

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

NEWSLETTER

November 2018



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

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.

Dear Friends

I hope and trust that God has continued to be kind to you all, even in the midst of aches and pains which often come with maturity. He is indeed a good God to all even though we often take Him for granted, He still cares for all and provides for all. The fact that you are reading these few lines is an indication of God's goodness and mercy to you and to all.

I was reading Mark 10.35-45 and I was struck by the behaviour of the disciples of Jesus, their misunderstanding of what Jesus was and what he was about. The sons of Zebedee, James and John, try to negotiate privately with Jesus for two positions of power alongside Jesus. They are trying to secure positions from which they can give orders to others and enjoy whatever benefits would come with those positions. They do it privately because they do not want any competition from the other disciples. When the other disciples become aware of it, they become angry. I suspect that it may have been an anger of 'how could you try that behind our backs, we also want those positions.'

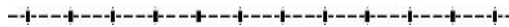
They all misunderstood the purpose of Jesus' presence in the world. He had come to serve and not to take over earthly kingdoms. He had come to serve not to be served. And Jesus expected them to understand that, and do likewise. Being a follower of Jesus is about sacrifices. We always have to be prepared to make sacrifices for the sake of the kingdom of God. We should not do only that which we are comfortable with, but especially that which involves sacrifice on our part. We have to sacrifice our time to help with many activities that the life of the church requires, we have to sacrifice a few extra pennies if we need to, to allow for the work of the church to progress.

We are all called to sacrifice to follow. Do your part and be active in the life of the church. Don't be happy just to come and worship and disappear until the following Sunday. Get involved. Ask the church leaders/stewards where you can help and they will be able to guide you.

The young people in our church have decided to get organised and they will be meeting soon with Elizabeth to talk about their involvement in the life of the church and how they can engage with other young people from other churches in the circuit. They need our support and encouragement. Let's watch the space.

Blessings.

Dino



We ask for God's blessing on all those we have concerns for at this time. All those who are unwell, in hospital, bereaved or going through a time of anxiety. Please remember them in your prayers.



Birthday Greetings to the following young people who have birthdays in November:

Feyi Fadina who will be 16;
Rohit Selwyn who will be 17;
Leah – Avalee Gorden who will be 8 and
Rochelle Inbakumar who will be 16.



"The Shack" 3rd November

The showing of the film 'The Shack' is Saturday, November 3rd at 2.00pm sharp. This is basically a trial run and will be a free showing. The refreshments will also be free.

Please make a note of the time and be aware that if you are late you will not see the start of the film, and you will also disturb those who are already watching.

If you cannot come on this occasion, do not worry, as we intend to show it again, hopefully in January, when we will open it up to the circuit.

Brian Grinham

Property Committee Work Morning 3rd November

The Property Committee has organised a work morning for Saturday 3rd November, starting at 10.00am. All help will be appreciated.

Jeremy Foster, Chair, Property Committee

Concert 4th November

VALENTINE SINGERS

ANYTHING GOES



The 20s and 30s in song featuring Gershwin, Cole Porter, Samuel Barber, Ain't Misbehavin', Begin the Beguine and many more.

Sunday 4th November at 4:00pm

Seven Kings High School, Ley Street, Ilford

£12 (£7 students/benefit holders)

(buy in advance - £15/£9 on the door!)

visit: www.valentinesingers.org

or see Andrew Taylor

Remembrance Day Service 11th November



Our Remembrance Day Service will be led by Bernardino on Sunday 11th November. Please note the service will start at 10.45am in order for us to observe the two minutes silence at 11.00am.

JMA Awards Presentation 18th November

The JMA awards will be presented during the morning service of 18th November, led by Jan Pearson.

Please join us to see our JMA collectors receive their badges and certificates and to hear about projects supported by JMA.

Diane Foster

Action for Children Slides Evening 24th November

Please join us for our annual slides evening in aid of Action for Children on Saturday 25th November starting at 6pm for 6.30pm in the parlour. This is always an enjoyable evening with a light buffet supper served during the interval.

There is no need to buy a ticket in advance, but if you would like to come please let us know for catering purposes. Everyone is welcome.

Please let us know if you would like a lift to and from the church.

Jeremy and Diane Foster

Church Prayer Meeting 29th November

The Church prayer meeting is in the church vestry from 7:15pm to 7:45pm on Thursday 29th November. Come if you can. Otherwise see sheets at the back of the church.

Bible Reading Group 30th November

The Bible Reading Group will meet on Friday 30th November from 10:30am to 11:30am followed by refreshments. We will be discussing Genesis chapters 39 to 44. All are welcome.

Jan and John Pearson

Junior Church News

Hello church family

I wanted to tell you about some changes we're making to the Junior Church partly as a result of talks we've had in church following the Circuit document. It made me think that maybe there was more we could do as youth in the church to make our church life more exciting and interesting.

The changes we've made to Junior Church starts with the changing of our group name. 'Junior Church' sounds a bit young for our whole group seeing as quite a few of us are in our teens now. We decided that the new name shall be TDY (pronounced Tidy) and it stands for 'The Drive Youth' - it still shows that we're young people but it sounds trendier!

Yetunde, a member of TDY, is a very creative artist and has created a great logo and mascot for our group! We haven't

thought about colour and such yet but we hope to be able to show you soon.

A second change is that we will be sponsoring a charity each year that will be chosen by a member of TDY. It can be any charity from Dogs trust to Cancer Research. Rochelle has chosen the charity we're sponsoring this year; it's called 'Free the children'. (You can read what Rochelle has written about the charity on page 8).

We will usually hold 4 events a year to raise money for our chosen charity but because we've started this idea quite late in the year, we'll only be holding one event this year and it will be a Christmas fete on 1st December 2018.

TDY are also planning to have some activities together throughout the year so that we can have some fun and fellowship together outside of church. We'll display pictures and information about these activities on our board at the back of the church which is going to get a revamp too.

A different member of TDY will monitor the board each month. This way you'll be able to see all the fun things we do outside the church, all about our charity and fundraisers and anything else we'll have on throughout the year.

'TDY Minds' is something else we're bringing about and it's a quote or phrase that was chosen by a member of TDY. We've decided that it'll be called 'TDY Minds Thought For The Month'. The 'thought for the month' can be anything but it's just about what they found inspiring in their month and this way you'll be able to see what's going on in our minds just in case we don't get to talk to you! We'd like it if the church family added things to the board as well! We'll also try to make little

bookmarks with the 'thought for the month' on to give to the congregation so you can be inspired at home!

Elizabeth, Bambo and Lola are working together with others to develop a Youth Group. There's always more that we want to talk about each Sunday but politics, etc. often leads us astray in our TDY sessions (sorry John!). The Youth Group will give us time to do this, to prepare for becoming a young adult and perhaps going away to University, so a very important and useful addition to TDY.

Please feel free to come and talk to me or any member of TDY about the new changes!

Thea Garner

The WE Movement (the charity where the money raised from TDY's fundraisers will go)

The WE Movement (formerly known as Free The Children) is a charity that helps to empower children to make a difference locally and globally.

The charity began when 12-year-old Canadian Craig Kielburger read the story of Iqbal Masih in his local paper. Iqbal was born in Muridke, a commercial city outside of Lahore in Punjab, Pakistan, into a poor Christian family.

At the age of 4, he was put to work by his family in order to pay off a debt they owed Arshad, a carpet weaver. The "work" involved being bound by chains and weaving carpets, 12 hours a day with only a 30-minute break. He ended up not being able to pay back Arshad because of interest.

Later on, Iqbal realised he had become a victim of child labour and managed to escape. He went to the police in order to

report the carpet weaver, but they were working with Arshad and brought Iqbal back. He managed to escape a second time, this time turning to the Bonded Labour Liberation Front (BLLF) school. He was rescued and put into education. Iqbal managed to complete 4 years of education in half the time. He went on to help 3,000 Pakistani children, gave inspiring speeches across the world and in 1994 he received the Reebok Human Rights Award.

Sadly, Iqbal was fatally shot on Easter Sunday (16th April 1995) while visiting relatives. He was only 12 at the time. His assassination caused a massive outcry and the news made its way to Canada, which was how Craig found out about it. He was shocked that a boy that was the same age could have been killed. As a result, Craig, who was only 12, took a trip to South Asia to find out more about child labour.

He took Iqbal's idea back to the school and founded Free The Children (which is now the WE movement). One voice may not have been enough, but Free The Children believes that together we can make a difference. In order for a village to prosper, there are 5 ideas they focus on:

- Education
- Clean water and sanitation
- Food
- Opportunity
- Health

The money you give at TDY's fundraiser will help the WE Movement make a difference around the world and help villages bring themselves out of poverty, breaking the cycle.

Rochelle Inbakumar

(Thank you Thea and Rochelle – there are a lot of interesting ideas here – Ed.)

The Drive Youth (TDY) – key dates for your diary

Sunday 11th November is Remembrance Sunday (10.45am start)

Sunday 18th November is our JMA celebration and we will be joining in the service.

Nativity rehearsals and TDY planning will take place on **Sunday 28th October, Sunday 4th and 25th November and Sunday 2nd and 9th December**, during our normal Sunday morning sessions.

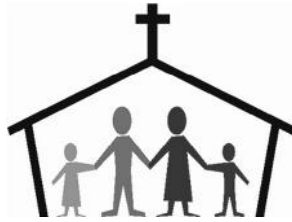
Saturday 1st December is the Christmas fundraiser (see other details)

Saturday 15th December is our Nativity rehearsal in the church and “pizza fest.” in the parlour **11.00-1.00pm**.

Sunday 16th December is our Nativity and toy service. Please arrive by 11.00am.

Also, if you can, please bring a new toy/ game to the service. This will be given to the family centre where Lorraine Bendon works. It will then be distributed to children and their families who are supported by the centre. Thank you.

Jo Wright



Welcome Notice

At the Annual Church Meeting it was suggested that it was time to update the 'Welcome' sign on the wall in the church foyer. The question is what to put in its place? I have searched various websites and whilst there are plenty of manufacturers of conventional church notice boards I have not found anything that looks right for us.

We need a sign that is eye catching, colourful and a bit different. In short, we need input from someone with an artistic or design flair. The Property Committee would therefore welcome any suggestions for the design and/or production of a new 'Welcome' sign for the foyer.

Jeremy Foster

Scout News

Congratulations to Henry Watson, our Assistant Beaver Leader, on being granted a Jack Petchey Award in the 18-25 age category. The Group will now receive a cheque for £250 which will be used to purchase equipment for the benefit of the whole group.

Well done Henry, and thank you for all you are doing to help make our Beaver Colony the success that it undoubtedly is!

Mike Seviour, Group Scout Leader

A Further Tribute to Catherine

It was with great sadness that I read in the newsletter the death of Catherine Sayers.

I knew Catherine when I worked at The Bank of England in 1958. As well as my office work, I was elected to the Council of Directors of Staff, looking after 1,500 girls under the age of 25 years of age. The first time I met Catherine was when I was called to the Court Room where Catherine was the Senior Woman in charge. She looked after the girls and expertly and efficiently ran the Governors' and Directors' Offices.

Some years later when I returned to teaching dance, I also ran a keep fit class in the Church Parlour for the over 70s. One day to my surprise the door was flung open and Catherine said "Mrs Carr you have left the kitchen in disarray – please tidy it up". It was my turn for my knees to shake.

So I knew Catherine for over 60 years and I will miss her. She always had a few minutes to chat in passing.

Ann Carr, Dancing and Yoga Teacher.

(Among the many roles which Catherine undertook at our church, she was, for many years, Chair of the Property Committee looking after the bookings and housekeeping matters around the premises – Ed.)

The Bible

I was born ten years after the First World War ended and ten years before the Second World War began. In those days England wasn't multi-cultural, technology hadn't even been heard of and it was more or less customary for children to go to Sunday School and know all the dear old Bible stories.

Everything's so different now. Church congregations and Sunday Schools have dwindled and not many homes have a family Bible anymore.

To our shame we at The Drive hadn't had a Bible Group for a long time, but for many years Frank Sayers had organised the regular distribution of the Bible Reading Fellowship's 'Daylight' to quite a few church members and he was always available to discuss anything the readers didn't understand. Brian Grinham has taken over from him now. He welcomes newcomers and, like Frank, is always be happy to discuss the readings.

When Jan and John Pearson joined the church they began a monthly Bible Group which meets in their own home. There are about ten regulars so far. We've read and discussed St John's Gospel, Ruth, St Luke's Gospel, the first three chapters of Genesis and Romans. This month we are reading the story of Joseph.

We've learnt a lot, had lively discussions and the odd argument. We've got to know each other better and enjoyed lots of lovely eats and cuppas and always been made welcome by Renny the dog.

Do join us if you can or if you prefer to study privately, you'll find the 'Daylight' notes very helpful.

As it says in the preface to the 'Daylight' notes, the Bible is God's revelation to us, a lamp for our feet and a light for our path. As we study it we will come to know God more fully, love Him more truly and follow more faithfully in the steps of His son Jesus Christ.

Betty Griffiths

The Clayhall Compton

The Roman Catholic Church of St John Vianney is very close to Woodford Avenue, across the road from Beal School. The church has a very unusual roof.

The Compton organ from the ABC cinema in Nuneaton became available at the time the church was being built. The priest at the time, Father Kerr, was a great enthusiast for cinema organs. The Nuneaton organ was bought and installed in the church. This was not as easy as it sounds.

On Saturday 6th October, the 50th anniversary was celebrated with a very special recital given by Richard Hills. The first half of the programme was varied showing the capabilities of the organ. The second half was a medley starting and ending with Debussy's 'Clair de Lune'. It was taken from an actual programme from an era when organ music was often broadcast. After the interval, John Mann and Len Rawle gave speeches. One feels that the Compton organ is still in good hands.

The usual 3pm recital time was changed to 5.30pm so that the sun wouldn't bother the audience. They need not have worried. It poured with rain all afternoon. I was grateful for the time change because it enabled me to travel from the World Day of Prayer conference in Shenfield to Clayhall.

It was very cold and draughty in the church. The pews are not the most comfortable. The wonderful music made it all worthwhile.

Susan Ruckes

The Drive Organ

It is not always necessary to travel to Clayhall and beyond to hear the organ played magnificently. At the end of Catherine Sayers' funeral service we heard Widor's 'Toccata' from his symphony No.5. Had Roderick Elms or Oliver Latry sneaked in unannounced? No it was our own Andrew Taylor playing. The choir disobeyed orders and stayed to the last note, so we are witnesses.

What Andrew is also able to do is to guide us through anything our present hymn book, 'Singing the Faith' confronts us with. Sometimes we are faced with tricky timing, syncopation and words that seem not to fit into the given tune. There have even been wrong notes printed in the music score. All this is something which some of the well-known organists might have trouble with.

Susan Ruckes

Iona

Over the summer Diane and I visited a number of Scotland's Western Isles including the small island of Iona.

Since St Columba arrived on Iona from Ireland in AD563 with 12 companions it has been an enduring centre of Christianity. St Columba founded the first monastery on the island and a large community of monks quickly became established. They spent their time farming and fishing, writing beautifully illustrated manuscripts and attending to their religious devotions. St Columba died in 597 but the monastery continued to flourish.

Significantly, in 634 the Northumbrian King Oswald invited the Ionian monks to establish a new monastery at Lindisfarne.

In the 690's Abbot Adoman of Iona published St Columba's biography 'Vita Sancti Columbae' (Life of St Columba) recording his many good deeds and the miracles with which he is associated. In the 800's the monks created the Gospel book of St Columba containing the four gospels translated from Latin. However, the book was moved from Iona to Kells in Ireland to protect it from the Viking raiders. It is now known as the Book of Kells and is displayed at Trinity College Dublin.

By the late 1100's, due in part to political unrest in the region, the Columban community had fallen into decline and in 1200 the Benedictine monks arrived to revitalise the monastery. They built the stone abbey and monastic buildings which we can see today. Iona became a place of pilgrimage with people coming to visit and pray at the shrine of St Columba. The Reformation Act of 1560 brought an end to the monasteries and the buildings slowly fell into decline.

However, in 1874 the 8th Duke of Argyll commissioned the restoration of the abbey church. The first service in the restored church was held in 1905. In 1938 Rev George Macleod founded the Iona Community. He brought together unemployed craftsmen from his parish in Glasgow and trainee ministers to undertake the physical work of rebuilding the monastic buildings.

Today the Iona Community is a worldwide ecumenical Christian community working for peace and social justice. But it maintains its physical presence on the island welcoming day visitors and offering retreats for those wishing to stay longer.

Jeremy Foster

Diary

November

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| Sat | 3 rd | 10.00am- 12 noon | Property Committee Work Morning – see page 4 |
| Sat | 3 rd | 2.00pm | The Shack - see page 4 |
| Sun | 4th | 11.15am | Morning Service led by Mr Collins Frimpong-Manso |
| Sun | 4 th | 4.00pm | Valentines Singers Concert at Seven Kings High School – see page 4 |
| Thur | 8 th | 8.00pm | Church Council |
| Sun | 11th | 10.45am | Remembrance Day Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate - see page 5 |
| Fri | 16 th | 10.30am | Coffee in the park Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion |
| Sun | 18th | 11.15am | Morning Service led by Mrs Jan Pearson including JMA Award Presentation – see page 5 |
| Sat | 24 th | 6.00pm | Action for Children Slides Evening - see page 5 |
| Sun | 25th | 11.15am | Morning Service led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate |
| Thur | 29 th | 7.15pm | Church Prayer Meeting in the Minister's vestry - see page 6 |
| Fri | 30 th | 10.30am | Bible Reading Group at 104 Wanstead Lane - see page 6 |

December

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| Sat | 1 st | 10.00am - 12.00 noon | TDY Fundraiser – see pages 7,8,10 |
| Sun | 2nd | 11.15 am | Morning Service tbc |

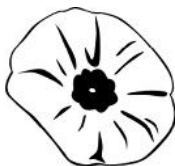
**Lord, we remember those lives lost in all those
world conflicts of yesteryear.**

**We pray for all those families who are caught up in
similar conflicts both at home and abroad today.**

**We lift our world leaders to you and pray for your
peace to be sovereign over all.**

Amen

*(Taken from Remembrance 100 – 100 days of peace & hope.
www.remembrance100.co.uk/100-days/)*



*I leave my peace with you. I give my
peace to you. I do not give it to you as
the world does. Do not let your hearts be
troubled. And do not be afraid.*

John 14:27

***The next newsletter will be the joint issue for
December & January.
Last date for items: Sunday 18th November.***