger of closing once again.

Many of you will know that Rosemary has retired from leadership of the Brownies and we are very grateful to her for her continued support of the Pack over the past few months especially as she often has to travel in from Norfolk.

The Scouts had a very successful camp at one of their favourite sites near Cromer which eight out of the current ten members attended. They thoroughly enjoyed the glorious weather we have been having recently and went hiking, sailing on the Norfolk Broads and swimming besides the normal camping activities. Mike has prepared a side show of the camp which was shown at the AGM on Saturday.

John Taylor

July & August Diary.

July

Sat	3 rd	10.00 am	Creative Church
Sun	4th	10.45 am	Church Anniversary. Rev. Clare Nicholson from St Peters Church, Newbury Park.
		6.30 pm	Evening Service. Rev. Normanton
Tue	6 th	8.00 pm	Church Fellowship. Krystyna Hebb talks About her work as a circuit lay worker
Wed	7 th	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship
Thu	8 th	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
Sun	11th	10.45 am	Morning Service. Miss J Tweedale
Wed	14 th	2.30 pm	Women's Fellowship
Thu	15 th	8.00 pm	Choir Practice
Fri	16 th	10.00 am	Coffee Morning. Gardeners Cafe. Valentines Mansion.
Sun	18th	10.45 am	Morning Service & Holy Communion Rev. Normanton.
Thu	22 nd	8.00 pm	Choir Practice.
Sun	25th	10.45 am	Morning Service. Local arrangement Led by Mr Frank Sayers
		5.00 pm	Circuit farewell service for Rev. Stephen Normanton.
Tue	27 th	1.00 pm	Church Lunch in the Cranbrook Room.

August

Sun 1st 10.45 am Morning Service

Sun 8th 10.45 am Morning Service

Sun 15th 10.45 am Morning Service

Sun 22nd 10.45 am Morning Service

Tue 24th 1.p.m Church Lunch in the Cranbrook Room

Sun 29th 10.45 am Morning Service

The last date for items for the September news letter will be Sunday 22nd August.

Stop Press.

I am sure we would like to congratulate Doreen and Eddie Larney on their Ruby wedding Anniversary on Sunday 27th June.

Also, to Michelle Garner on reaching a special Birthday.
(I could not possibly print how special)

Seen outside a Church :-

As you pass this little church,
be sure to plan a visit.
So when At last you're carried in,
God won't ask "Who is it ?" .

Another Bloopor from a Church Bulletin.

Miss Charlene sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

