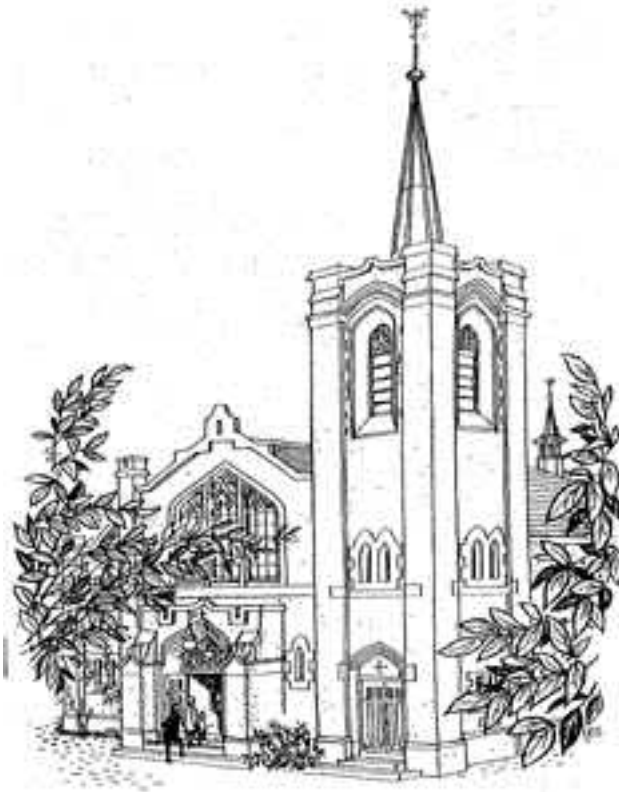


The Drive Methodist Church
Eastern Avenue, Ilford, Essex, IG1 3PP

NEWSLETTER

June 2013



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

From our Minister.
Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.

Dear Friends

As I write, it is Pentecost, a day we remember the birth of the church the way we know it today. We are celebrating the birth of the early church. A church started when Peter preached the good news and about 3000 people accept Christ, according to Acts of the Apostles. It is a day that we celebrate diversity because God the Creator allowed people other than the Jews to access and be part of His kingdom.

They were, in Jerusalem, people from all over the known world then celebrate one of the many festivals celebrated in the city. They heard the word being spoken in their own languages, however many languages were represented, by people who had not been trained in any languages, people who were not quite educated and were mere fishermen by trade. So, something happened to them and in their midst that enabled them to speak in other languages. The Scripture does not say whether they understood themselves to be speaking in other languages. May be, just may be, there was also a miracle of hearing. The Spirit interpreted the word being spoken and the people believed and were baptised.

These were baptised into service as we are baptised into service in our churches. They too, took the Word with them to share with others, beginning with their own households. Pentecost is a church anniversary celebration and a challenge to continue the work of witnessing and serving, sharing God's love with others, especially with strangers.

Friends, we have our ups and downs, proper for any living congregation. But the ups are more significant than the downs. We are blessed with active people and many who are happy to be involved in the life of the church. It is good, it is appreciated and we need to keep it going.

We still have some of our number on the not so well side and we continue to pray for them in the hope and belief that God listens to our prayers and in due course He responds in whichever way He chooses. When He does answer, ours is to say 'your will not mine' Lord.

It is getting warmer these days and that is a welcome occasion for all. It has been too cold and it was high time we got some warm

weather and that is beginning to happen. We need to praise and thank God for the gift of the seasons, although the way we behave with nature sometimes is not the best desired.

Let me wish you all a happy and warm spring. I pray to God the Father that all may be well with all our members and those linked to us through the newsletter. I pray that God will instil in each and every one the desire to serve and to be a loving Christian to the other children of God friend or foe.

God bless

Dino

From Brian Grinham

Wednesday 24th April.

Dear Friends,

I have been quite overwhelmed by the prayers, messages of support and cards etc. that I have received from my friends in the Church Family during my recent stay in Hospital. Knowing that so many of you were rooting for me helped me so much to put up with the long hours of darkness when sleep was not forthcoming.

Fortunately I am home again now and have a long way to go to full recovery; I am making progress little by little, and hope it will not be too long before I can join you again in Church. It is amazing what a couple of nights in your own bed can do!

God bless you all

Brian. (Grinham)

Church Fellowship

The Church fellowship meets on Tuesday June 4th, when Ruth Joyce will talk about her working life. Do come along for what will be an interesting talk.

Refreshments are served.

Frank Sayers.

Christian Aid

The delightful concert given by 50 members of the New Redbridge Wind Band to a full hall on Saturday 18th May raised £562 for Christian Aid.

Brian Taylor

Coronation Celebration

On Saturday 15th June there will be a celebration to mark the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's Coronation which was on June 3rd 1953. It will commence at 2pm and finish around 4pm. Come and join us for tea, sing-a-long and fun.

Tickets cost £2 for adults and £1 for children, and can be purchased from Janet Wragg.

Roy Brunnen.



Coronation tea party Saturday 15th June

Cakes are needed for the coronation tea party.

If you can provide a cake, then please see Jo Wright.

All donations much appreciated.

Jo Wright

Raysin HopeTea in the garden

On Saturday 29th June at 3pm I welcome you to join me for afternoon tea. Tea and cakes are complimentary but any donations will be gratefully received for the 'Raysin Hope' charity. There will be some table top items for sale which will include new gifts and toys.

Anne Dellow

From Liz Amah.

It was lovely to see Liz back in the congregation last Sunday (May 19th) following her recent operation. She tells me she is now on the mend and feeling better.

She expressed her thanks and gratitude for all the visits, cards, phone calls, love and prayers, which have given her so much support and helped her as she had the operation and started her recovery.

She would have written a note of thanks had she realised that the deadline for the June newsletter had been reached.

Roy Brunnen.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported the quiz night for my trip to Tanzania. Over £1000 was raised!

Thank you also to people who couldn't come to the quiz, but made donations.

This money will help buy building materials for the school we will be renovating. It will also buy resources for the classrooms such as pencils, exercise books and sports equipment.

Congratulations go to Diane, Matthew, Louise and all their team for winning the quiz night.

Tim Wright

Drive Scout & Guide Group Plant Sale

Thank you to all who supported our Plant Sale on Saturday 11th May especially all those who helped to unload the plants because of the late delivery! We are pleased to report that despite the late start we have so far made a profit of over £400 and we are aware that there is still a small amount more to come.

We should like to give a special mention to Kay Whiddon and the staff and parents of the Pre School who took the unsold stock on Monday and sold much of it and in so doing raised a magnificent £83 for our funds. Congratulations and many thanks.

We are also grateful to our ex Brownies – they are now Guides at St. Andrews – who set up and ran the cake stall raising a total of £38. Without their help, who knows, we might not have had a cake stall at all – perish the thought.

John Taylor – Chairman



Junior Church BBQ.

We will be having our usual church BBQ, after our anniversary service on the 7th July, at the Rodings.

We would like people to bring food to the BBQ, so please sign your name on the list at the back of the church and let us know what you are bringing.

Burgers and sausages both meat and vegetarian will be provided; we would like you to bring the rest!

Let's hope the sun shines!

Any questions then please speak to **Jo, Michelle or Lorraine.**

Mothering Sunday 2013.

On Sunday 10th March we celebrated Mothering Sunday with a service in which our young people took a leading role.

As part of that service we were asked to write a personal dedication to our mothers on a piece of paper which was handed to each person as they arrived.

Below I have reproduced just six of these thoughts, taken at random from the display which has been at the back of the church since that day.

Dear Lord,

Thank you for the gift of family.

Thank you that our families can include people who love us and care for us, whoever they may be.

Lord help me to be a good and loving member of your church family.

I love my mum and she loves me!!!

I am very lucky to have her!!

My mother is amazing

Funny kind and beautiful!!!

God bless all mums

I wish every child could have a life surrounded by love

Such as that love my mum gave to me.

Mum is a good woman

And cared for us kids and looked after us when we were little

And made us feel safe.

Amen

Thank you God for my wonderful mum.

She is loving and caring, kind and giving and my best friend.

I love you mum with all my heart always xxx

Thank you for being you xx

New Essex Choir - 'Summertime'

The next concert to be given by NEC in the church will be on Saturday 6th July at 7.30 pm.

The programme for 'Summertime' will be from Opera and Musical Theatre and include a Portrait of Gershwin, a selection from Carousel, and choruses by Purcell, Smetna, Mozart and Verdi. The evening will conclude with a buffet supper.

Tickets price £12 will be available from **Kathleen and Brian Taylor**.

VALENTINE SINGERS CONCERT, SATURDAY 29th JUNE

People often ask me when I try to sell tickets to Valentine Singers concerts, "Is it heavy?" Well, "heavy" or "light" is usually a matter of personal taste, but I would encourage you to come to Epping on Saturday 29th June to hear a concert featuring the music of Benjamin Britten. The main work is his cantata St Nicolas, which is very approachable and features two hymns for the audience to join in, so you get to sing with us as well! The following is the official Valentine Singers press release giving details of the concert. I hope you will be pestering me for a ticket very soon!

Andrew Taylor



This summer Valentine Singers will be joining musicians around the world in celebrating Britten 100 – the centenary of composer Benjamin Britten, one of the leading composers of the twentieth century.

Music for amateur choirs and for children's voices forms a significant part of Britten's output. His delightful cantata 'Saint Nicolas', composed in 1948, recounts the life and legends of Nicolas (aka Santa Claus!), fourth century Bishop of Myra – his early life, his imprisonment, and the wonders he wrought in God's name, including the resurrection of a group of pickled boys! He is still recognised as the patron saint of children, and their voices play an important part in the cantata.

The beautiful 'Cantata Misericordium' was composed for the centenary of the Red Cross organisation fifty years ago and first performed on the commemoration Day on 1st September 1963 in Geneva. Its performance this year therefore celebrates two anniversaries at once! This cantata tells the story of the Good Samaritan, posing the pertinent question, 'Who is thy neighbour?' The text is in Latin, reflecting the international theatre of Red Cross's operations and features tenor and baritone soloists alongside the chorus, strings, harp, piano and timpani.

Valentine Singers' Benjamin Britten 100 concert, which also features as part of the 2013 Epping Festival, is at St John the Baptist Church, Epping, at 7.30 on Saturday 29th June. The choir, conducted by Christine Gwynn, is supported by the excellent Jericho Ensemble, leader Elizabeth Porter, and a semi-chorus from Writtle Singers. The superb team of soloists is led by tenor Greg Tassell and baritone Tom Kennedy; treble Finley Barry sings young Saint Nicolas and three choristers from the Church of St Peter and St Paul Church, Chingford will feature as the "pickled boys"!

Tickets cost £15 (£8 for students/benefit holders), with a £2 reduction on all tickets bought before 22nd June. They may be obtained online from www.valentinesingers.org from the box office 020 8550 4654, from Epping Bookshop, or Mayfair Stationers in Barkingside.

Andrew Taylor.



June Diary

Sun	2nd	10.45am	Morning Service with Holy Communion led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.
Tue	4 th	8.00pm	Church Fellowship
Thu	6 th	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat	8 th	10.00am	Share-a-skill in the church parlour
Sun	9th	10.45am	Morning Service for Methodist Homes
Wed	12 th	7.30pm	for the Aged with Roy Brunnen 7.30pm Circuit Meeting at Barkingside Church
Thu	13 th	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Fri	14 th	10.00am	Coffee in the park. Gardeners Cafe, Valentines Mansion
Sat	15 th	2.00pm	Coronation celebration until 4pm.
Sun	16th	10.45am	Morning Service. Frank Sayers.
Tue	18 th	10.00am	Morning Communion in the prayer
Thu	20 th	8.00pm	Choir Practice
Sat	22 nd	10.00am	Share-a-skill in the church parlour
Sun	23rd	10.45am	Morning Service led by Mr Geoffrey Freeman.
Tue	25 th	1.00pm	Church Lunch.
Thu	27 th	8.00pm	Choir Practice.
Sat	29 th	3.00pm	Tea in the Garden In aid of Raysin Hope, (Brain Tumours) At 52 Highcliffe Gardens.
Sun	30th	10.45am	Morning Service
		6.30pm	led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate. Circuit Service at Old Dagenham Church.