

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

NEWSLETTER

November 2012



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

FROM OUR MINISTER
Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.

Friends

By the time you read this piece, Christmas lights will be coming on in a few towns and shops, because it is fast approaching. Whether we like it or not, life moves fast and all life events move as fast with it. It seems like not so long ago we were singing carols and now we have to sing carols again.

And so we begin to get ready for Christmas. I want to ask that as we do so, we pay some attention to the many people who will not be celebrating Christmas because of various reasons, among which I would like to mention illness, anxiety over many things not going well in their lives, poverty that renders them unable to share in the joy of Christmas.

What can we do?! We all ask the same question and the answer is yes, we can do something. We can make provisions for struggling families via 'food banks' or supporting some dedicated charities. We can direct help to families we know of that have difficulties, just to enable them to share in the Good News of the birth of the Messiah, God with us, the Saviour, our Saviour.

On another note, the circuit preaching plan is becoming ever difficult to make, so many gaps to fill and so many churches getting upset because it is not going in their favour and so few local preachers to go round. We all have to make sacrifices to help. One thing we should seriously consider is 'change of time' of worship on Sundays. All churches may need to make some compromises on this to enable the plan to be filled relatively easy. That would enable some ministers to take two services on a Sunday instead of one. Would we be prepared to make those sacrifices?! I hope so.

Revd S. Poole will be on sabbatical as from 1st of December for three months. Things may get a bit difficult on plan but is one of those sacrifices that we have to make. When he comes back Revd J Tate will be going on sabbatical too. So that is about six months of tough going. With God's help we will come through the difficulties to face another year.

I pray to God, who is always with us, to keep us strong and to guide us as we continue to worship and serve him. With God's help we can face a lot of challenges coming our way. Anything with God is possible. He can help us deal with our anxieties and insecurities about what the future holds for us as The Drive and for the Circuit as together we soldier on.

As I write, four of our members are in hospitals: Barbara Foster in Whips Cross; May Levett and Leota are in King George and Audrey is still in White Chapel expecting to be transferred to King George or Queen's. Your prayers and the occasional visit when you can are appreciated.

May the good Lord be kind to you all and continue to bless each and every one of you.

Dino

FAMILY NEWS

Happy birthday to Feyi Fadina in November.

Due to Audrey Runeckles being out of action, Colin has asked that the task of obtaining and distributing the magazine "MAGNET" be taken on by someone else. Janet Brunnen has agreed to do this, and therefore anything concerning this should be directed to Janet. If you do not currently have Magnet and would like to, please let Janet know. It only costs £10 per year.

Roy Brunnen

Our good friend, **Mike Seviour** (who does as much as anyone behind the scenes for this Church) has to have an eye operation soon. We wish him a satisfactory outcome from this tricky situation. We also wish him a happy retirement (at long last!) during the month.

Catherine & Frank Sayers.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our Harvest weekend so enjoyable. We have received calls and letters of thanks from the recipients of the boxes, baskets and bouquets.

The Church Lunch Club will be having their Christmas festivities on Tuesday December 18 th at one o'clock in the Hall. Names and money will be collected nearer the end of November.

Catherine Sayers

A raindrop landing on your cheek is a kiss
From someone who lives in heaven
And is watching over you.

Josie Jiggins

TOY AND NATIVITY SERVICE

The Junior Church will be taking the Nativity and Toy service on Sunday 16th December.

If you would like to donate a new toy then please keep it unwrapped, but supply wrapping paper with it, if possible. A collection will also be taken.

All gifts will be donated to the family and children's centre where Lorraine Bendon works.

Jo

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Our 2012 / 2013 Programme got off to a splendid start with an informative talk by a work colleague of Jo Wright about Sikhism. Mrs. Devinder Palray spoke with humour and enthusiasm about her faith. It is always stimulating to notice the similarities and differences between Christianity and other faiths.

Mrs. Palray left us a few copies of "A Brief Introduction to Sikhism" which are available in the church.

On Tuesday November 6th we are holding a **Members' Evening** when we are invited to bring along a couple of objects from home chosen under the title of '**Favourite Things**' and say briefly why these things are favourites. This should be very interesting. Do come along at 8.00pm. Refreshments are served.

THE SAMARITANS PURSE

Every year children in less economically developed countries have a Christmas without any presents, the Samaritan's purse aims to stop this. Samaritan's Purse is a non-profit, Christian organisation providing church support and emergency relief and development assistance to suffering people around the world. Samaritan's Purse is meeting the physical needs of victims of war, famine, natural disaster, and disease with the aim of demonstrating God's love and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. The aid and assistance are given without regard to the race, creed, gender, religion, or ethnicity of the beneficiaries.

Therefore if you are able can you please help the Samaritan's Purse to carry on their work by bringing in good conditioned toys, educational items and hygiene supplies if possible thank you.

We will be having a work morning on Saturday 3rd November, alongside the SAS group where we will be preparing the boxes ready to be sent to the distribution centre. Please make sure that any items for the shoe boxes are at the back of the church by Saturday November 3rd.

Thank you.

Moji Banjo

CHURCH COUNCIL

Fifteen members attended the meeting on 18th October chaired by Rev Bernardino Mandlate.

The chairman gave news of developments in the Circuit and the progress of discussions leading to the amalgamation of some churches.

The treasurer, Peter Foster, presented accounts for the previous year, which showed a small surplus (£540) for the year.

The cost of property maintenance had been kept within budget and spending of £12000 was approved for this year. Replacement of some windows by double glazed units was discussed and it was agreed that it would be better to rebuild cash reserves at present.

The meeting approved the appointments of Lorraine Bendon and Ruth Joyce as class leaders.

The stewards were asked to undertake a review of the Mission Statement.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 7th March 2013,

ILFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

Ilford Choral Society is giving its last concert ever on 1st December 2012 at St Margaret's Church, Perth Road.

It will be a concert of Christmas Music including excerpts of Bach's Christmas Oratorio. After 71 years it will be sad to see the choir close, but let's make it a Joyful occasion.

After all, "Christians be joyful", is one of the items on the programme.

P.S. I only joined the choral Society in 1979.

Susan Ruckes

The "ACTION FOR CHILDREN" SLIDES' EVENING!

Catherine and Frank will be presenting
another 'viewing' evening in aid of the work of

ACTION FOR CHILDREN

(formerly The National Children's Home),
with the invaluable expertise of Mike Seviour.
This will be on **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17th.**

beginning at **7.30 pm.**

As before we can promise you a varied selection of places visited
and events witnessed, provided by our intrepid band of digital
photographers.

Any photographer needing help with scanning etc. must contact
Mike before Nov 3. Electronic presentations are needed by Nov 10.

REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN THE INTERVAL

NO TICKETS - DONATIONS REQUESTED, PLEASE.

JOY TO THE WORLD – MUSIC FOR CHRISTMAS

The New Essex Choir invite you to a concert of Christmas Music in
the church at 7.30 pm on Saturday 8th December. Start your
celebrations of Christmas by listening to carols old and new. There
will be some carols for the audience to sing too. The conductor will
be Lawrence Tatnall with Andrew Taylor (organ) and Peter Miller
(piano). Tickets price £10 (£8) will be available from Kathleen and
Brian Taylor.

MULTI FAITH WALK OF PEACE

As a part of **One World Week** celebrations, Redbridge Faith Forum
organised its fourth Multi Faith Walk. About seventy people of all
faiths and none were given the opportunity to show their
commitment to trying to create a peaceful world. Not everyone
completed the whole journey, but a large number began at the
Synagogue in Coventry Road and finished at the Gurdwara, the
beautiful pink building in the High Road. On the way we visited the
Buddhist Temple in Balfour Road, the Mosque in Albert Road, the
Hindu Temple across the Road, and St Peter and St Paul's roman
Catholic Church. At a brief stop at the Town Hall, Revd. Francis

Ackroyd of the Vine Church explained to the passers by why we were there.

We heard some sad news. The Coventry Road Synagogue is moving to Beehive Lane. Luckily the building will still be a place of worship. The Seventh Day Adventists are moving there.

In spite of the wet dreary weather, we had a wonderful afternoon making new acquaintances, meeting old friends, learning about different kinds of worship and.....

Many of us enjoyed an excellent vegetarian meal at the Gudwara. That rice pudding alone was worth the long walk through Ilford Town Centre.....

Susan Ruckes.

FRIENDS

I look at you then I look at me
Without my buddies where would I be
My friends, my sisters, my shadow, my world
Where would I be without the girls
Giggles and tears, smiles and laughs
Late night texts and photographs
We'll be there together until our last day
Best girls forever just won't fade away.

Josie Jiggins



Christmas is coming

Toy & Nativity Service	10.45am December 16 th	December 2012.
Carol Service	6.30pm	December 23 rd
Stories around the		
Christmas tree	5.30pm	December 24 th
Christmas Day	10.45am	December 25 th



**WE ARE
MACMILLAN.
CANCER SUPPORT**

The MacMillan Coffee Morning held in the Conservatory at The Redbridge Social Centre was once more a great success. I thank all who supported the event or gave donations. We raised a magnificent £638.15. - £100 up on last year.

I was unable to be there but my good team of friends rallied with John to ensure all went smoothly. Once again Kay Whiddon with one of her team from the Pre-school arrived in their lunch hour with freshly made samosas, which I understand quickly disappeared. Audrey T.

It's never wise to advertise
The worries you possess
Life's more fun if everyone
Decides to grumble less.
Why complain? There's naught to gain
By sounding so depressing
Let cares go by, and always try
To count each little blessing

Submitted by
Betty Griffiths.

This Year's Advent Meetings
Will be held at the
Baptist Church in Wellesley Road, Ilford.
Commencing on
Thursday 27th November 2012.
Watch the weekly notice sheet for times.

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

Thu	1st	7.30pm	All Saints Service at The Drive Church led by Revd. Atkins.
Sat	3 rd	10.00am	Share-a-skill in the Church Parlour
Sun	4th	10.45am	Morning Service & communion Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Mon	5 th		Pre School term commences
Tue	6 th	8.00pm	Church Fellowship
Thu	8 th	7.00pm	Bible Study in the Church Parlour
Sun	11th	10.45am	Remembrance Day Morning Service led by Mr John Nicholls
Tue	13 th	10.00am	Holy Communion
Fri	16 th	10.00am	Coffee morning in the Gardeners Cafe, Valentines Mansion
Sat	17 th	10.00am 7.30pm	Share-a-skill in the Church Parlour Slides and pictures in aid of Action for Children.
Sun	18th	10.45am	Morning Service led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Tue	20 th	1.00pm	Church Lunch
Sun	25th	10.45am	JMA Service Led by Diane Foster and The junior Church.
Tue	27 th		Advent Course 1 The Ilford Baptist Church Wellesley Road