

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

NEWSLETTER

October 2015



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

Revd. Bernardino Mandlate's Message

Hi Friends

I trust and hope that God is keeping you going in the busyness of your daily lives. I hope also that as you keep busy day by day, you can find meaning in your lives and see where God has been or is at work in your lives.

We live at the crossroad of difficult lives in so far as it relates to refugees and migrants. Some of the pictures we see on our TV screens tell of difficult and painful lives of the many trying to run away from wars, conflicts and economic hardships. People are looking for alternatives. They are searching for peace, stability, safe places where they can bring up their children.

It so happens that most are flocking to Europe. It seems as if Europe is the land of promise, the land of milk and honey, the place where peace can be found. We live in parts of that Europe. We are the hosts of those refugees and migrants. We are expected to offer hospitality in whichever ways we can. Opening our homes?! Opening our hearts and our pockets or purses to offer help where needed. We have a duty of hospitality. The gospel says so in Matthew 25.35-40. We know, for sure, that the first group of Syrian refugees have arrived and more are on the way. They will be our neighbours, they will be the strangers in our midst. We ought to be prepared to respond when the need arises on our door step. This is the challenge for all of us in the current times. May we all find wisdom and humbleness to respond.

Times are getting busy for me as I try to accommodate four churches in my schedule. No easy task though. I hope that, with your prayers I will be able to cope and manage until January comes around. I missed the Harvest services because of the way the preaching plan had to be made to ensure that all churches get to share in the Lord's table, and that is what I have been doing the whole of September, sharing Holy Communion with my four churches and appreciating the diversity of the four churches. Sure by the time January comes around things will cool down as I will lose one church and concentrate on three. Until then, God help us.

May the Lord continue to bless us.

Dino

Letter received from Mr and Mrs Pipe.

We would like to thank you all for your kindness and support over the last few weeks after hearing of the death of our son David.

His two sons and daughter and ourselves have been comforted by your words and cards and by the lovely tribute to David, written by Betty Griffiths, in your September newsletter. We knew David was someone who cared about other people and would help if he possibly could but it was especially comforting to know that other people thought so too.

Thank you to those who were able to come to the funeral on Wednesday and who joined us afterwards at the Hainault Forest Golf club.

Kindest Regards,

Eileen and Norton Pipe.

5th September 2015.

Belated Birthday...

Theodora Garner had her 14th birthday on 7th September.

Student news

I have gone back to studying and hope to be a qualified Social Worker in two years. Thank you for all your well-wishes and I will keep you posted!

Michelle Garner

Accountant Please.

We are looking for a qualified person to inspect and approve that our church balance sheet is a true record of our finances over the last Year. It does not have to be an auditor, but someone qualified in accountancy and not directly attached to the church.

Your assistance in finding such a person would be much appreciated.

John Higgins.

Church Treasurer

Macmillan coffee morning.

26th September in the church parlour we had a successful coffee morning in aid of The Macmillan Centre at the University College Hospital, London. It will be used in the Babies, Children and Teenagers unit. Thank you for all your support which resulted in raising £500.00 with a little more to come in.

Janet & Jeff Wragg.

Macmillan Coffee Morning @ Redbridge Social Centre

My thanks to all who supported our Coffee Morning at The Redbridge Social Centre. It was well attended and this was reflected in the amazing total raised of £888.

I feel this total is due to the generosity of you all in your donations. Many of us or our relatives and friends have benefitted from the care of Macmillan Nurses and our thoughts and prayers are with those we know who are currently receiving support and care.

Audrey Taylor

Harvest



We held our Harvest Festival on Sunday 27th September, and had the pleasure of having our service led by Tabitha Jumbe, who had not visited us for some seven or so months.

Once more our gifts were very much increased thanks to the effort of Kay Whidden and the parents of the pre school she leads. Our sincere thanks go out to them, and our own congregation who provided the "perishable" vegetables, fruit and financial gifts which completed the display.

The food was distributed to Merton Court home for elderly people, and The Whitechapel Mission which provides facilities and support for homeless people. This mission is headed by Tony Miller, a committed Methodist who had devoted his life to this work.

Harvest Festival under the sound of Bow Bells

Peter Sharp and I received an invitation to attend "London" Pearly kings and queens costermongers Harvest Festival Parade and service on the 27th September.

The entertainment always takes place in front of the Guildhall. The service is at St Mary Le Bow.

I arrived just as the pearly queen of Bow Bells was reading the lesson. (Queen Doreen visited The Drive Church some years ago en route to Dagenham's Valence Park) Doreen read beautifully.

The music was lovely, the address and reflection thought provoking. 140 years of collecting money and goods for the poor and needy and the problems are getting worse, it seems.

Sadly Redbridge's first and only pearly queen Peggy Oliver, died recently in a car crash. She will be greatly missed.

The charity that the pearly kings and queens originally supported is no longer there. They now do a lot of fund raising for the Whitechapel Mission.

Susan Ruckes.

Lavender Bags

Ruth tells me that there are now some Lavender Bags available for sale in the church entrance hall. Proceeds go to Rays-in-Hope charity for sufferers from a Brain Tumour supported by Anne Dellow.

The Drive Chorale



Your chance to sing!

Our occasional singing group, the Drive Chorale,
will be singing again soon!

Sunday 15th November

JMA Service

Practices straight after the morning service on these Sundays:

26th October

1st November

8th November

Practices for Christmas services:

6th December

13th December

20th December

**Everyone,
any age, experience or no experience,
is welcome!**

Operation Christmas Child

Our Church is, once again, supporting the above Charity (also known as the Shoe Box Appeal). The boxes have been ordered and are on a table at the back of the Church together with leaflets which give full instructions about the items with which the boxes can be filled

It would be nice if we could use all the boxes, so, if you can, please take one or more to help us achieve this target.

The filled boxes have to be delivered to the collection centre in early November, so please can we have them back by the end of October. If you have any queries please see Jo Wright.

Brian Grinham.

Coffee Mornings

As some of you know the church has a meeting at the Gardeners Café opposite Valentines Mansion, Emerson Road, off Cranbrook Road, Gantshill. These gatherings are normally the second Friday of each month. These are an opportunity to meet together in a relaxed enjoyable atmosphere. If you are available we would like to have you join us either for a one off or regular visit.

Roy Brunnen.

Annual JMA Service and Presentation.

The JMA Presentation Service will be held on Sunday 15 November and will be led by Sanya Strachan. Sanya works for the Methodist Church Connexional Team as an Executive Support Officer, working in the same office as me at Methodist Church House supporting the Mission and Advocacy Cluster. She is a member of Manor Park Methodist Church and is an accredited local preacher. Sanya previously worked for some years in the Children and Youth office at MCH and has had a lot of experience working with and for young people.

I'm sure Sanya will lead an interesting and enjoyable service.

Diane Foster

COME AND SING HIGHLIGHTS FROM GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE

The Drive is playing host to this Come and Sing event to raise funds for
Bahay Ng Pag Asa "House of Hope" Orphanage and Outreach Centre
Santiago City, Philippine Islands
UK registered charity 1112167

Saturday 17th October 2015

1:00pm – Registration

1:30pm-4:00pm – Rehearsal

5:00pm – Public Performance

£10 for singers (includes hire of music if required)
Audience members for the performance free (retiring collection)

Ask Andrew Taylor for more details.

Slides Evening.

Our annual slides evening in support of Action for Children will be on Saturday 28th November in the church parlour starting at 7.30pm. For those of you who have not attended previously I assure you it is always an enjoyable evening. Five or six of us present photographs (digitally projected) covering recent activities, holidays or just pictures of interest. During the interval we have a light buffet supper. If you would like to attend or if you would like to present photographs please speak to either of us.

Diane & Jeremy Foster.

Sheep herding – Part 2!

Thea and I visited Bristol at the beginning of August ... to look for more Shaun the Sheep models! We found out that Nick Parks (Shaun's creator) is from the Bristol area and has a workshop there, which solves the mystery of 'why Bristol?'.

We charged up and down many of Bristol's hills on our quest and traversed the beautiful Clifton Suspension Bridge; we thoroughly

enjoyed our time in Bristol and saw 23 Shauns as well as the SS Great Britain, which – together with the bridge – was designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

At the end of September we finally caught up with the whole flock in Covent Garden, before they are auctioned off to raise funds for children's hospitals and hospices throughout the UK. It was great to support such a good cause while having lots of fun and seeing more of Britain. Can't wait for the next adventure!!

Michelle Garner



Diary for October

Sun	4th	11.15am	Morning Service With Holy Communion led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Thu	8 th	8.00pm	Church Council Meeting
Fri	9 th	10.00am	Coffee morning at the Gardeners Café Valentines Mansion, Emerson Road.
Sat	10 th	10.00am	Church work morning until 12 noon. Please come and help if you can.
Sun	11th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Revd. Nigel Cowgill
Thu	15 th	7.45pm	Choir Practice
Sun	18th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Mr Amos Doughan
Thu	22 nd	7.45pm	Choir Practice
Sun	25th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Miss Janet Tweedale

Mission Statement 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.