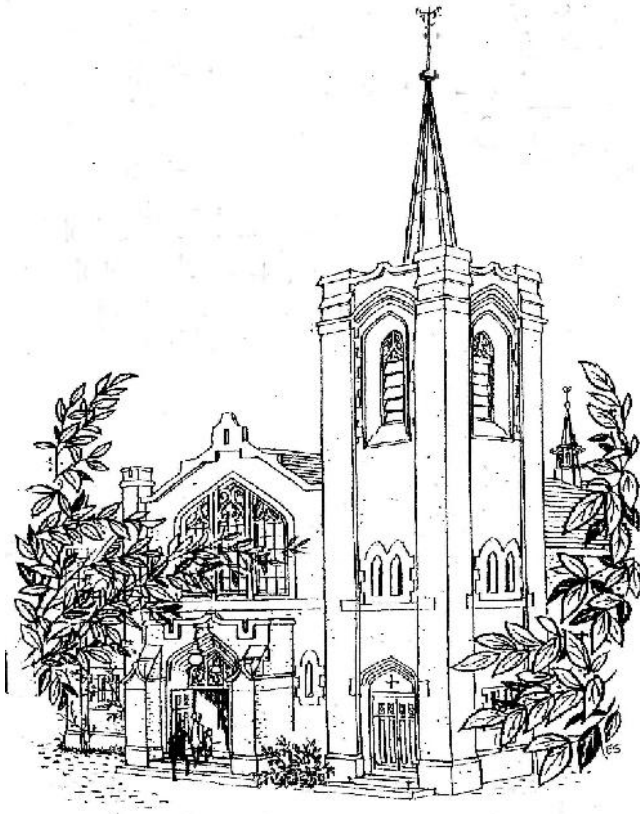


The Drive Methodist Church
Eastern Avenue, Ilford, Essex, IG1 3PP

NEWSLETTER

July / August 2019



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.

Our Minister writes:

Hi Friends

I trust that God has been watching over you as He has watched over me. He is gracious and caring. Friends, this is my last contribution to the newsletter before I move to Barking Methodist Church and the Revd Mmasape Zihle arrives in September.

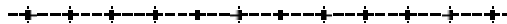
Elizabeth and I have felt at home. We felt welcomed by all and we had a sense of belonging to the church family. This sense will continue as we are not leaving the circuit. We will still be with you and be around you to some degree. We will keep in contact with all of you and we would like you to keep in touch too. I am still your minister and you can still call me if you so feel inclined from time to time.

We've had a good nine years serving with you praying with you and sharing services together. We started experimenting with worship participation by members of the congregation which is great. I know there some of you still with reservations but I am glad that it is happening and if those with reservations are willing why not give it a go? The church needs to adapt to new realities, in the same way that we, as individuals, adapt to the changing society dynamics around us. We cannot, as a church, isolate/insulate ourselves from the world around us. In the same that we upgrade our homes, our gadgets, our diets, the life of the church and its worship need to be updated/upgraded/adjusted to what makes sense to modern communities. Let be open to God and allow ourselves to be challenged. Our hymn books have been updated a number of times so as to accommodate new hymns and songs. Some may still prefer to sing the old hymns in the old hymn books but we are aware of the new ones and it is good to sing them as well. God is at work in our lives and in our church too.

As you may remember, I mentioned before that I was working with a group of friends in Redbridge, from churches and Mosques, to bring a refugee family from Syria. I am happy now to let you know that the family has arrived in Redbridge. It's a family of six, the parents, two teenagers (boy and girl) a primary school young boy and an eight months old baby. We wish them well. They came from a refugee camp in Lebanon and are happy to be free at last. It was very emotional and overwhelming to see them arrive at their new home. Thanks to all who helped us make it possible through your donations and prayers. There are still many refugees out there in need of solidarity and help even as wars and conflicts continue unabated. Let us continue to pray to God for peace in the world and for an equitable share of the world's resources, respecting the environment.

We are still together. Blessings.

Dino



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

We were pleased to hear that Peter Bendon has made improvements. However, although making progress, he is still in Queens Hospital and receiving physiotherapy to help him to walk again. Please continue to pray for Peter, Lorraine and family. (*See inside back cover*).

Please also pray for Corinne Smith who continues to be unwell and Roy Brunnen who we were very sorry to hear had a fall.

We hope to see to see our friends in church again very soon.

Birthday Greetings



We wish a very Happy Birthday to:
Calvin Commodore- Luzige who will be 10 in July
and Renyl Selwyn who will be 15 in August.

Flower stand in memory of Catherine

We wanted to have a lasting memorial for Catherine in the church and as Catherine always enjoyed beautifying the church with flowers, we felt a flower stand would be ideal.

Catherine always felt that flowers helped people in times of celebration or need and it is comforting to know that flowers from this stand will continue to help others.

A wood turner named Andy Coates accepted the commission to make the stand. After many emails and detailed drawings we finally decided on the design.

The stand is made of oak and bears the inscription "In loving memory of Catherine Sayers who loved to beautify the church with flowers"

Our thanks go to Brian Grinham, who dedicated the stand with a prayer during the service on the 23rd June, and to Anne Dellow who produced a beautiful arrangement for it.

Frank, Jo and family



Notes from Circuit Meeting - 4th June

In order to try and maintain the staffing level, it is intended to apply for a probationer to start in 2020, when the Revd Angela Potheary leaves the circuit, as it is felt that, having had two probationers who have been ordained this year, we stand a better chance of success than if we tried to get a presbyter. This will mean that in order to allow the probationer to not have the problem of going into a church with a big building scheme, some re-arrangement of the ministerial cover of the churches will have to be arranged. This is still being discussed by the leadership team and will be announced shortly.

As the Revd Ermal Kirby will be leaving the circuit in July, the Revd Bernardino Mandlate has accepted the Superintendancy of the circuit and has agreed to serve another three years from 2020 when he was due to move on, so will be with the circuit until August 2023.

Circuit Events

Sunday 14th July - Circuit Service at Goodmayes Methodist Church at 4.00 pm when we shall be saying goodbye to the Revd Ermal Kirby, recognising the ordination of the Revd Kido Baek and welcoming the accreditation of Mr. John Pearson as a Local Preacher. The service will be followed by a barbecue.

Monday 2nd September – Welcome Service at 7.30pm at Barkingside Church for the Revd Mmasape Zihle.

Brian Grinham, Senior Steward

Gun and Knife Crime conference - 15th June

Liz Amah and I attended this conference on Saturday 15th June at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster. The speakers came from a wide range of backgrounds and experience, but all had first hand knowledge of violence on the streets. Several had lost children through stabbing.

The prime mover of the conference was Richard Taylor, whose son, Damiola's death in Peckham caused an outcry. I couldn't believe that that happened twenty years ago. No doctor from A&E was able to attend. They were all too busy to take part.

The most powerful speaker was Sheldon Thomas, who had been a gang member and founded "Gangline". I understand that he sometimes speaks on Radio London. Sheldon has definite views on the causes of the 'epidemic' of violence and what measures are needed to solve the problems.

Let us hope that those in a position to do something will have the courage to follow his advice.

Susan Ruckes

(A CD has been made of the "Gun and Knife Crime Conference")

Evening Prayer with the Choir – 4th July



This will be held on Thursday 4th July 8:00pm in the church. Everyone is welcome to this service to mark the end of the choir's year. It's the perfect way to start our celebration of the church's anniversary.

Refreshments will be served after the service.

Church Anniversary lunch -7th July

Following the anniversary service on Sunday 7th July we will be having a "bring and share" lunch at the Rodings.



It would be wonderful if everyone could bring a main dish or dessert to share so we can celebrate together. If you have picnic chairs it would be great if you could bring those too. We do have indoor shelter if it is raining, but let's hope the sun shines!

All help to set up and tidy away will be gratefully received.

If anyone would like any more information or you would like a lift to the Rodings, then please speak to Jo or Michelle.

Jo Wright and Michelle Garner

New Essex Choir concert – 13th July



Come join the Roundelay

A summer concert and buffet supper
given by the New Essex Choir

Saturday 13th July 2019 at 7.30pm in the church

A programme of light music including settings by Elgar and Finzi, and ending with Gilbert and Sullivan

Tickets £14 in advance from Brian Taylor
or £15 on the door

Redbridge Faith Forum quiz – 16th July

The Redbridge Faith Forum warmly invites you to their
Fundraising Summer Quiz Evening

Tuesday 16th July at 7.00pm
The Drive Methodist Church Hall

Bring friends to make up a team of up to 8 people or come on
your own and join a table.

Entrance £6 which includes tea, coffee and cake
You are welcome to bring food/nibbles and soft drinks

Church Prayer Meetings 25th July and 29th August

These will both be from 7:15pm-7:45pm in the Minister's
vestry, all welcome. Please come if you can otherwise prayer
sheets will be at the back of the Church so you can pray along
with us at home.

Bible Reading Group – 26th July and 30th August

The Bible Reading Group will meet on Friday 26th July and
Friday 30th August from 10.30am to 11.30am at Janet & John
Pearson's home followed by refreshments. All are welcome.
Friday 26th July we will discuss 2 Samuel, chapters 1 to 7;
Friday 30th August we will discuss 2 Samuel, chapters 8 to 15.

Jan and John Pearson



Film show at The Drive – 27th July

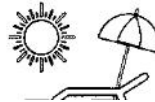
We will be showing “God’s not dead 2” a sequel to “God’s not dead”, which was shown in May, on Saturday 27th July either in the church or parlour (tbc) at 2.30pm. There will be a comfort break at a suitable place during the film with tea/coffee and biscuits.

There is no charge for attending but donations would be welcome to cover overheads.

Brian Grinham

TDY summer holidays

TDY will be having a two week break during the summer. The dates when there will be no TDY are 28th July and the 4th August. TDY will of course be welcome to worship in the main church service. Have a great summer.



The TDY Team

Au revoir to Dino – 4th August

As stated in the circuit meeting notes, whilst Dino is leaving our Church, he is staying in the circuit as Superintendent Minister and will be based at Barking Church until August 2023. We thank Dino for his nine years of ministry with us and hope you will be able to attend his last service at The Drive on Sunday 4th August when we can say au revoir to him and Elizabeth and not goodbye.

Brian Grinham

Advanced Notices

Share-a-Skill – 14th September

Share-A-Skill is making a comeback at the Drive's Community Cafe which will be held in the Parlour on Saturday 14th September between 10am and 12pm. Tea and coffee will be served all morning by The Drive Youth. It is a great opportunity to try your hand at a variety of different crafts.

Share-A-Skill will be organised and led by Janet Wragg in conjunction with TDY.

Any contributions and donations will be extremely welcome and appreciated, with a portion of the sum raised going towards Dementia UK, TDY's chosen charity.

Please come and join us to develop a skill and have a cup of coffee or tea!

Bambo Banjo

Macmillan Coffee Morning – 28th September

Come to our
Macmillan Coffee Morning

Saturday 28th September

10.00am -12.00pm

In the Church Parlour

Donations of Cake, Gifts welcome

All proceeds will go to the Macmillan centre U.C.L.H

Janet and Jeff Wragg



Methodist Heritage Quiz – a little bit of homework for the summer

1. What were the names of John and Charles Wesley's parents?
 - a) Susanna and Samuel
 - b) Elizabeth and John
 - c) William and Kate
2. What links the famous novel, play and film *War Horse* to Charles Wesley?
 - a) The horse is a Methodist
 - b) The soldier is a Methodist
 - c) The author is a descendent of Charles Wesley
3. When did Methodists legally separate from the Church of England?
 - a) 1795 b) 1744 c) 1770
4. When was the first Methodist Conference held?
 - a) 1744 b) 1752 c) 1770
5. What is the name given to a group of Methodist farm labourers who formed one of the first trade unions and were, as a result, transported to Australia [technically for swearing an illegal oath] in 1834?
6. Which famous sisters had a Methodist mother and a father who was a parson in the Church of England?
 - a) The Beverley sisters
 - b) The Bronte sisters
 - c) The Mitford sisters

7. Which famous Victorian author wrote a novel with a female Methodist preacher as its heroine? Extra point if you can name the novel or the preacher herself!
 - a) Charles Dickens
 - b) Elizabeth Gaskell
 - c) George Eliot
8. In the 1851 religious census, which English county had the largest percentage of its churchgoing population (48%) in Methodist churches?
 - a) Yorkshire
 - b) Cornwall
 - c) Staffordshire
9. What uniformed organisation was founded by a Methodist minister and his preacher wife?
 - a) The Scouts
 - b) The Boys' Brigade
 - c) The Salvation Army
10. Until the 20th century, there were several separate branches of British Methodism. How many of these can you name? A point for each one!
11. What year did (most of) these all come back together?
 - a) 1924
 - b) 1948
 - c) 1932
12. Which of these famous brands were founded by Methodists?
 - a) Rank Cinemas
 - b) Hovis flour/bread
 - c) Clark's shoes
 - d) Kellogg's
 - e) Hartley's Jam

13. What 20th century prime minister had a father who was a Methodist Local Preacher?
- a) Tony Blair
 - b) Lloyd George
 - c) Margaret Thatcher
14. Between the 1870s and 1930s, how many MPs came from a Methodist background?
- a) At least 14
 - b) At least 24
 - c) At least 44
15. In the famous hymns/carols below, how many of them were **not** written by Charles Wesley?
- a) Amazing Grace
 - b) Hark The Herald Angels Sing
 - c) Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind
 - d) Love Divine All Loves Excelling
 - e) Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah/Redeemer



Answers in next newsletter

Diary

July

Thur	4 th	8.00pm	Evening Prayer led by the Choir – see page 6
Sun	7th	11.15am	Church Anniversary Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd Angela Pothicary followed by lunch at The Rodings – see page 7
Sat	13 th	7.30pm	New Essex Choir concert at The Drive – see page 7
Sun	14th	11.15am	Action for Children Sunday Morning service led by Mrs Foluso Famoyin Egbo
Sun	14 th	4.00pm	Circuit Service and bbq –see page 5
Tue	16 th	7.00pm	Redbridge Faith Forum quiz evening – See page 8
Fri	19 th	10.30am	Coffee in the park Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion
Sun	21st	11.15am	Morning Service The Revd Bernardino Mandlate
Thur	25 th	7.15pm	Church Prayer Meeting in the Minister's vestry - see page 8
Fri	26 th	10.30am	Bible Reading Group 104 Wanstead Lane, see page 8
Sat	27 th	2.30pm	Film show – see page 9
Sun	28th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Mr Collins Frimpong-Manso

August

Sun	4th	11.15am	Morning Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate – see page 9
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Diary contd.

Sun	11th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Mrs Jan Pearson
Fri	16 th	10.30am	Coffee in the park Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion
Sun	18th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Members of the Congregation
Sun	25th	11.15am	Morning Service led by The Revd Armstrong Fummey
Thur	29 th	7.15pm	Church Prayer Meeting in the Minister's vestry - see page 8
Fri	30 th	10.30am	Bible Reading Group 104 Wanstead Lane, see page 8

September

Sun	1st	11.15am	Morning Service led by tbc
Mon	2 nd	7.30pm	Welcome service for The Revd Mmasape Zihle At Barkingside Methodist Church

***Last date for items for the September newsletter:
Sunday 18th August***



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

Prayer for the end of the Academic Year

O God of all beginnings and endings
We praise and thank you for the gift of this academic year.
It has been a time filled with grace and blessings,
With challenges and opportunities, joys and sorrows.

The days have passed quickly, O Lord.
The weeks, the months, the seasons, the holidays
and holy days,
The exams, vacations, and breaks.
All have come forth from your hand.

While we trust that your purposes have always been at work
each day,
Sometimes it has seemed difficult to understand and
appreciate
Just what you have been up to in our places of work and
study.

Give students and teachers the rest and refreshment they
need this summer.

Let their efforts of this past year bear fruit.
Bring all of their plans to a joyful conclusion,
And bless them, according to your will, with the fulfilment of
their summer hopes and dreams.

Watch over them in the weeks of rest ahead,
And guide each day as you have done this past year.
Help them move on next term with a new spirit and a new
energy.

May all continue to grow
In age, wisdom, knowledge and grace all the days of their
lives.

Amen

*Source unknown
Submitted by John Pearson*

Since preparing the newsletter this message was received from Lorraine:

Peter and I would like to give our heartfelt thanks for the prayers, thoughts, messages, visits, cards and flowers we have received over the past six weeks during Peters terrifying illness.

You cannot imagine how much your support meant to us and our family, and we are in no doubt this contributed to Peter's recovery along with the incredible skill and care of the medical teams at King George and Queens hospitals.

Peter still has a way to go but his progress is steady and there is a plan for him to return home very soon.

Gods Blessings to you all.

Lorraine