

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

# NEWSLETTER

March 2013



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

## **From our Minister, Bernardino Mandlate**

Friends

It is that time of the Christian calendar again when we go through the motions of Lent. On Easter Sunday we will be giving towards mission in the world. May I suggest that if you have given up something for the Lent season, you give the equivalent savings of that to the mission of the church, be it overseas or local. But if you are like me and don't give up anything in particular for Lent, may I ask/suggest that you give something during Lent to help someone who is struggling in life to make ends meet.

There has been severe flooding in Mozambique these past few weeks with about 70000 becoming homeless and a few dozens dead. There is desperation; some help is getting through to people. Same wave of floods affected north of South Africa and some places in Zimbabwe. This is just an example of the need out there to which we can and are able to respond.

I consider the season of Lent as a time of reflection on our individual and corporate lives and a time of penitence for mistakes we make in our lives; and it is a time when we ask God to have mercy on us sinners. But, allow me to say how difficult it is to forgive someone who is begging for forgiveness while carrying on making the same wrongs every day of his/her life.

That could be a difficulty that God has with us if we are not willing to change our ways. Penitence becomes meaningless if we are not ready to change. Change becomes necessary during Lent because it a good time to reflect on what Jesus did for each and everyone of us. He allowed himself to suffer pain and death on the cross so that he could take upon himself the burdens of our misgivings/sins. Would it be that he suffered for nothing? I believe that we need to show the Lord how sorry we are for inflicting that pain and failing to change and improve on our lifestyles.

Please, use his Lenten time to give to others and God will continue to bless you with forgiveness and provisions. Be honest to God and to yourself. Show God you are sorry for your past mistakes and move on. I pray that God will continue to bless us all and our church more. I pray that God will continue to show us ways in which we can continue to be welcoming to anyone coming through our doors for a visit or to join our worship. I pray that more and more of us will be able to engage with visitors and make them feel welcome, and made feel they belong with us.

Fast some days if you can, read the Bible and be prayerful during Lent at least.

May the Lord continue to bless each and every one.

**Dino**

### **The Birthdays we know about!**

5 <sup>th</sup> March	David Wright
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Jenny Runeckles
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Lorna Wright
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Robert Normanton
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Iris Bennett-Wright
24 <sup>th</sup> March	Tunrayo Fadina
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Mani Gabbidon

We wish them all a very happy day with many more Years to come.

### **Diane Foster.**

As I was working on this newsletter I heard that Diane had sustained a fractured wrist in an accident whilst visiting Stephen Normanton over the weekend. I am sure we all will think of her and Jeremy in our prayers, and wish her a rapid recovery.

**Roy Brunnen.**

### **Leslie Jiggins**

We also heard this morning that Jose's husband had collapsed at home earlier this morning and has been taken to hospital. At this time we do not know any more than he is undergoing tests and observation in King George Hospital.

Our love and prayers are with them both at this worrying time.

**Roy Brunnen.**

### **Women's World Day of Prayer**

Don't forget the Women's World Day of Prayer which is to be held at the Vine Church, Riches Road, Ilford, on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March at 2pm. Come and join women from the Ilford churches.

**Catherine Sayers.**

### **Fair-trade Fundraiser**

I would like to invite you to stay after church and enjoy a traidcraft big brew on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. There will be a cake sale to raise funds, and all offers of cakes, etc will be gratefully received.

The Traidcraft big brew is a nationwide initiative helping individuals, charities, schools and work places to host a fair trade event during fair-trade fortnight 2013, which runs from 25<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and aims to support small holder farmers to grow more and provide more food for their families.

To raise more funds and keep your tea warm in this weather, I will be making some mug-hugs to sell; these are small cup holders and can be knitted or made from felt. Please let me know if you can help!

**Michelle Garner.**

### **Mothering Sunday. 10<sup>th</sup> March.**

We invite you to bring with you a photo of your Mother, or a person who is or was/is important to you, to share with us all.

### **Lunch after Annual Church meeting. 17<sup>th</sup> March 2013.**

There will be a lunch after the annual church meeting on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March. Please put your name on the list at the back of the church if you wish to attend.

***Catherine Sayers.***

### **Church Fellowship News**

Our next meeting is on Tuesday April 9<sup>th</sup>, and is entitled  
"Favourite Words and Music."

If you have a favourite piece of music, you would like to listen to on that evening, or a favourite piece of literature that you would like to hear read, please contact Frank Sayers before Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> so that a balanced programme can be prepared. Contributions may be light-hearted or serious. We meet in the Church parlour at 8.00pm.

***Frank Sayers.***

### **Please can you help.**

Each week there is now a requirement to have 5 adults "on duty" in the Junior church. This is due to our success in developing a larger group of young people who are attending.

We also need two people on the main door/book distribution, one on the Eastern Avenue door, One person to look after the needs of the Minister/Preacher, and one person on the car rota bringing anyone who cannot get to us otherwise

If any of you feel able to undertake the door welcome, book distribution, or car rota duties, please make an offer to one of the stewards. It is not onerous, and will help us enormously, it's not every week, and the more we have the fewer times we will call on you.

***Roy Brunnen***



**Our 21<sup>st</sup> annual JMA FAMILY BEETLE DRIVE and TEA  
(and raffle)**

**will be held on:**

**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2013**

**2.30 pm for 3 pm START**

**THE DRIVE METHODIST CHURCH HALL**

**Adult: £5; Children (under 16): £2.50**

All profits go to JMA (Junior Mission for All)  
raising funds for projects both at home and abroad.  
Come along and enjoy an afternoon of fun, food and fellowship!

***Tickets are available from me now  
so please tell all your family and friends.***



With thanks  
***Diane Foster***



**Easter Egg Hunt**  
**Saturday 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**March**

10.30am –  
12.30pm

All are welcome to join in the fun.

Lots of activities to do.

Hot cross buns and refreshments.

Children £1.00 –adults are free!

NEW ESSEX CHOIR

Conductor - Lawrence Tatnall

Organ - Christopher Dolan Piano - Peter Miller



Franz  
SCHUBERT  
Mass in G

Fru Chilvers Dominick Felix Carl Murray

Bruckner - Locus Iste Franck - Panis Angelicus  
Faure - Cantique de Jean Racine

Saturday 16th March  
7.30 pm

The Drive Methodist Church  
Ilford IG1 3PP  
(at junction with Eastern Avenue)

Tickets £10 (£8) (under 14 free)

Box Office :

[www.newessexchoral.org.uk](http://www.newessexchoral.org.uk)



### **Carols at St John the Baptist R.C. church**

The carol service on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2012 was led by Father David Weller. I apologise for omitting his name from the February newsletter report.

***Susan Ruckes***

### **Holocaust Memorial day**

A service took place in the Holocaust Memorial garden, Valentines park, on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January. Many people of all ages attended.

Bob Obuchowski spoke as a holocaust survivor. Pupils from local schools read their own poems and prayers. The Synagogue choir sang a hymn. Wreaths were laid at the holocaust memorial stone.

At the end of the service we were asked to read the statement of commitment on our service sheets.

***Susan Ruckes.***

### **A Date for your diary**

We will be having a celebration in commemoration of Her majesty the Queen's 60 years since her Coronation. The date is June 15<sup>th</sup>, and will be from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

Sat	2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00am	<b>March Diary</b> SAS. Share a Skill in the church parlour
<b>Sun</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service with Holy communion</b> <b>Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate</b>
Tue	5 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Lent course 3 Psalm 63 at St Andrew's church, The Drive
Wed	6 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Lent course 3 Psalm 63 at St Andrew's church, The Drive
Thu	7 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Church Council
Sat	9 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	JMA Beetle Drive in the church hall
<b>Sun</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Mothering Sunday arranged by</b> <b>Jo Wright and Roy Brunnen</b>
Tue	12 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Holy Communion in the Ministers vestry.
Tue	12 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Lent course 4 Psalm 27 at St Andrew's church, The Drive
Wed	13 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Lent course 4 Psalm 27 at St Andrew's church, The Drive
		8.00pm	Circuit Meeting at Old Dagenham Methodist Church.
Fri	15 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Coffee Morning at the Gardeners Cafe Valentines Mansion.
Sat	16 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Share a Skill in the church parlour
		7.30pm	Concert by the New Essex Choir in The Church.



<b>Sun</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service for Passion Sunday Led by. Revd. Bernardino Mandlate. Followed by the annual church meeting and lunch in the church hall.</b>
Tue	19 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Lent course 5 Psalm 126 at St Andrew's church, The Drive
Wed	20 <sup>th</sup>	11.30am	Lent course 5 psalm 126 at St Andrew's church, The Drive
<b>Sun</b>	<b>24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning service for Palm Sunday Local arrangement</b>
Tue	26 <sup>th</sup>	1.00pm	Church Lunch
Thu	28 <sup>th</sup>		Maundy Thursday
Fri	29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Good Friday meditation
Sat	30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Easter Egg Hunt
<b>Sun</b>	<b>31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Easter Day Service. With Holy Communion Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.</b>