

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

NEWSLETTER

September 2013



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

A THOUGHT

Here we are once more in September, and for most the Holiday season is behind us. Janet and I no longer go away on holiday as we consider ourselves on permanent holiday.

I wonder just how far you have all travelled, and what sort of a time you have had. Even Bernardino has had a well deserved holiday, but had to come into the church to lead a wedding service, such is his dedication to any commitment he has made

How long ago did the "Holiday" start to become so popular? I cannot remember reading about any such thing in Biblical days. The only reference I recall is that God rested on the seventh day after creating the world. Jesus rested occasionally when he accepted the hospitality of various people during his travels, which usually seemed to be long, difficult and dangerous.

The one thing which has stayed constant thru time has been the benefit of Prayer. As committed Christians we regularly read sections of the Bible, and on Sundays, if not on other days of the week we Pray and sing hymns. And gain more understanding of the books of the Bible from sermons. Others tend to Pray, or sometimes call to God to help them when they are in trouble.

SEEN ON A CHURCH DOOR

If after church you wait awhile,
Someone will greet you with a smile,
Though if you quickly rise and flee,
We'll all seem stiff and cold maybe
The one beside you in the pew
Is perhaps, a stranger, too,
All here, we have our fears and cares,
All of us need each others' prayers.
In fellowship we bid you meet
With us, around God's mercy seat.

From the friendship book. 2013.

Retirement.

We wish Diane Lilly every good wish, and God's blessing, as she retired at the end of August from being the Circuit Administrator.

HARVEST SINGERS REQUIRED.....

At our Harvest Festival on Sunday 29th September, we want to supplement the singing of our regular choir with extra voices from our congregation. Could you help us?

No previous choir experience is required! We want singers, children, men and women, from around 7 years old upwards (no upper age limit!). The plan at the moment is that this group will sing a song during the service and possibly join with the choir in another item.

We will practice after the church services on Sundays 8th, 15th and 22nd September in the Church Parlour. To be part of this group, speak to me or just come along and join in!

Andrew Taylor

HARVEST SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29TH.

There will be a buffet lunch after the morning service. If you wish to come, please put your name on the list which will be put up in due course at the back of the church. Any offers of dishes will be very welcome.

Gifts to decorate the Church will be gratefully received between 10 am and 12 noon on Saturday 28th .

Although we deliver fewer small baskets these days, most of our gifts go to the Barnardo's Home in The Drive and the Whitechapel Mission.

C. E. Sayers

DUTY ROTA

Once a quarter, a small team led by our Senior Steward meets to plan the rota covering the various tasks which are necessary to ensure that everything runs smoothly each Sunday. This is quite a task and involves allocating more than 120 'vacancies' as fairly as possible between the 27 volunteers who willingly give their time.

With so many requirements to fit in, it's almost inevitable that occasionally, duties get missed. Users of the Church website will be aware that the current rota is always available and we are now in a position to make use of modern technology to help you (and to reduce the Senior Steward's phone bill!!).

From 1st September, if you have an email address, you will receive an automated email each Wednesday morning if you are 'on duty' the following Sunday. If you don't receive it, please check your 'Junk' folder (automated emails do sometimes go there) and add the Church to your 'white list'.

It's important that our records are kept up-to-date so if you change your email address, or swap one of your duties, please let us know, either by phoning Ian or by sending an email to rota-admin@the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk.

Mike S

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

The 2013/14 Church Fellowship programme begins on Tuesday October 1st with a talk by a visiting speaker, Denise Whybrow who will tell us about the charity

Samaritan's Purse The Christmas Shoebox Appeal.

Do come along to our first meeting of the season at 8.00pm.

Refreshments are served.

Frank Sayers.

THE DRIVE SCOUT AND GUIDE GROUP

Join us at the Group's Open Evening and AGM on Friday 27th September.

Show your support of our Beavers, Cubs and Scouts and their leaders

During a recent service led by Jo, Jose Jiggins told us something of her local life.

MY LIFE IN ILFORD.

Me and my husband moved into Seymour Gardens 55 years ago after a financial struggle to raise a deposit.

Already with 2 children, and twins on the way which the doctor only told about 6 weeks before the birth, so little time to prepare. Another would follow making 5 children in ten years.

Early life was hard, but happy and we had very little help.

Our main holiday annually was in a caravan in St Osyth, where we had to wash and use the toilets communally, very different from nowadays, but always fun. And cold.

Day trips for 7 of us were a bus ride to Hainault Forest with a picnic, or a walk in Wanstead Park. Very simple but we made our own happiness.

All of the children went to Cranbrook Park church which later joined together with The Drive Methodist church. I was a Sunday school teacher for many years and the children went on to join the Cubs and Brownies at Cranbrook Park.

As parents we still live in the same house after 62 years of marriage.

I wonder if this was luck or fate. We loved the house we looked at but realized we could not find £200 deposit. On the way home Leslie met an old ship mate from the Navy, and we told him our plight. He said wait a couple of days I'll get back to you. He did and told us not to worry, the British Legion would lend us the deposit to pay back when possible. Our house was bought.

Josie Jiggins.

VISIT TO WESLEY'S CHAPEL, CITY ROAD.

Most of the group of visitors on Saturday 20th July travelled in the Scout/Guide minibus. My friend Jennifer and I travelled by train and bus. We arrived just in time to see our group disappearing into Wesley's house.

We were lucky to have our own guide, Frank Sayers, who regularly takes groups on tours there. The house has been beautifully restored and the exhibits are set out in an interesting way.

We ate our packed lunches in the tea room below Wesley's Chapel. Drinks were provided. After lunch we were shown around the

chapel. When we were all seated we were given a talk and then our organist, Andrew Taylor, played Andante in C by Samuel Sebastian Wesley (Charles Wesley's grandson) and Now thank we all our God by Karg Elert on the chapel's organ.

We visited the completely renovated Museum of Methodism beginning with a film presentation with commentary by BBC's Huw Edwards. We looked at some of the artifacts and portraits including some by Frank O Salisbury.

We went outside where they are doing excavations after recently finding bones.

After a group photo, the passengers departed in the mini bus. My friend and I had a further look round the museum and purchased souvenirs from the shop.

The gardens were beautifully kept and looked particularly fine on this summer's day.

On our way home we walked through Bunhill Fields where some famous people are buried. We tried without success to find the tomb of Susanna Wesley.

Susan Ruckes August 2013.

With a lot of help from Jennifer Harris.

AFRICA

It took two years of preparation and fund raising and now I have returned from the trip of a lifetime. I flew into Nairobi airport and then took a mini bus across the border down to Northern Tanzania.

Whilst there I saw amazing wild life – got up close and a bit too personal with a bull elephant, planted trees as part of a reforestation scheme, trekked for miles, taught some Maasai children how to play rugby and helped build and refurbish a local school.

The money that the church helped me raise went towards building materials for the school. The children and teachers were very grateful and before my group left they sang some songs for us at a special leaving ceremony.

It was a trip that I will never forget. I took part in so many amazing things and met some wonderful people.

In February I will be doing an African evening at the church fellowship where I will be able to share some more stories and photos about my African experience.

Thank you again for all your support and donations.

Tim Wright

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who sponsored me for the Ride London-Surrey bike ride on 4th August. I raised over £250 for Kidney Research UK. The 100 mile ride was extremely enjoyable and in some places extremely challenging!

Thank you also for your good wishes and prayers before I leave to start training at the Britannia Royal Naval College at Dartmouth. I look forward to seeing you again at Christmas.

Matthew Foster

MENDELSSOHN'S *ELIJAH AT THE DRIVE*

On Saturday 5th October, our church is hosting a "come and sing" scratch performance of selected choruses and solos from the great oratorio *Elijah* by Mendelssohn.

This wonderful work tells the story of the prophet Elijah in dramatic form, and is not performed that regularly these days. This is a chance for any singers to come along and join in, or for anyone to come and be part of the audience.

The performance will raise funds for the Bahay Ng Pag Asa (the House of Hope) orphanage and outreach centre in the Philippines, run by my friends Nickie and John Kenning. The House of Hope does amazing work with orphaned and abused children in the Philippines, and is well worth supporting.

On 5th October, there is an afternoon rehearsal from 4:30 to 6:30 (registration from 4:00) and the performance is at 7:30. Singers pay £10 to take part. The performance is free to audience members, but there will of course be a retiring collection!

Please support this event if you can.

Andrew Taylor

THE DANISH CONNECTION.

Almost ten years ago my Canadian friend Laurie flew on Concord's last flight from London into Toronto. Laurie stayed with me for a few days and attended our Harvest Festival and lunch at The Drive.

When I lived in Mississauga, Ontario Laurie was the music director at Bethesda United Church, which I attended and sang in Laurie's choir.

Henriette from Copenhagen was a rotory exchange student who stayed with Laurie and her family for a few months. I had visited Copenhagen from Sweden, where I had taught before teaching at Toronto French School.

Laurie took us to local monuments and arranged for Henriette to travel with me for a long weekend in Quebec City. We had a great time, in spite of the snow.

I have visited Laurie several times in Mississauga, but have never been back to Copenhagen.....until this August. Choir tours to Jutland were miles away. Henriette has been to Edinburgh and London but not Ilford.

As Henriette is "between jobs" we made a quick decision to meet. I booked a flight from Stanstead and a hotel near Tivoli Gardens. We visited castles, gardens, gardens and churches including a lovely organ recital in the "Marble Church" just behind Queen Margrethe's home. Henriette's friend, Per drove us to Hamlet's Castle via the pretty coast road north of Copenhagen.

Our next aim is to bring Laurie to Denmark, where some of her ancestors lived.

By the way, you never know who you'll meet at an airport terminal. I sat next to a gentleman from Sheffield who described himself as "a Swedish Alan Titchmarsh". Luckily I was carrying my Beth Chatto jute bag.....

Susan Ruckes.

DIARY FOR SEPTEMBER

**Sun 1st 10.45am Morning Service with Holy Communion
led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.**

Thu 5th 8.00pm Choir Practice

Sun 8th 10.45am Morning Service led by Mrs Small Byam

Thu 12th 8.00pm Choir Practice

Fri 13th 10.00am Coffee morning in the Gardeners Cafe,
Valentines Mansion

Sun 15th 10.45am Morning Service led by Roy Brunnen.

Tue 17th 10.00am Morning Holy Communion in the
Prayer Chapel.

Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate

Wed 18th 7.30pm Circuit Meeting at Goodmayes Methodist
Church

Thu 19th 8.00pm Choir Practice

**Sun 22nd 10.45am Morning Service led by Sister Vera
Nicholls**

Mon 23rd 8.00pm Church Life Committee meeting.

Tue 24th 1.00pm Church Lunch in the Church Parlour

Wed 25th 8.00pm Property Committee meeting

Thu 26th 8.00pm Choir Practice

Fri 27th 7.00pm Scout & Guide Group Open Evening & AGM

**Sun 29th 10.45am Harvest Festival Service
led by Revd Bernardino Mandlate.**

COME FOR COFFEE

IT'S FOR MACMILLAN

**JOIN AUDREY TAYLOR
IN THE CONSERVATORY
AT THE REDBRIDGE SOCIAL CENTRE
(NEAR OF 188 - 190 BEEHIVE LANE)
ON FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER
FROM 10 AM TO 2 PM**

Why So everyone facing cancer
can have a Macmillan
team in their corner

Tombola
Bric à brac
Cakes

Tombola
Bric à brac
Cakes

Everyone Welcome



Macmillan Cancer Support is a registered charity in England and Wales (1047711) and in Scotland (SC040102).
Income for 2015: £10,000,000. Total income for 2015: £10,000,000.

**MISSION STATEMENT
OF
THE DRIVE METHODIST CHURCH.**

The Drive Methodist Church aims to be faithful to the commandments of Jesus, and the calling of the Methodist Church.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission, and to fulfil the promises detailed in the Methodist worship book.

In seeking to be faithful The Drive Methodist Church is committed to:

Provide a weekly opportunity for all people to worship God in Christ,
Enable people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care.

Be a good neighbour to the immediate and wider community.

Sharing our faith with others through pastoral care, church activities and communication.

March 2013.

BARKINGSIDE METHODIST CHURCH

Saturday 28th September at 7pm



***Fairkytes Accordion Band*
*entertains***

**Come and enjoy an evening of music and
Ploughman's Supper too!**

**TICKETS £7 includes supper- available
from Lesley or Carole. Bring a friend!**