

The Drive Methodist Church

Eastern Avenue, Ilford, Essex, IG1 3PP

# NEWSLETTER

October 2016



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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

From Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.

Hi Friends

I am so sorry I missed the deadline last month for the newsletter, but as some of you were aware, we've been traveling during the summer. We spent some time in Belfast visiting some historical places in the area of the troubles and the Titanic museum (see below). We had a great time there. We braved the road and ferry across. Then it was the turn to fly to Houston, Texas, to participate in the World Methodist Assembly until early September. Again we had a good time and the conference was good too. It was good to meet colleagues and friends from all over the world during this time.

We came back to catch up with the left overs of summer which was good. News of the boys have been encouraging so far, they have kept in touch through phone and 'whatsapp'. They are all doing well and still attending local schools.

As the new Methodist year begins, we have challenges posed to us as a church, that we need to take into account as we plan ahead. Circuit prayer meetings, our engagement with our community, even in terms of what can we do to bring in more souls to join us in worship.

We pray for the Foster family in the departure of Peter from this world, after so many years of dedicated service to the life of our church, especially at the Drive where he served as treasurer for a good part of his life. We will be forever grateful for his commitment and dedication O that role. May his soul rest in peace indeed.

May the Lord bless you all  
Dino

## Harvest Lunch

This lunch which used to exist yearly was resurrected this year thanks to the enthusiasm of Thea Garner who thought we should have this celebration. She was helped of course by mum Michelle and the staff and members of our junior church. Our thanks to her and the "team" for their support and leadership.

Roy Brunnen.

## Harvest Gifts

Once more we had a good display of fresh foods, tins and packets at the front of the church.

We thank our members for donating some of the goods, and the loyal support of our pre-school led by Kay Whidden. The school have for many years now made excellent and valued donations to our harvest in support of the Whitechapel Mission which is where the goods are taken.

The fresh foods are donated to Merton Court for use by the elderly people who live there.

This year Synod asked churches to donate goods to the people, including children who are currently in migrant camps in Calais. Those donations given with the knowledge that some food would be donated to this cause has been sent to Goodmayes church where donations are being assembled. That which was given specifically for Whitechapel has been taken there.

Our service was led by Reverend Jennifer Potter who visited us from the Wesley Chapel in City Road London. The service was thought provoking and very relevant to Harvest.

Roy Brunnen

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It is amazing how quickly time passes as it is now that time of year when we, as a church, start filling shoe boxes for the above charity.

We had a wonderful response last year, and with the help of the Pre-School parents, were able to take over 70 boxes to the collection point.

I wonder if we can beat that number this year. The boxes will be available in Church on the first Sunday in October together with the leaflets with instructions for what can be put in the boxes. If you can help, please take a box or two, plus one leaflet for each box, as they contain a label to indicate the age and gender of the child for whom it is suitable. You are asked to include a donation of £3 towards shipping costs. This can be made, as you will see in the leaflet, on line and you will be able to print a bar code which, if enclosed at the top of the box, will enable you to be told to which country your shoe box gets sent.

The filled boxes have to be delivered to the collection point in early November, so can we please have them back by the end of October. The total boxes from the U.K. last year totalled over 800,000.

If you have any queries, please see either Jo Wright or myself.  
Brian Grinham.

Peter Foster

Due to my not realizing there was a piece of Jeremy's eulogy on a second page when I copied his words into last Month's newsletter, I now apologise profusely and print here that last paragraph.  
Roy Brunnen.

The final paragraph.

Peter Hudson has paid the following very generous tribute to Dad –  
"Peter was a man of integrity, honorable and reliable, gracious and wise, a Christian gentleman who cherished and served, through many decades his Lord, at both ends of The Drive".  
Jeremy Foster.

## The Bible Summary of the book club: The book of James

During the first meeting the book of James was discussed. Each person in the group was given the opportunity to state their opinion on whether the book was a good read.

Particular points that were discussed were James' approach to suffering as he wrote in James 1:2 NLT "when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy". The practical implications of this were that it is in suffering that character is developed. Also, the power of the tongue as the analogy of a spark starting a fire was used to illustrate the power of tongue in chapter 2.

Useful questions during the discussion were:

What is the historical context?

Why was it written?

How is it relevant today?

How is it relevant to your life?

Any memorable points or verses?

For the meeting in October the Book of Jude will be discussed. For November the book of Mark will be looked at.

### Useful links

Bible gateway has the Amplified bible which helps explain the historical context.

This is commentary on the book of Jude:

<http://www.khouse.org/articles/2000/259/>

If you would like to go into greater detail on the book the following websites are sermon series on the book Jude:

[http://freshlifechurch.com/series/teaching\\_page.php?id=17](http://freshlifechurch.com/series/teaching_page.php?id=17)

the series is called "Soldier On"

<http://olive.nowsprouting.com/christchurchsouthampton/media.php?pageID=6&itemID=0>

The podcasts are "A necessary Fight", "A War of Words" and "A certain Victory"

Kind regards

Jan Pearson and Moji Banjo

## Action for children slides evening

Our annual slides evening in aid of Action for Children will be held on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the church parlour. This is always an enjoyable evening and everyone is welcome to attend. The format is for five or six people to present digitally projected photos of holidays or pictures of general interest. In the interval we break for a light buffet supper.

There is no need to buy a ticket as there is no entry charge, however during the interval we invite donations in aid of Action for children. If you would like to attend, please let Diane or I know so that we have a rough idea on numbers for catering. Also, if you would like to show some pictures you will be very welcome, but please let us know. Jeremy & Diane Foster.

## Circuit Meeting

The Circuit Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November was attended by about 40 representatives from the 10 churches.

Collins Frimpong, who led the service in our church in March has asked to be considered for training as a minister. He spoke about his calling and was supported by Rev Jan Atkins and Rev Ermal Kirby who spoke of their confidence in his potential. The meeting agreed unanimously.

Much of the meeting was spent talking about the Work of God. The Circuit Consultation on Vision and Priorities had emphasized:

- ) the need for devotions to be age-appropriate,
- ) the importance of engagement with the local community,
- ) raising the level of spirituality.

We are here for a purpose and we are on a journey.

Other points raised and reported:

- J Rev Jan Atkins is now part-time. Armstrong Gibbs will be helping at Grange Hill.
- J There is a vacancy for Circuit Steward.
- J The police have given advice about security at church meetings and an advice sheet has been issued by the Methodist Property Department.
- J Members were invited to share concerns for the circuit and its churches through prayer, either individual or group, on the last Wednesday of each month.

Two circuit events were announced:

- J Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 10.00 – 1.00 at The Drive a study of homelessness introduced by staff from Redbridge night shelter.
- J Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 4 pm at Gants Hill Circuit Advent Celebration to which all churches are invited to contribute.

The next Circuit Meeting will be on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30 pm at The Drive.

#### Volunteer opportunity.

Samaritan's Purse, the organisation behind Operation Christmas Child, are looking for people to volunteer at their Head Office in Buckhurst Hill (close to Central Line Station) during November 2016. Volunteers will need to:

- J Have a warm, welcoming and friendly manner to greet members of the public
- J Be able to lift shoe box gifts from delivery vehicles to the building
- J Use a printer or have clear, neat hand-writing
- J Be comfortable working in a busy environment
- J Be able to multi-task
- J Be flexible regarding tasks which may be given
- J Be happy to work independently between busy periods

This position would suit someone who is keen to gain customer service experience during a well-known charity campaign

(please note these are voluntary roles, however, we do cover reasonable travel expenses)

If you are interested, please contact Ann Voortman (HR coordinator) by email [hr@samaritanspurse.org.uk](mailto:hr@samaritanspurse.org.uk) or call 0208 559 2044 ext. 224 by 26<sup>th</sup> September.





The Methodist Church

## WHITECHAPEL MISSION

Franklin Road, Thomas Square, 11th

212, Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1BB

(Tel: 020 7247 8280) (Fax: 020 7392 2797)

[www.whitechapel.org.uk](http://www.whitechapel.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 223905



John Higgins  
35 Barton Meadows  
Ilford  
Essex  
IG8 1JQ

Murphy, August 01, 2016

Dear John,

Please accept our grateful thanks for the donations totalling £213.70 in support of our work amongst people who have the misfortune in the homeless. I note that these were donations following my visit to The Drive Methodist Church on 3<sup>rd</sup> July, which I thoroughly enjoyed.

Supporting our clients takes many forms; from simply providing a hot meal and a sympathetic ear, to the task of helping an individual to gain the skills and confidence necessary to prepare them to sustain a tenancy and regain their rightful place in the community.

That in a few words is the philosophy of our mission here at Whitechapel. Easy to say or write but extremely difficult to achieve, bearing in mind the problems many of our clients have to contend with.

We open our doors every day of the year at 6.00 a.m. when there is always a queue of people waiting. It is to continue this work that your money will be used.

Your support is particularly welcome now and in the future as we strive to meet the constant increase in demand for the services, simple and specialised, we provide in your name.

Thank you for being our partner in this work.

Every blessing.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Miller  
On behalf of The Whitechapel Mission

Receipt No: Z5179  
/B

#### Drycentre

practical approach to helping people who are homeless with food, clothing, showers

#### Lifeskills Centre

changing lives programme aims to equip people with the skills to sustain tenancy and to get back

#### Education Centre

citizenship programme helping to address the educational deficit on real lives whilst gaining a knowledge on

#### Whitechapel House

residential project offering affordable housing to London's key workers

## Diary for October

Sat	1 <sup>st</sup>		Coffee morning in aid of the Macmillan children's unit at University College London Hospital.
Sun	2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.15am	Morning service with Holy Communion led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Sun	9 <sup>th</sup>	11.15am	Morning Service led by Mr John Pearson.
Thu	13 <sup>th</sup>	7.45pm	Choir Practice
Sun	16 <sup>th</sup>	11.15am	Morning Service led by Mrs Jo Wright and the Junior Church.
Wed	19 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Church finance committee meeting
Thu	20 <sup>th</sup>	7.45pm	Choir Practice
Fri	21 <sup>st</sup>	1030am	Coffee in the gardener's café, Valentines Mansion, Emerson Road Gants Hill.
Sun	23 <sup>rd</sup>	11.15am	Morning Service led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate.
Sun	30 <sup>th</sup>	11.15am	Morning Service led by Revd. Ermal Kirby.

Church 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.

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.