



*Light of the World!*

**CHRISTMAS 2010**

**The Drive Methodist Church**

Eastern Avenue Ilford

Minister Revd Bernardino Mandlate

19 Bethell Avenue Ilford IG1 4UX. Tel: 020 8554 4949

## **CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY**

We shall be delivering Christmas cards to houses in our neighbourhood again this year, and would very much appreciate assistance in undertaking this enjoyable task. If you are able to volunteer to help with this please feel free to collect cards which will be placed in road bundles at the back of the church. Please either mark the list or tell Diane or Brian Taylor which road/s you have taken.

## **ANNUAL ADVENT COURSE.**

The annual Advent course will again this year be held in conjunction with The Drive Methodist Church, St Andrews Church of England church in The Drive, and St John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church.

It will take place at The Drive on Tuesdays 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup> December, at 8.00pm and St Andrews Church on Wednesdays, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 11.30am. The content will be the same at each Church, which should make it possible for anyone wishing to attend to do so irrespective of which church they attend. There will also be a Saturday morning session at St John the Baptist Church. Posters advertising these meetings are displayed in the church foyer.

Roy Brunnen

## **PIES AT THE BUS STOP**

We are again going to give out mince pies at the bus stop on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of December from 10am to 12 noon. The first Saturday is also "share a skill" and "Creative Church" so we would like lots of helpers to spare half an hour to wish passers by a happy Christmas from The Drive Church.

If you would like to help please turn up at 10am.

Thanks. Michelle and Jo

## **TOY SERVICE**

The 5<sup>th</sup> December will be our annual toy service, and I invite as many of you as possible to bring to that service an unwrapped present and some wrapping paper so that we can wrap and prepare the toys for Christmas when they will be sent to the children's centre at which Lorraine works in Loughton.

Jo

## **SHARE A SKILL**

Thanks to the vision and hard work of Janet Wragg, The Drive has a new fellowship which is going from strength to strength. I have learned to knit in the hope that one day I will produce a blanket that will join others to send abroad to children in Nairobi. Also I have stretched my skills along with others to card making and all while enjoying a cup of coffee and the company of others.....most enjoyable!

**The next meeting of the SAS will be on 4<sup>th</sup> December 10-12 in The Parlour** when you can not only knit and make cards but also make a Christmas Table Centre Decoration. Just bring along your base/container and any special items you want to include. Many materials such as cones, seed heads and baubles and candles will be provided.

Lorraine Bendon

## **CHURCH FELLOWSHIP**

As indicated elsewhere the **December Church Fellowship Meeting** will be held on **Monday December 6th at 8.00pm** because the joint Advent Studies with St. Andrew's Church will take place on Tuesdays.

Our Church Fellowship December programme will be a fairly light-hearted celebration of Christmas with readings and music. Do come and join us.

Frank Sayers

## **CHRISTMAS CHURCH LUNCH**

### **THURSDAY 16 DECEMBER AT 1.00pm**

Will any of our older/ retired folk wishing to come to the Lunch, please see Catherine as soon as possible The charge will be £3.

Catherine Sayers

## **NATIVITY SERVICE**

This years nativity service will be held in the morning of 19<sup>th</sup> December, and our young people will be working hard to present the story of the nativity as only our young people can. I therefore urge you to come to this service even though we hope you will also come to the Carol Service in the evening.

Jo

## **MINCE PIES**

We would like to serve mince-pies after the Carol Service on Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm. If you can supply some, please put your name on the list at the back of the Church before 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. and specify how many. Thankyou.

Catherine Sayers

## **JMA**

The JMA badges and certificates were presented during the morning service on 21<sup>st</sup> November. Receiving them this year were Toju Fadina, Feyi Fadina, Thea Garner, Rochelle Inbakumar and Charlotte Alder.

Between them the young people had collected over £250 and together with funds raised from the Beetle Drive in March and donations, the total raised by The Drive for JMA for Sept 2009 – Aug 2010 was a splendid £505.50.

Thank you for your continued support.

Diane Foster

## **AUTUMN FAYRE**

Our Autumn Fayre raised just under £2000 and has gone a long way towards clearing the last few thousand pounds outstanding on our development.

On behalf of the church I wish to thank everyone who ran a stall, prepared and served the (excellent) food, worked up the publicity material, washed cars, or helped in any other way. I also wish to thank everyone who came along and supported the Fayre on the day and ensured its success.

Jeremy

Regarding the Autumn Fayre, I am sure we all are grateful for the thanks expressed by Jeremy, but who thanks the thankers? Jeremy has put an enormous amount of work in to ensure the event was such a success, and I feel we must record our heartfelt thanks to him for his commitment to co-ordinating us all. Many thanks Jeremy.

Also thanks are due to Jo for her hard work both before and during the fayre, catering takes a lot of organising, and Jo did us proud.

Roy Brunnen

I also would like to thank Andrew and his team of "bongers" who provided the interlude by playing the bell plates to give us the "hand bell ringing" experience. This was their first public performance, and I trust not the last. Perhaps even I will learn to make music as I cannot sing !!

Roy Brunnen.

### **A BIG THANK YOU**

I would like to thank everyone who helped in the kitchen at the Autumn Fayre. The team was absolutely amazing and worked so hard the whole day.

My wonderful Mum (Catherine) helped to do the food shopping, setting up, washing up, ironed all the table cloths and made lovely soup. And Dad who produced the menu in his lovely calligraphy

Betty and Jayne worked tirelessly serving refreshments and washing up the whole day. Audrey Runeckles helped prepare food and clear tables.

My Guiding friends Sandra (who also made lovely soup) and Sarah served and washed up ably assisted by my mother in law Ann.

Andy went to get more milk when we ran out and my old school friends Sam and Karen spent the whole of Friday making shepherd's pies and then all Saturday serving them.

Lorraine made delicious chicken soup.

Yvonne came for the weekend and spent the whole day helping out with everything.

Lorna and David cleared, served and washed up, enjoyed everyone's company and helped unload the car at the end.

Tim ate the left over shepherd's pie!

Many hands make light work!

Jo Wright

## **SUCH KINDNESS**

It was heartening to see everyone working so hard together on the occasion of the recent Autumn Fayre. Many hours of hard work behind the scene had gone into this day and thankfully it was well worth the effort. I took home some

lovely gifts and delicious food. Well done to all the stall holders and customers.

For me this weekend was an abundance of kindness as Sue Ruckes donated the hamper she won in the raffle to Loughton Family Centre where I work. Sue is aware that we provide food hampers for the families of the vulnerable children we support. At work on Monday morning consideration was given to how best to use Sue's gift, and the decision was unanimous to raffle it again among our staff and helpers as this would provide us with extra funds for our Family Christmas Hampers.

To date I can report that we have already raised £80 which is a splendid amount. Thank you Sue.

Along with Sue's kindness I was also given a bag of beautifully knitted dolls clothes by Vi Cole. Given Vi's poor health this year, I

was very touched that she had taken this trouble. We now have the smartest dollies in Essex.

And there's more..... Doreen Larney who as you know, with husband Eddie moved away from Redbridge still comes back to The Drive very regularly; gave me an enormous amount of children's jumpers and cardigans and blankets that she had knitted so thoughtfully throughout the year. Needless to say they all now have new homes. For those who are not aware, Vi and Doreen have knitted items for the family centre for more years than I care to remember. Thank you ladies, for your dedication and commitment.

Lorraine Bendon

### **COLIN SMITH**

I do not know whether any of you will remember Colin Smith who spent some time in the Youth Club and I believe the Tennis club also a number of years ago. He took advantage of the £10 passage to Australia offer (That tells you how long ago) and has lived there ever since, but paid occasional visits to England and has been to see Janet (and me) during those visits. He telephoned us on November 18<sup>th</sup> for a chat and asked to be remembered to anyone who can remember him. He is now living in a retirement home in Queensland,

Australia. If anyone wishes to contact him Janet has his address and telephone number.

Roy Brunnen

### **SMALL CHOIRS FESTIVAL**

I January this year I attended the small choirs festival in which our choir was participating. The festival takes the form of an evening church service and moves to a different church in East London each year.

The experience of hearing the voices of some hundred local church choir members all singing together was truly uplifting. However, it seems that the congregation at these services is often very small – which is a pity.

Next years small choirs festival is on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2011 and is being held at the drive Methodist Church. I would like to encourage as many of you as possible to come along and support the festival in our church.

Happy to offer a lift to anyone who needs it.  
Jeremy

## **HOME WORK**

As most of you know I became a grandfather again, at the end of June, by the birth of a little girl (premature) to my son Peter and his fiancée Karen. I am pleased to say that she is doing well. Her name is Chloe, but did you know that Cloe is a name that appears in the Bible just once. Can you find out where it is? I will give you the answer next month, but there will be no prizes!

Brian Grinham.

## **THE BIBLE IN ENGLISH**

Do you know where these phrases used in everyday speech come from?

“the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak”

“the writing’s on the wall”

“the powers that be”

“the blind leading the blind”

You may already know that they are all to be found in the King James Bible, also known as The Authorised Version first published in 1611 on the authority of King James II.

So next year sees the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

In the early years of printing when setting up the type was a very laborious business, not surprisingly there were some interesting mistakes which gave their name to some editions.



### **The Breeches Bible 1560** **(A popular name for the Geneva Bible)**

They sewed fig leaves together and made themselves breeches  
(instead of aprons) Genesis 3:7

### **The Adulterer's Bible 1631**

The printer was fined £300 for omitting the word **not** from the seventh commandment. *Exodus 20:14*

FRANK SAYERS

### **CHRIS STEVENSON**

It must be almost thirty years ago that I remember Chris from Ilford Choral Society. Many readers will have known him a lot longer.

Chris died of cancer in October and there was a memorial service on 1<sup>st</sup> November at the church of St Francis of Assisi, Barkingside.

For about eighteen years Chris was organist and choirmaster at St Winifred's Church, Chigwell. In the mid 1990s, the services of a choirmaster and organist were no longer required there. A familiar story.

At about this time, the All Saints Festival Choir was formed and I was privileged to be able to join them. Father Jennings offered St Francis Church for rehearsals and we had "bookings" there and at other churches for special events.

Then disaster struck. A serious fire put the church out of action for a long time. Services took place in the rickety old church hall for about eighteen months.

BUT the music folders and choir gowns were in the vestry and survived. A sign perhaps?.

A beautifully restored church re-opened and a service of re-dedication took place in May 2001. I remember that the choir sang something from "Sister Act" among other items.

In January 2011, Philip Norman is bringing the small choirs festival to the Drive. If this event is well supported, it will be a fitting tribute.

Susan Ruckes – with a lot of help from Lindsay Box.

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

As we reach and pass the first Christmas with me as the editor of our church magazine, I can only say what a pleasure it is to have this task. You have supported me so well with your appeals, news, stories, and more recently some of you have allowed us to get to know you better. Please keep the items coming and I will try to present them fairly.

Have an enjoyable Christmas, always remembering the true meaning of our celebration. And welcome the new year with a resolve to think of others and help those in need.

Roy Brunnen.

## CHURCH DIARY DECEMBER

Wed	1 <sup>st</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship. Revd. Mandlate
Thu	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat	4 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Creative Church. In the church parlour
<b>Sun</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Toy Service led by Revd. Mandlate</b> <b>Evening Service</b>
Mon	6 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Church Fellowship
Tue	7 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Advent Course The Drive church parlour
Wed	8 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship. Members afternoon.
		11.30am	Advent Course at St Andrews church
Thu	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri	10 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Coffee Morning at the Gardeners Cafe, Valentines Mansion.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b> <b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr Sheach</b> <b>Circuit Carol Service at</b> <b>Gants Hill Church.</b>
Tue	14 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Advent Course. The Drive church parlour
Wed	15 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Women's Fellowship with Frank Sayers
		11.30am	Advent Course at St Andrews church
Thu	16 <sup>th</sup>	1.00pm	Church Christmas Lunch. Church Hall.
		8.00pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Nativity Service led by Revd.</b>
		<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Carol Service led by Revd Mandlate.</b>
Tue	21 <sup>st</sup>	8.00pm	Advent Course. The Drive church parlour
Wed	22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.30am	Advent Course. St Andrews church
Fri	24 <sup>th</sup>	5.30pm	Stories Round the Christmas Tree
<b>Sat</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45pm</b>	<b>Christmas Morning Service</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr Sharka.</b>

## **JANUARY 2011**

<b>Sun</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning covenant service led by Revd. Mandlate</b>
Sat	8 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Creative Church in the Parlour
<b>Sun</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning service led by Mr A Ramsden</b>
Thu	13 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri	14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Coffee morning at the gardeners cafe, Valentines Mansion
<b>Sun</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Revd. Mandlate</b>
Thu	20 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr J Nicholls</b>
Thu	27 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Revd. Jameelee</b>
		<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Small choirs festival in the Church.</b>

**The last day for receiving material  
for the February edition of this newsletter  
will be Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2011**

## **STOP PRESS**

Contractors will be moving into the Church  
to work on the ceiling and roof.  
It is expected the Church will be out of use  
for February 2011,  
but this is subject to the contractors  
being available to start the work.  
During this period  
Church Services will be held in the Church hall.  
Further information will appear in the  
notices when it is available.