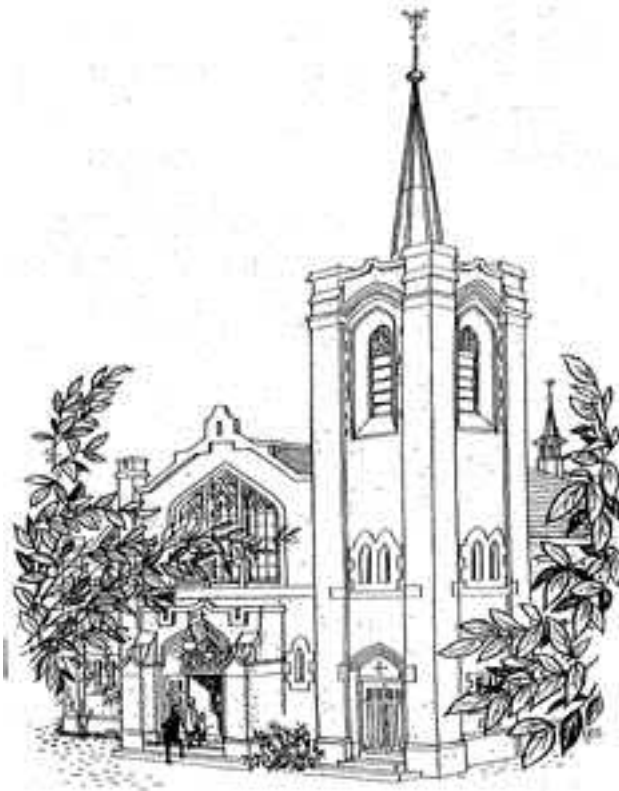


The Drive Methodist Church
Eastern Avenue, Ilford, Essex, IG1 3PP

NEWSLETTER

June 2014



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Friends

As I am writing, two events are being celebrated, one is John Wesley's 'strangely warmed heart' and the other is Pentecost. Both of these have to do with the power of the Holy Spirit in energising the people of God into action and the proclamation of the good news for all.

John Wesley had been preaching for a good while and trained others to do the same, but without the touch of the Holy Spirit in his life. When his heart was 'strangely warmed' he felt the peace of God and was felt strengthened in his mission.

When the Holy Spirit touched the lives of the disciples in that room at Pentecost, it gave them the power they needed, it removed the fear they had and it got them out into the world and proclaimed the good news of the risen Lord. And as soon as they were touched by the Holy Spirit, they were out telling the story of Jesus.

Telling the story of Jesus is what we are about as Christians. Doing the mission of Jesus Christ is our duty as Christians at all times. Therefore, we have to be a community of action, reaching out to our community in faith and doing, where possible, what Jesus would have us do.

John Wesley was about social issues and the proclamation of the gospel and the fact that God's grace is sufficient to save us all. We as Christians and Methodists have a tough act to follow. We have to live up to the fact that we ought to act in our lives, in our communities. We have to allow (open ourselves) to the be empowered by the Holy Spirit to do our work, to be relevant to our communities.

I am aware of what we are already doing. It's good what we do, people are getting the benefits of what we do, albeit in smaller scale, significant nonetheless. Can we do more?! Yes if challenge ourselves to do better. We can all see the need around us, the need in the charities we already support. Let us do better, God will help us.

Let us all pray that Pentecost may have on us the same effect it had on Jesus' followers all those years ago. Let pray that, inspired by the Holy Spirit, we may move mountains in our pursuit of proclaiming God's truth and doing the gospel in our day to day activities, be they routine or new challenges.

May The Lord continue to bless each and everyone of us.

Dino

ELSIE BLANCHARD

Now that I have returned home, having spent several weeks in hospital, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your lovely cards, good wishes, flowers, etc., which were comforting and much appreciated.

Also my special thanks to the members of the Junior church for their lovely artistic hand-made cards and messages – thank you very much.

I hope I shall soon be able to attend church and to enjoy your company once again.

God Bless

Elsie

LESLIE JIGGINS.

We have learnt that Josie's husband has been admitted temporarily to a care home in the Walthamstow area. Leslie is now in his nineties is now becoming quite frail and Josie who is no youngster herself is unable to meet his care current needs. Our thoughts and prayers go out to this couple who have lived in their current home since they married.

Roy Brunnen.

CHURCH FELLOWSHIP

The only mid-week church meeting!

Our meeting in June is on Tuesday June 10 at 8.00 pm when Janet Wragg will play recordings of some of her favourite music. Do come along - the evenings are quite informal and refreshments are served.

Frank Sayers

RAYSIN HOPE
Supporting people with brain tumours.

On Saturday 21st June at 3pm I welcome you to join me for afternoon tea in my garden at 52, Highcliffe Gardens, Ilford. Tea and cakes are complimentary but any donations will be gratefully received for "Raysin Hope".

Anne Dellow

THE DRIVE CHURCH BBQ

On Sunday the 6th July, after the church anniversary service, we are having our annual church BBQ down at The Rodings scout hut. If you need directions or a lift please ask Jo Wright.

The Junior church team will provide the sausages and burgers and we ask that you bring along other dishes to share.

A list will shortly be put at the back of the church for you to sign to say you are attending and also to let us know what dish you will be bringing to share.

Jo Wright

A MEANINGFUL SERVICE.

On Sunday 18th May we had a communion service devised by Andrew Taylor and led by Andrew and our Minister Bernardino.

This was a service largely based on music and communion with God. Those of us who were in Church found the service uplifting, inspired, and left us all feeling The Lord was there with us. As one member said to me afterwards, "I went home walking on air".

Let us hope it is not too long before we can persuade Andrew to produce another service. We are so privileged at The Drive Church.

Roy Brunnen

PRE-SCHOOL GARDEN

The small outdoor play area used by children in the pre-school is being extended by fencing off and clearing a grassed area behind the church. The new railings are about to be erected so that the children can enjoy playing and exploring during the summer.

Brian Taylor

AN EVENING WITH MR GILBERT AND MR SULLIVAN

You are invited to an evening of music in the church followed by supper in the hall on Saturday 12th July commencing 7.30 pm. The New Essex Choir will be presenting highlights from six of the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas in a concert that will include many familiar tunes.

Tickets price £12 from Brian Taylor or on the door.

Brian Taylor

THE DRIVE SCOUT AND GUIDE GROUP PLANT SALE

Many thanks to all our friends who supported our Plant Sale on the 10th May. We had quite a lot of plants left over after the morning sale and it was thanks to the members of the congregation who bought plants on Sunday morning and to our friends in the Pre-School who sold much of the rest of the stock to the school's parents that we managed to raise a magnificent £495 for Group funds.

We are very grateful for all the help we received.

John Taylor.

CHRISTIAN AID CONCERT

I had this note from Kaye Larbi: I am happy to report that the concert went smoothly, was reasonably well attended and raised a grand total of £522.00.

Brian Taylor.

PLEASE KEEP IT TIDY!

For some time now the children's area at the back of the church has been left in a complete mess. Biscuit crumbs, dirty cups, torn paper, broken books and pens left everywhere without their lids.

The activities are there for the children to enjoy and we ask that all parents, carers and children take responsibility for keeping it tidy. Everyone enjoys having a cup of tea at the end of the service and then going home. Some of us have been staying to tidy this area after most people have left.

I would particularly like to thank Thea for tidying up even though she hasn't made the mess.

Please keep it tidy!

Thank you

Jo Wright.

LOW SUNDAY

April 27th 2014 was the Sunday after Easter known as Low Sunday. The Jewish singer, Tony Jacobs appeared at Ilford's Kenneth More theatre at 2.30pm instead of the usual evening performance. He was accompanied on the piano by Jim Barry. Who? During 2012 Jim was the resident pianist at the Methodist Central Hall, Westminster when cream teas were served by a uniformed waiter in the conservatory. A touch of elegance in a busy city! Jim also played the piano at my tea party at the Central Hall in 2008.

The Kenneth More concert was enjoyable and well supported.

Susan Ruckes.

THE MERSEA ISLAND CHOIR.

After a quick chat with Jim Barry, I made my way to St Alban's Church, Albert Road, Great Ilford for the Solemn Choral Evensong. Thanks to the excellent publicity, the church was full and I recognised people from many Ilford churches. A large contingent came from St Peter's church, Newbury Park, where David Bailey had previously been the organist.

The choir sang beautifully and the congregation joined in with the hymns when required. The Anthem was S.S. Wesley's "Blessed be the God and Father" which was sung at The Drive during the "visit" of Charles and Sara Wesley in 2007. It was a beautiful moving service.

Afterwards there was a buffet when there was a chance to chat to the choir and congregation.

Susan Ruckes.

TRINITY METHODIST MUSIC AND DRAMA.

Last month I wrote about taking part in Stainer's "Crucifixion" at Trinity Methodist Church, Chelmsford.

On May 17th 2014 Trinity Methodist Music and Drama gave a wonderful performance of "Calamity Jane" at Chelmsford's Civic theatre. The singing, dancing and acting were excellent. I enjoyed joining in with the familiar songs, but felt that the Kenneth More audience would have participated with more enthusiasm! Never mind! The audience was very appreciative.

Susan Ruckes.

ILFORD SALVATION ARMY.

There was a ceremonial opening of the refurbished building on 24th May 2014. A ribbon was cut and red, yellow and blue balloons were released.

We then entered the building for a short service.

Lieutenant John Clifton and his wife Lieutenant Naomi Clifton thanked everyone for coming and gave their vision for the future. We are so lucky to have them in Ilford, and their lovely little daughter Miriam.

The community funday was opened by Mike Gapes, MP for Ilford South. There were activities for the children, stalls selling a variety of goods and strawberry cream teas.

The cafe is now just inside the entrance instead of at the back of the citadel.

Susan Ruckes.

CHEERFUL SONGS.

Methodist Central Hall, Westminster held another "Big Sing" on Sunday 25th May. The evening featured some hymns of Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts. Some attention was given to the variety of tunes sung to certain well known hymns and how this has changed over the centuries.

I was pleased to be able to sing "O thou who camest from above" to the correct tune.

The event was well supported by an enthusiastic congregation.

Susan Ruckes.

SUSAN'S TRAVELS

I am always grateful to Susan for her items which show how greetings from our church are carried round the country. I do however have to wonder just where she gets the energy from to keep going.

Thank you Susan.

Roy Brunnen.

WHITECHAPEL MISSION

This is just a reminder that we are constantly collecting appropriate clothing and food for those without homes who visit the Whitechapel Mission. I can always get a list of their immediate needs.

Please ask me.

Roy Brunnen

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.

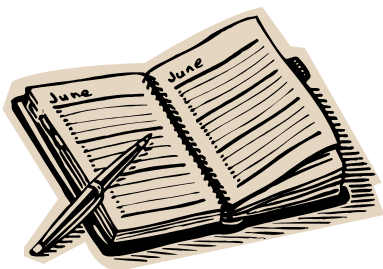
In seeking to be faithful The Drive Methodist Church is committed to:

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.



JUNE WHAT'S ON

Sun	1st	11.15am	Morning Service with holy communion
			Led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.
Mon	2 nd		Pre-School Term starts
Sat	7 th	10.00am	Share a skill in the church parlour
Sun	8th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Church Members.
Tue	10 th	10.00am	Morning communion
		8.00pm	Church Fellowship
Thu	12 th	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Fri	13 th	10.00am	Coffee in the park at the Gardeners Cafe, Valentines Mansion.
Sun	15th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.
Tue	17 th	2.30pm	Tea Party in the church parlour
Thu	19 th	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Sat	21 st	10.00am	Share a skill in the church parlour
Sun	22nd	11.15am	Morning Service led by Mrs Tabitha Jumble
Thu	26 th	7.30pm	Choir Practice
Sun	29th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.