

The Drive Methodist Church
Eastern Avenue, Ilford, Essex, IG1 3PP

NEWSLETTER

June 2012



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

<http://www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org-uk>

A Message from Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.

Friends

Let me first congratulate those of you are supporters of West Ham for their return to the premier league after a year in the championship. I hope they are back to stay up. Well done.

Time marches on and we praise God for listening to our prayers although sometimes we fail to see Him at work in our lives. God is forever with us, listening to us as we moan and complain about almost everything. We complain if it doesn't rain; we complain if it rains. We are never happy with God's blessings because they don't happen on our watch. God acts at His own time and we need to learn to accept that and make do with it.

Summer time is upon us. Spring is on its way out. Temperatures begin to climb a bit, not fast enough but gradually it is happening. We thank God that we are able to witness the changes in weather patterns. It rained enough to compensate for the declared drought. We are not there yet, they say but probably heading in the right direction. Spare a thought to millions who live in real drought, and when it rains they are flooded and lives lost in the process. When it's dry, nothing grows and their crops fail and hunger sets in. These are facts of life. We have drought but our taps still have running water. In other parts of the world when there is drought even the wells don't have water for communities.

It becomes a survival struggle for millions. We are indeed blessed. God has been good and kind for us. I pray that you all feel blessed.

I need to let you know that our circuit is struggling with lack of Local Preachers. They are few in numbers and some of them mature in age and with less mobility. The number of presbyters is coming down to four from end of July and cover for all the ten churches is becoming more difficult. This may mean that more and more 'own arrangements' will be common. We need to prepare ourselves for what is surely coming.

We need some of you to volunteer to be worship leaders so that you can participate in the life of the church by helping run some of the 'own arrangements.' We need to get used to the idea and prepare for whatever changes may be necessary.

Please pray with us for the circuit and its mission. For the presbyters and all local preachers as well all embark in this new challenge. Pray for all the

churches in the circuit. Pray for the Holy Spirit to intervene and see us through.

May the Lord continue to bless you all

Dino

Church family News

It was good to have Suzanna Normanton back with us and in the choir while she was on placement at G.O.S.H. We wish her well for her finals.

We also remember the other young people who are taking their GCSE's, A levels and Finals.

Congratulations and our very best wishes to Clare Dellow and Christopher Marlow on the occasion of their marriage on Saturday, 2nd June.

Please remember those among us who have health problems. May continues to be in and out of hospital. Our thoughts are also with those among us whose relatives are seriously ill.

We are sad to report that Mary Gilbert has died and remember Frank at this time.

Birthdays this Month

17 th June	Florence Smith
17 th June	Susannah Normanton

Thanks

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, good wishes, offers of help and covered various jobs around the Church following my eye surgery in April. I'm pleased to report that the operation appears to have been a complete success and my sight is quickly returning to normal. My consultant has advised me that as long as I avoid things like sky diving (no worries there!!), I can now start to resume normal activities.

Mike Seviour

Can you help

Those of you who follow the plan of preachers who will be visiting our Church each Sunday will have noticed that the number of Sundays marked "Local Arrangement" is increasing. We do try to find preachers who are willing to visit us to take these services, and some of us lead worship when necessary.

Do you have a contribution to make occasionally ? Any assistance would be welcome, Lead a prayer, share an experience, talk about a section of the Bible, or just make a suggestion for a service theme.

I and the other stewards will ensure we provide a service of worship each week.

Roy Brunnen

Baptismal Rolls

Frank Sayers is busy rewriting the older Baptisms which have faded over the years, and are/were rather difficult to read. These older entries do not have dates on them, which is a shame.

We are very grateful to Frank who has a skill in calligraphy, and produces many of the notices and lists we see around the church. Thank you Frank, we all appreciate the many things you do for our church.

Roy Brunnen

Thames Bridges Bike Ride

On Sunday 13th May I completed the Thames Bridges Bike Ride with several work colleagues in aid of the Stroke Association. The route started at Southwark Park in south-east London before taking in all the bridges over the Thames, from Tower Bridge to Hampton Court Bridge, going through the City, Mayfair and Belgravia, in a loop around Regent's Park, through Battersea and Richmond Parks, along the Thames Cycle Paths through Fulham and Putney before finally ending up at Hurst Park in south-west London – 55 miles in total! The sun shone all day and we were able to see London at its finest, including some areas I had never seen before. As taking part was a late decision I was unable to look for sponsorship before the ride, however I will be around the next few Sundays with a sponsor form if anyone would like to sponsor this ride in aid of the Stroke Association.

Matthew F

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

On **Tuesday June 12th** Carol Dawson, who was appointed last October as the new **Key Worker** in our Circuit, is coming to tell us of her work in local primary & secondary schools with the Religious Education Resources Project, set up by Rev. Peter Hudson when he was a minister in our Circuit.

Frank Sayers

Carol Dawson Says

It has been another busy term for myself and the Religious Education Resources Project with teaching and advice all being in demand from our Schools. There has been a slight change in focus of the work this term which is very encouraging. I have recently been asked to help the Redbridge religious education coordinators include more responsive and spiritual aspects into the teaching of RE. They are considering using Godly play extensively and to greater effect. Godly play has always been a major part of the work of the RERP but now there is the opportunity for this to become mainstream practice in Redbridge. This is a major change in direction within the teaching of RE in our schools.

Race for Life

It's that time of year when I try and do my bit to raise money for Cancer Research.

Unfortunately, cancer affects us all, either personally or someone we know. It took my darling Mum and gave us some very worried moments when my Dad developed bowel cancer 6 years ago. Thankfully he and other relatives and friends have lived to tell the tale, due to the research undertaken by organisations such as this.

When we hear that someone else is affected, don't we wish we could do something to help – well this is it.

We can all do our bit, I can do the walk and any contribution you can give (via the link below) in support of my quest will be very gratefully received

<http://www.raceforlifesporsorme.org/ruthjoyce4>

Thank you in advance.

Ruth Joyce

THE DRIVE DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS
Saturday June 16th, from 2pm to 4pm
In the Church Hall & Grounds

Outside attractions

2pm to 3pm Children's Games, and Side Shows.

In the Hall

The Earl Gray Swing Band

Rhythm & Blues Duo

Magic Tricks

Table Games

Creativity for all

Bonny Baby Competition

Raffle.

The National Anthem will be played at 3pm, following which Tea will be served. (Ticket holders only)

Tickets are £3 for adults and £1 for children,

And available from Roy Brunnen, John Taylor, Janet Wragg or Brian Taylor.

Janet Wragg

Raffle Prizes needed

Corinne is seeking prizes for the raffle, which will be gratefully received.

Many thanks

Corinne Smith

Do please get your tickets as soon as possible, as numbers have to be limited to ensure we can all get into the hall for tea.

Roy Brunnen

Jubilee Party

We would appreciate home made cakes for the tea party on Saturday 16th June. If you can supply some cake/cakes then please see me. Collection of the cakes can be arranged.

Jo Wright

Betty Says

During the Coronation year the leader of the junior department explained the coronation service to the children in great detail, using models of all the different symbols.

Because of her likeness to The Queen (which has sometimes been a bit of a pain!) guess who ended up wearing the crown!!

Whole Church BBQ Sunday 1st July at The Rodings After our Anniversary Service

A list is up at the back of the Church for you to let us know what food you will be bringing to the BBQ.

Everyone is welcome to come, lifts down to the Rodings can be arranged.

Jo & Michelle

Celebration in Song Saturday 14th July 2012 at 7.30 pm

The New Essex Choir will be giving a concert of light music in the church, followed by a buffet supper in the hall. The programme continues the summer of celebration theme with music from Merrie England, My Fair Lady, Gilbert and Sullivan operettas and folk songs. The conductor will be Lawrence Tatnall whose grandmother was once organist at The Drive.

Tickets £12 (children £6, under fives free) available from Brian Taylor

Brian Taylor

A Greener Drive

Please put your waste paper, cardboard, cans and bottles. In the recycling boxes outside the hall kitchen door, where the dustbins used to be kept.

Brian Taylor

ANOTHER BIG SING



Saturday 7th July 2012

At Goodmayes Methodist Church, Percy Road, IG3 8UA

Back by popular demand – Another Big Sing led by Chris Rowbury
The response to last year's successful Big Sing was such that Chris will be joining us again for more fun and singing.

You do not need to read music. You will not be asked to sing a solo. All you need is a willingness to enjoy yourself. Chris's approach to singing is informal, energetic and empowering with plenty of fun and laughter. Check out his website www.chrisrowbury.com

The session will start at 10.30 am and will end at about 4.30 pm with a final run-through which will be open for others to join in. A sandwich lunch and tea breaks will be provided.

Bring a friend and have a great day. Numbers are limited and a charge of £10 per person will be required. Payment can be made on the day but I need to know that you will be joining us. Booking forms can be passed to your Senior Church Steward or sent to me: Diane Lilley, BDI Circuit Office, Beacontree Heath Methodist Church, Dagenham, RM8 1DZ.

Email: bdicircuitoffice@btconnect.com

The Big Sing Booking Form

Your Name

.....

Contact telephone number

.....

Number of friends coming with you

.....

Total enclosed

.....

Please make cheques payable to Mrs D Lilley

The Mayonnaise Jar

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, When 24 hours in a day is not enough; remember the mayonnaise jar and 2 cups of coffee.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, wordlessly, he picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and start to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured it into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full... The students responded With a unanimous 'yes.'

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar, effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

'Now,' said the professor, as the laughter subsided, 'I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life.

The golf balls are the important things - God, family, children, health, friends, and favourite passions. Things that if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.

The pebbles are the things that matter like your job, house, and car.

The sand is everything else -- the small stuff.

'If you put the sand into the jar first,' he continued, 'there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff, You will never have room for the things that are important to you.

So... Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your partner out to dinner. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the dripping tap.

'Take care of the golf balls first --The things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand.'

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled. 'I'm glad you asked'. It just goes to show you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend.'

Submitted by John Taylor

Drive Scout and Guide Group News

Our Plant Sale was a great success and raised a total of £445 for Group funds. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported us. The cakes provided by the Brownies and their supporters went down a storm and raised a staggering £69.50 towards the total. Well done girls.

Our only regret is that we think the Brownies will have to close at the end of July due to the lack of adult leadership – the girls are there but they desperately need leaders.

We announced in a previous newsletter that we shall be holding a fun day and AGM at the Rodings on Saturday 23rd June. For various reasons we have had to postpone the AGM which will now take place on Friday evening 21st September when all the Sections will be holding a joint meeting showing off their achievements and activities to families and friends.

John Taylor

**“And I will give thee the treasures of darkness,
and hidden riches of the secret places,
that thou mayest know that I, the Lord,
which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel”.**
Isaiah 45 verse 3

June Diary

Sun	3rd	10.45am	Trinity Sunday Morning Service with Holy Communion led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Sat	9 th	10.00am	Share – a – skill in the Parlour
Sun	10th	10.45am	Methodist Homes Morning Service led by Mr Frank Anipa
Tue	12 th	8.00pm	Church Fellowship in the Parlour
Wed	13 th	8.00pm	Property Committee
Thu	14 th	7.30pm	Circuit Meeting at Old Dagenham Church
		8.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri	15 th	10.00am	Coffee Morning at the Gardeners Cafe, Valentines Mansion
Sat	16 th	2.00pm	Church Jubilee party around the Church & Hall.
Sun	17th	10.45am	Morning Service led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Thu	21 st	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat	23 rd	10.00am	Share – a – skill in the Parlour
Sun	24th	10.45am	Morning Service led by Revd. Merika Nkwana
Tue	26 th	1.00pm	Church Lunch
Thu	28 th	8.00pm	Evening Prayer. Annual Choir Service.
All are welcome.			
July	1st	10.45am	Church Anniversary led by Revd. Peter Hudson. Followed by a BBQ at “The Rodings”