

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

# NEWSLETTER

May 2013



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

## **From Revd. Bernardino Mandlate**

Friends

Spring is finally upon us. We can now see more of the sun, feel its warmth and see the parks getting busier. The green shoots are plenty and somehow people are coming out more like the green shoots to enjoy what the current weather has to offer.

We had a long and cold winter and some were beginning to wonder whether God is still in charge, and he is in charge indeed. Our behaviour towards creation is influencing the weather patterns and I pray and hope that scientists can pinpoint where we need to mend and save the planet for future generations. Please recycle as much as you can, take back to the shops the plastic bags because they do recycle them themselves. Don't be lazy, just do it and it will help reduce the negative impact on our planet.

May I take this opportunity to bring to your awareness the fact that the circuit to which we belong is having difficulties with finding enough local preachers to lead services in our churches. As a result, each time a new preaching plan is produced, you will notice that there are more and more own arrangements for churches. We would benefit if some of you would offer to either be local preachers or worship leaders. This would help in the availability of more people leading or assisting in leading worship. Anyone out there listening?!

Life at The Drive is going on well, I appreciate it the fact that lots of people love to be involved in what is going on. It is always a joy to see many of you taking part in church events and sometimes supporting community events. All of that gives life to our church and shows our commitment to getting involved with our community and our neighbours. Even though sometimes we complain about some of the users of our premises, our awareness of the witness we are to them and others, does not overshadow our commitment to serve. Let us keep it up and keep it going.

I know some of you take time to visit those who are not so well. Again it is appreciated. We belong together and to each other. We need to look for each other especially in times of need. Believe me, those are on the receiving end of generosity and visits are touched by your love and care. Keep it up.

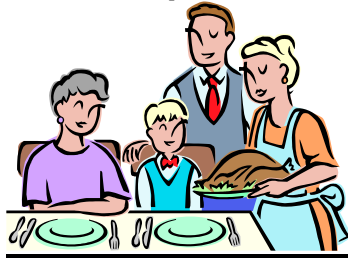
I pray for God's blessings to be upon each one of you and your families and friends. Jesus Christ died on the cross for us all and He

rose for us all. We all benefit from His love and care. May we all feel his care love and care in daily lives even as we go about our errands, may He be with us all.

God bless

**Dino**

### **Family News**



### **Happy Anniversary**

On the 5<sup>th</sup> of May it is my parents 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.  
Happy Anniversary and have a great day.

**Rochelle Inbakumar.**

### **Speedy recovery**

Brian Grinham has had major heart surgery, and at the time of writing is making good progress. He hopes to be out of Hospital soon.

Elizabeth Amah has also had an operation and is resting at home.

Please include these two valuable members in our prayers.

**Roy Brunnen**

### **Thank you**

I was thoroughly overwhelmed by the surprise gift that I was given last Sunday.

Thank you very much.

**Jo Wright**

### **Tanzania**

I would like to say thank you to all the people who have kindly given me donations for my trip to Africa. The money will help to buy things for refurbishing a school in Northern Tanzania.

I am thoroughly looking forward to my trip and appreciate all the support you have given me.

Thanks again

**Tim Wright**

### **Welcome**

We have been delighted to be able to welcome people who have chosen to come to our church and join the congregation. All people are welcome, and we hope they find our church welcoming and homely.

Our junior church is always pleased to have children joining them, whether it is for a single, occasional or regular visit.

Why not invite your friends and relatives to join us.

**Roy Brunnen.**

### **Welcome, Welcome!!**

Could you open a door for someone and greet them with a cheery word? Or perhaps you'd like to hand them a hymn book? Would you try to make someone new feel welcome and maybe have a cup of tea with them after the service? There are lots of different ways for you to get involved at The Drive, and we'd love your help.

You could join our new welcome team, and let us know when you're available to say "good morning" at the front door or give out hymn books. You would give your availability every three months and go on the rota; if you don't have access to email we can make sure that you have a paper copy. The rota makes sure that no-one is called upon too often but we're a friendly bunch and there are four other new members (plus some of us older ones) for you to chat with or swap dates, if necessary!

We are also on the look-out for people who would like to read a Bible reading, and we can bring the microphone to you, if it's difficult for you to come up to the front.

If you have any questions Roy and I are happy to answer them and have a chat about the Welcome team "jobs", or any others – let us know what you're interested in.

**Michelle Garner.**

### **Church Fellowship – Summer Season**

Our next meeting is on Tuesday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 8.00pm in the Church Parlour will be an evening with HANDBELLS led by Andrew Taylor, and judging by last year's experience, it will be a most enjoyable and instructive evening. Do come along. The dark evenings are over till the Autumn. Refreshments are served.

**Frank Sayers.**

### **PLANT SALE** **SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013**

The Scout & Guide Group will be holding their annual Plant Sale in the grounds of the Church Hall (weather permitting – otherwise in the Church Hall) on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May from 10am to 12.30pm. Last year we sold out very quickly so we would urge you to come early for the best selection. Refreshments and a cake stall will be available.

### **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June – Coronation Celebrations.**

Keep this Date free

Where – Church Hall and grounds

When - 15<sup>th</sup> June from 2.00pm to 4.00pm.

Come and join in the fun

Sing – a – long

Raffle

Table quiz

Afternoon Tea

“Guess the photo”

Children's games

Crown making competition

Have you got a photo of yourself taken in 1953?

If so please give it to Janet Wragg.

### **Coronation Tea. June 15<sup>th</sup>**

I will be running a small raffle during the tea party and would be very grateful for donations of prizes.

Many thanks,

**Corinne Smith**

### **Junior Church**

It was very kind of John Higgins to write about my time with Junior Church. I feel I must now give my thanks too.

I have grown up in the family of the Drive Methodist church, and have some very fond memories of my time in Junior Church and the youth club.

I had many leaders who inspired and encouraged me and I worked alongside Pat Grinham for some years, who tirelessly worked to enable children to learn more about God, and so I thoroughly enjoy being part of the Junior church team today.

The team care and nurture our children and without them there would be no thriving Junior Church.

We, as a church, all encourage and support the children and that is also why we have the largest group of young people that we have had for a long time. Parents and carers enjoy coming too, so we are all doing our bit to love and support the next generation, something that we should all be proud of.

If you would like to join the Junior church team then please speak to any Junior church leader.

**Jo Wright**

### **Flowers**

Thank you to all our generous members who so kindly pay for our weekly display and make donations to the flower fund. We would ask you to keep us informed of any folk who are ill or absent, information given twice is better than not at all. Please help us to keep in touch in this way.

**Catherine Sayers.**

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Easter Egg Hunt and to those who came and supported it, a good time was had by all and thankfully it didn't snow!

**Jo Wright**

### **News from the Wright family**

My husband, Andrew, will take up a new post as the head of art at Queenswood Independent School in Potters Bar. This is a Methodist boarding school and one we know well, as David has played many tennis tournaments there.

Andrew leaves Ilford County on a high, as students there nominated him for the Pearson's teacher of the year award. In a record year of 24,000 nominations, he was one of three to go on to the finals in London and the South East.

Andrew has taught in Redbridge for 27 years and now he will be travelling to pastures new.

Are we proud of him? Yes we are!

**Jo Wright**

### **Share – a – skill**

10.00am in the Church Parlour

#### **May 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>**

Use of sewing machines (Bring own)

Making cushion covers. (Bring an undarted man's shirt)

#### **June 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Basic car maintenance with Mick in the car park (bring car and knowing our weather, a brolly!)

Knitting and crochet

Gift labels

#### **July 6<sup>th</sup>**

Finish own projects, gift labels, Then discussion & ideas for next term.

**Janet Wragg.**

### **Unused Hymns & Psalms books.**

About a year ago we started using the new Methodist hymn book which is called "Singing the Faith. That meant we have now the Hymns and Psalms hymn books unused. Through our minister we have made contact with a minister who is currently in Mozambique who would be pleased to have "Hymns and Psalms, so we are currently exploring ways to get them shipped out to him. This is a much better solution to simply scrapping them.

**Roy Brunnen.**

When I read the following, I could not help identifying with my earlier times.

**Roy Brunnen.**

### **How do you Pray ?**

There are many ways we can talk to God, and he will respond in just as many ways.

When I was quite young I was taught to kneel at the side of my bed each night, close my eyes and recite a Prayer.

As I got older, and started to go to church on a Sunday afternoon, which was when Sunday school was held, I learnt to put my hands together, with my fingers pointing to the sky, close my eyes, and either listen to a prayer, or say a prayer of my own, which was based on the lesson we had been taught, or the prayer I used at home.

When I went to a service with my parents, I always put my hands together, closed my eyes, and listened to the Minister.

When I went to School, we had morning assembly, which always included a hymn and prayers. For this we would sit on the hall floor, stand up to sing the hymn which was projected onto a screen at the front of us, and then sit with our hands together and eyes closed for the prayer. I will not deny that we occasionally opened an eye to look to see what others were doing, as we thought the teachers would have their eyes closed. We soon learnt that they were exempted from closing their eyes, and were watching us.





### **May Diary**

Thu	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
<b>Sun</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service With Holy Communion. led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate</b>
Tue	7 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Church Fellowship
Thu	9 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat	11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Share-a-skill in the parlour
<b>Sun</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr N Muchopa</b>
Tue	14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Morning Holy Communion Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Wed	15 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Church property committee
Fri	17 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Coffee in the park. Gardeners Cafe Valentines mansion
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate</b>
Tue	21 <sup>st</sup>	1.00pm	Church lunch in the church parlour
Thu	23 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00pm	Choir Practice.
Sat	25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Share-a-skill in the church parlour.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mrs Tabitha Jembe</b>