

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

# NEWSLETTER

April 2015



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

## **Bernardino**

Friends

As Lent becomes passion, Good Friday and Easter, I read the words of John 1:36 "Look, the Lamb of God..." There are two aspects to these words of John. To humankind, Jesus is the Good Shepherd who loves and cares for his flock. To God, Jesus is the sacrificial Lamb or sacrificial victim if you like. This brings the two elements together in the one God, Lamb and Shepherd together in one man who is God.

Indeed, Jesus is heading to Jerusalem to be sacrificed on our behalf. He takes on 'willingly' the role of victim to atone for the mistakes/sins of humanity. During Lent we reflect on those deliberate actions by God/Jesus and in Passion through to Easter Sunday we celebrate the events that took place for the sake of our salvation and for the sake of the kingdom. His human side hopes these events should not happen to him, but his divinity side knows this has to happen and so he says 'your will be done...'

At Easter we celebrate the sacrifice Jesus makes for the sake of humanity, for our sake. God out of his love, chooses to sacrifice his own Son to save us from our sins, to allow us access to his blessings and to say to us that Jesus is our mediator, intercessor. Because of this event, we can always pray to God through Jesus Christ to forgive and save us, to renew us and offer us new chances/opportunities to amend our lives.

Therefore, may I invite you to always remember the sacrifice Jesus made for you, remember that in his name you are able to engage with God in your prayers or reflections. He will do as you ask, but more importantly it is his will that will prevail.

May the good Lord be always with you and bless you as you continue to try and understand his will for you as an individual and for our church.

**Dino**

## **FAMILY NEWS**

**Jane Shields** is still undergoing treatment as an outpatient at Queens Hospital Romford. **Jeff Wragg** has completed his current course of treatment and is making progress. We wish them both well.

### **Lester Marriott**

At the time of writing this report we had just heard that Lester, who was a member of this church for many years before moving on, and still did gardening for a number of our members, has had a serious heart attack and is currently a patient in London Chest Hospital.

### **David Carter**

We are very sorry to have to report that David Carter died at the beginning of March. David was the longest serving member at Cranbrook Baptist church but liked to attend other churches including The Drive Methodist church. David was Church Secretary, Deacon and Sunday School Superintendant at Cranbrook.

## **Family Beetle Drive**

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the JMA Family Beetle Drive and Tea on Saturday 28 February – to all those who came along and played and to those who very kindly made donations. It was once again a great fun family afternoon with the beetles coming thick and fast! The final total raised was a splendid £345! A record!

As well as our regular participants it was good to see some new players this year who I hope will come along again. It just goes to show that this is a truly family event for all ages. From five years to a lot older! The under-16 winner was Thea Garner with Colin Runeckles winning the prize in the adult category. Well done to both of them.

Many thanks to Michelle for her help in preparing the tea and to Jeremy for keeping control of the game.

***Diane Foster***

## **Mother's Day Flowers**

Thank you to Catherine and Frank who organised the beautiful flowers on Mothering Sunday. They were a vibrant sight.

***Jo Wright***

## **Traidcraft Stall**

It's the end of an era, but I'll be packing up the stall at the end of the month. Although it's a little sad, I think that we've achieved our aim of raising the profile of Traidcraft fairly-sourced goods and demystifying them; hopefully you feel more knowledgeable about the quality of the items and can be confident in choosing them.

I'd like to thank you for all your custom and especially those of you who have so enjoyed the wide and exotic range of chocolate and geo bars – you know who you are!

***Michelle Garner.***

## **Congratulations!**

I am delighted to report that John Taylor has been awarded the ***Silver Wolf*** by Bear Grylls, the Chief Scout. This award is made for exceptional service to Scouting and reflects John's dedication to the Movement in many roles at Group, District and County level over many decades! Congratulations John!

***Mike Seviour***

While we are about it, we are also delighted to congratulate Mike who was presented with a bar to his ***Medal of Merit*** by the District Commissioner at a recent troop meeting. Mike has been a leader in the Group ever since Brian asked him to look after the Cubs for 3 months whilst the then leader finished his studies. That was 45 years ago and he is still doing the job.

**Circuit Meeting.  
18<sup>th</sup> March 2015.**

This meeting was attended by Brian Taylor, Diane Foster, John Higgins, Peter Sharp, and myself, representing The Drive church. There had been some difficulty encountered by the stationing committee regarding appointments to this circuit for the year commencing September 2015.

We had agreed to accept a probationer minister to care for Becontree and Old Dagenham churches. Therefore we wait to welcome Angela Potheary into our circuit.

The position of Superintendant Minister will be filled by Revd. Ermal Kirby, supported by his wife Jenni Sweet, who will be an active supernumerary. Their appointment will be taken up in January 2016, as he is currently in South Africa, and from September to the end of the year Revd. Nigel Cowgill, the new chairman of the district will act as Superintendant minister. They will be deployed to Barking and Ilford churches. Revd. Jan Atkins will continue to take responsibility for Barkingside, Gants Hill and Grange Hill churches, leaving Bernardino to manage The Drive, Seven Kings and Goodmayes churches.

There will be farewell services for Revd. Jan Tate on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June, and Revd. Stephen Pool on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July. Both at 5pm in Goodmayes Church.

We also appointed, or rather re-appointed the circuit officers for the next year. These are:-

Circuit Stewards: Mrs Lorna Brown, Mr Chris Gallehawk, Mrs Jean Jones, Mr Paul McMaster, Ms Sarah Ocran, Mrs Liz Weatherstone and Miss Barbara Westcott.

Circuit Treasurer. Mr Tom Shaw

Book Keeper. Mr David Jones.

Circuit meeting secretary. Mrs Jackie Saito.

Synod Representatives: Dr Funmi Coker, Mr Chris Gallehawk, Mr Ola Sonekan and Miss Barbara Westcott.

Connexional funds treasurer. Mr Cyril Holms.

Independant Examiner. Begbies

Lay property Secretary. Mr Steve Grundy

Methodist Homes for the aged. Mr Chris Gallehawk.

Action for children. No appointment.

All we can. (MRDF) Mrs Tabitha Jumble.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

At 7.30pm.

**Roy Brunnen.**

### **Share A Skill**

We have been asked to knit blankets for premature babies, also (Trauma Teddies) for Basildon Hospital.

If you have any spare knitting needles and wish to donate them we are very grateful.

Future dates for the SAS in April are the 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

There is a list at the back of the church.

**Janet Wragg.**

### **Good Friday Event**

Come along and sing Mozart's Requiem on Good Friday in our church in aid of Behay ng Pagasa (House of Hope) children's home and outreach centre in the Philippines.

Singers £10 to participate

4 pm registration and choral rehearsal

6 pm tea, coffee and biscuits provided

7 pm performance – audience free admission retiring collection

If you are not singing, please come and support us by being part of the audience at 7 pm.

**Andrew Taylor**

## Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday 4th April – The Drive  
Methodist Church Hall

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!



# DATE FOR YOUR MAY DIARY

Scout Group Plant Sale  
with cake stall and refreshments

SATURDAY MAY 16TH

## **Quiz Night in aid of "Raysin Hope"**

Join us on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in the church hall.

Tickets are £6 each and includes a Ploughman's Supper (Vegetable option) hot and cold drinks.

Bring your non-alcoholic drinks if you wish. Raffle tickets will be on sale. Tables of eight people.

Many thanks to Peter and Lorraine Bendon for their kind offer to present and help on this fund raising evening.

Tickets can be purchased from Anne Dellow.

**Anne Dellow.**

## **Plants for charity**

Are there any volunteers to grow just one packet of seeds of aubergines, tomatoes and peppers. When you think your plants are tall enough to sell, pass them back to me, and tell me which charity you wish to support.

**Peter Sharp.**



### **Women's World day of prayer**

Janet Crosland has led the team arranging the service for many years, but has had to retire because of her future house move. In future the event will be run by Ilford Town centre churches. It is planned that in 2016 the service will take place at the Vine United reform church.

Because of Janet's commitment, hard work and enthusiasm, the Women's world day of Prayer has been a major ecumenical event attended regularly by members of other faiths as well as Christianity. This has been well reported in the Ilford Recorder.

Many thanks to Janet. The immediate future is secure in the hands of the Revd. Francis Ackroyd and the Vine church. Oh yes! Gentlemen are very welcome to attend and have in the past been very loyal supporters.

***Susan Ruckes.***

### **Just a Thought**

The organist reported in the Annual Report that he and Frank had kept the organ seat warm for 50 years. Has the fact that his share of 20 years anything to do with his feet on the pedals resulting in the disintegration of his organist shoes? The choir is now treated to a variety of socks and some eagle eyes spotted them at communion!

***Anon!***

## **Ten Commandments for a Choir**

- 1 Remember Thursday evenings to keep them wholly for the practice.
- 2 Thou shalt not tarry without the gates.
- 3 Thou shalt give ear unto the voice of the conductor and harken not to the babble of thy neighbours.
- 4 Thou shalt not raise thy voice above thy neighbours for this is the choral lore
- 5 Thou shalt not worship thy score unduly, for the eyes are the window of the sole and if they be glued to the paper how shall the sole be lighted.
- 6 Thou shalt not lean on thy neighbour but cultivate thine own understanding for he that followeth his neighbour from bar to bar shall stumble and perish but he who counteth his own time can in no wise enter in at the wrong place.
- 7 Thou shalt not grouse.
- 8 Thou shalt not contemplate thy neighbours hat nor her coat nor her furs nor her ring nor any new thing that is thy neighbours  
Less when thy turn cometh thou be taken unawares and utterly confounded.
- 9 Thou shalt not break any covenant with the choir to follow after the wife, nor thy best girl, nor thy second best girl, nor the friend nor thy enemy for the choir will not hold him worthy that turneth his yea to nay.
- 10 Honour thy choir and thy conductor and forget not regular attendance is also expected of the on Sundays.

From Corby Methodist Church Monthly review.

Submitted by ***Susan Ruckes.***

## Diary for April.

Thu	2 <sup>nd</sup>		Maundy Thursday service at Cranbrook Baptist church
<b>Fri</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>10 am</b>	<b>Good Friday Meditation led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.</b>
		4 pm/ 7 pm	Sing Mozart's Requiem in the church
<b>Sun</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10.45am</b>	<b>Easter Sunday service</b>
			<b>Dressing of the cross (Outside)</b>
		<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Service led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.</b>
Mon	6 <sup>th</sup>		Easter Monday
Fri	10 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Coffee in the park. At the Gardener's Cafe, Valentines mansion.
Sat	11 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Share a skill in the church parlour
<b>Sun</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Morning service led by Mr C. Frimpong Manso.</b>
Tue	14 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Morning Communion.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.</b>
Mon	20 <sup>th</sup>		Pre School term starts
Sat	25 <sup>th</sup>		Spring Bank Holiday.
		10.00am	Share a Skill in the church parlour.
<b>Sun</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr Ian Sheach.</b>
Tue	28 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Pastoral committee meeting.
Thu	30 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Choir practice.

**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.