

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

# NEWSLETTER

July/August 2018



Minister: Rev'd Bernardino  
Mandlate

[www.drive-methodist.church](http://www.drive-methodist.church)

## **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, here at The Drive Methodist Church.

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.

## **Our Minister writes:**

Dear Friends

I write at a moment when England has just defeated Panama 6-1 and Hamilton has just won the French formula one. It is an afternoon of celebrations for the country sports wise. Let us all join in the celebrations and hope England can go all the way?! We hope.

In Mark's gospel, chapter 4 verse 35 Jesus invites/asks his followers to 'go across to the other side of the lake. Mark's community was on a journey from a sole Jewish community to an all embracing community. That journey was complicated and difficult for them, because it meant in many ways, to cross over to the other side, to be able to accommodate non-Jews into their community of faith. What does it mean to do that, do we compromise our culture, our habits to fit in with others, or do we expect them to change into what/who we are to belong. They were wrestling with serious questions.

What lies across the other side? Why should we go across to the other side? There are many answers to those questions, but venturing outside the comfort zone is one of them. The followers of Jesus could see the coming storm that evening when Jesus invited them to go across to the other side. They were frightened while Jesus took a nap. They woke him up in fear, Jesus stilled the storm and all was well. The ever present Jesus is with us as we face new challenges everyday.

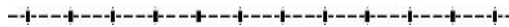
At the moment, the church (the circuit and individual congregations) is asked to consider its future, to consider new ways of being church as the shortage of ordained ministers becomes more challenging. It is a case of being invited to go across to the other side with whatever challenges that may entail. We may like it or we may not like it, but we all have to

face the journey across to the other side, doing with faith and praying that the Lord will help us with a vision we can live with and generations to come will be grateful we dared to go across to the other side.

When we embark in the conversations with ourselves and other churches, let's do it with an open mind. It will not be easy to adjust to the new reality, but there is no escaping it either. The Lord will be with us as we do so.

Have a good summer friends and enjoy your holidays those of you who may be going away. We pray for God's protection as you travel to and from.

Be blessed  
Dino



We ask for God's blessing on all those we have concerns for at this time and remember them in our prayers.

It was lovely to see Verney back in church again recently after a year.

We were very sad to hear that Mrs Edith Chapman, a former member of our church has died aged 92.

### **Birthday Greetings to:**

Calvin Commodore- Luzige who will be 9 in July  
Renyl Selwyn who will be 14 in August.



And a very special **21<sup>st</sup>** birthday greeting to  
Lola Fadojutimi whose birthday is in July.

## **Junior church**

Congratulations and well done to all our young people who have taken exams over the last few months (a tough time for them and their families!). You can now relax and enjoy the summer!

During the summer holidays the junior church team will not be meeting on **Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August**. All our young people are of course welcome to join in the service during those two weeks.

## **Junior Church news**

Parker and Shiloh, along with their parents Anand and Parkavi, will not be worshipping at the Drive for much longer. Parker will be attending a school in Colchester and the family will be moving out of the area. We will miss them greatly, but wish them all the best for the future.

We have missed seeing Shal, Chris, Tobias and Josiah at church over recent months. Sometimes life throws us challenges and we need time to deal with them. Shal tells me that they hope to be back at church soon and that they have missed worshipping with us. We send them love and best wishes and hope to see them soon.

## **Good News**

I am greatly relieved to report that my course has finished and I am taking the next step in becoming a qualified social worker. In the next month or so I will take up a post in the Children's Service in Redbridge, working with children who are in care in the borough.

A lot happened while I was studying and staying on track became quite a test of my will and commitment, but my mum always tells me that God doesn't give us greater challenges than we can handle. Thank you all for your support, well-wishes and prayers during my studies and I hope and pray that I am equipped for the challenges ahead.

Thea is also celebrating; she has finished her GCSE exams and is looking forward to working and volunteering over the summer.

Michelle Garner

## **MUSIC MATTERS**

As the musical season of 2017/2018 comes to a close, I want to thank all the musicians at The Drive who have contributed to the enrichment of our worship throughout the year, from Harvest, through Christmas and Easter, up to the recent Church Anniversary. Our choir continues to meet nearly 30 times a year on a Thursday evening, making it the most frequent weekly meeting in our church. And our occasional singing group, the Chorale, has appeared regularly as well, practising when required after services on Sunday morning.

We would love to see new members in both groups. If you fancy trying out the Choir, have a word with me – our next practice is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September! If you don't feel able to commit to regular choir practices, then the Chorale is designed just for you – just join in whenever we have a practice after church on a Sunday. All ages are welcome.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

Andrew Taylor

## **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

On 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018 these regulations came into force.

As a Church we hold data for our members and adherents which includes name, address, telephone number and, in some cases, e-mail addresses. This information is used to maintain a record of church members and adherents so that we can exercise Pastoral care.

It also allows us to inform you of any events and resources, associated with the life of the Church, that we feel would be in your legitimate interest.

This information will not be used for any other purpose, e.g. marketing, and it will never be made available to any third party without your express permission.

If, in order to comply with our Safeguarding Policy, we have obtained a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, this fact and the date it was obtained will also be recorded.

The information will be held securely by means of a password protected storage medium. The information will only be held for as long as you remain associated with the Church and will be destroyed thereafter.

For Gift Aid Members the above still applies, but the envelope donations each week are recorded to process your donations to enable the reclaim of tax paid to be made to HMRC. For those who pay by standing order the information is obtained from the Treasurer at the end of the financial year. Data relevant to HMRC must be held for a minimum of seven years after the last donation is made.

You may request details of the information the church holds about you, or request us to delete your personal data by

writing to the Senior Steward, care of the Church or by email to [stewards@drive-methodist.church](mailto:stewards@drive-methodist.church).

Brian Grinham

### **Janet Wragg's Sky Dive – 14<sup>th</sup> July**



Weather permitting, Janet will make her sky dive on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July in March, Cambridgeshire. Janet is undertaking this brave event in support of the Cancer Fund at University College Hospital, London. To sponsor, please ask Janet for a sponsorship form or visit Janet's JustGiving page at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/janetsbigjump>

### **New Essex Choir Summer Medley - 14<sup>th</sup> July**

A summer concert and buffet supper with many favourites including: Bridge Over Troubled Water, Yesterday, Scarborough Fair, The 59<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Song.

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm  
The Drive Methodist Church

Tickets £12 from Brian Taylor or on the door





## **Valentine Singers – 21<sup>st</sup> July**

is celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a performance of  
VIVALDI'S GLORIA  
with other music by Purcell, Handel and Mozart  
accompanied by the Jericho Ensemble

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 7:30pm  
St Andrew's Church, The Drive, Ilford

Tickets £15 (£8 students/benefit holders)  
(buy in advance - £2 supplement on the door!)

phone 020 8550 6454  
or visit our website [www.valentinesingers.org](http://www.valentinesingers.org)  
or see Andrew Taylor

## **Church Prayer Meetings 26<sup>th</sup> July and 30<sup>th</sup> August**

These will both be from 7:15pm-7:45pm in the Minister's vestry, all welcome. If you wish to pray but are unable to attend, sheets will be provided at the back of the Church to help you to pray along with those attending.

## **Bible Reading group 27<sup>th</sup> July and 31<sup>st</sup> August**

This will be at 10:30am at Jan and John Pearson's home. We will discuss Romans chapters 1-5 in July and Romans chapters 6-10 in August followed by refreshments. Please join us if you can, all welcome.

Jan and John Pearson

## **HMS Sutherland Deployment**



The cold, grey morning of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 saw HMS Sutherland leave her home port of HMNB Devonport, Plymouth, for a seven month deployment to regions of the world the Royal Navy had not visited in some years. Waved off by friends and families at Devil's Point and other vantage points, we immediately set sail across the English Channel and into the Bay of Biscay, to be met by a sea state and swell that are still the worst we have experienced so far during the deployment. Short refuelling stops in Gibraltar and Crete followed, before a transit along the Suez Canal to enter the Red Sea and into the Gulf of Aden.

The passage across the Indian Ocean – at times over 1000 nautical miles from land in every direction, with not a single other ship for company inside a radius of 100 miles – was punctuated by a visit to Diego Garcia, or more correctly speaking the British Indian Ocean Territory, a tiny island owned by the British and leased to the US military, who have established a small naval base there. With four days on a tropical island, sipping cold beverages on beaches surrounded by palm trees, this was when we first felt the deployment had started in earnest.

Crossing the equator was marked by the traditional ceremony of entering King Neptune's kingdom. This is one of the very few initiation ceremonies still allowed in HM Forces. King Neptune was played by the longest serving member of the crew and those of us who had not crossed the equator before had to crawl through a paddling pool filled with dirty water. The Captain was called first and then it was my turn. We then swam in the sea off the ship - so I can say I have swum across the equator.

Nine days later we arrived at our first major headmark – Fremantle, Western Australia, some five weeks after leaving Plymouth – the fastest transit ever made by a ship of the Royal Navy. Visits to Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney followed, the main focus of each being what the Navy has excelled at in recent years namely defence diplomacy. Flying the flag for the UK and the British defence industry by hosting local dignitaries, politicians and business persons onboard for cocktail parties (or ‘Reception and Capability Demonstrations’ for political reasons!). There are surely few more iconic images than of a British warship arriving next to Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House, harking back to the days when these visits for the Royal Navy were simply a matter of routine.

After Sydney, and some work strengthening relations with our counterparts in the Royal Australian Navy, we set sail north across the eastern Pacific Ocean for a pit stop in Guam, before we headed around the west coast of Japan for an exercise with the South Koreans, seemingly sailing into history, coinciding as it did with the warming of relations

between North and South Korea, and also the US. We then stopped alongside Yokosuka – the largest US naval base in the world outside the US itself - for two weeks to allow the Ship’s Company (and the Ship!) some rest and recuperation, before we started the second half of the deployment.

This began with a visit to South Korea, which allowed many members of the Ship’s Company a unique visit to the Demilitarised Zone between North and South, and a tour of some Korean War battlefields which involved British forces, primarily the Royal Gloucester Regiment. This was followed by our much-documented transit through the South China Sea, the political reasons and implications for which can be much better explained by a Google search than here. We then

arrived alongside Singapore for a long weekend, again a classic Royal Navy port stop of yesteryear, and one that was enjoyed by all the Ship's Company.

We are now alongside Port Klang, about an hour's drive from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. We sail in a few days' time and start our long transit back home, with a few weeks of work to do in the Gulf of Oman and Persian Gulf, the focus of the Royal Navy's main effort in the past decade, before we head back through the Suez Canal and into the Mediterranean and back home.

I hope this has given you some information about what I have been doing since I left home back in January, and also an insight into the work men and women of the Royal Navy have been doing.

Matthew Foster

*(Thanks Matt - we look forward to seeing some photographs at the slides evening - Ed.)*

## Diary

### July

<b>Sun</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Church 90<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary Service led by The Revd Stephen G Normanton followed by BBQ at The Rodings</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate</b>
Fri	13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Coffee in the park Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion
Sat	14 <sup>th</sup>		Janet's sky dive – see page 7
Sat	14 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 pm	New Essex Choir Summer Medley The Drive Methodist Church - see page 7
<b>Sun</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mrs Jan Pearson</b>
Sat	21 <sup>st</sup>	7.30 pm	Valentines Singers Concert St Andrew's Church, The Drive - see page 7
<b>Sun</b>	<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate</b>
Thur	26 <sup>th</sup>	7.15 pm	Church Prayer Meeting in the Minister's vestry - see page 8
Fri	27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Bible Reading Group at 104 Wanstead Lane - see page 8
<b>Sun</b>	<b>29<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr Collins Frimpong-Manso</b>

## **August**

<b>Sun 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate</b>
<b>Sun 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Dr Leela Knight</b>
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30 am	Coffee in the park Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion
<b>Sun 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by The Revd Ermal Kirby</b>
<b>Sun 26<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr &amp; Mrs John &amp; Jan Pearson</b>
Thur 30 <sup>th</sup>	7.15 pm	Church Prayer Meeting in the Minister's vestry - see page 8
Fri 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30 am	Bible Reading Group at 104 Wanstead Lane see page - 8

***(Last date for items for September newsletter:  
Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August)***



***Wishing you all a safe and happy summer break – Ed.***

## The Drive's 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary wordsearch

Q J L I C N U O C H C R U H C  
 N J N W P N M H E A J G N X T  
 U U C A R O L S E R V I C E N  
 L N C H O I R S O V N B T S U  
 S I N G I N G T H E F A I T H  
 W O R Y M U W E T S F R S E G  
 T R E R U M A Y B T L B D W G  
 S C T T S M J O S F O E N A E  
 I H S S I O A R A E W C E R R  
 D U I E C C E M L S E U I D E  
 O R N V P Y I A J T R E R K T  
 H C I I A L R B A I S P F N S  
 T H M R I O H A V V P D L S A  
 E R P E H H B P N A G R O U E  
 M E S C R E T T E L S W E N O

BARBECUE

CAROL SERVICE

CHOIR

CHORALE

CHURCH COUNCIL

EASTER EGG HUNT

FAMILIES

FLOWERS

FRIENDS

HARVEST FESTIVAL

HOLY COMMUNION

JMA

JUNIOR CHURCH

METHODIST

MINISTER

MUSIC

NEWSLETTER

NINETY

ORGAN

PRAYERS

SINGING THE FAITH

STEWARD

VESTRY

If we just talk of thoughts and prayers  
And don't live out a faith that dares,  
And don't take on the ways of death,  
Our thoughts and prayers are fleeting breath.

If we just dream of what could be  
And do not build community,  
And do not seek to change our ways,  
Our dreams of change are false displays.

If we just sing of doing good  
And don't walk through our neighborhood  
To learn its hope, to ease its pain,  
Our talk of good is simply vain.

God, may our prayers and dreams and songs  
Lead to a faith that takes on wrongs—  
That works for peace and justice, too.  
Then will our prayers bring joy to you.

*(Biblical References: Isaiah 58; Matthew 7:21, 24-27; 1 Corinthians 13:1; James 2:14-26; 1 John 3:18-24)*

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