

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

NEWSLETTER

March 2020



Minister: Rev'd Mmasape Zihle

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:

Lent

Lent is that season between Epiphany (God's revelation in Christ the saviour) and Easter (when Christ accomplished the work of salvation through his death and resurrection).

During the period of lent many will give up for forty days pleasures such as chocolate, meat, coffee, etc to align themselves with Christ's forty days of temptation and isolation in the wilderness, which followed his baptism. Jesus was able to resist all the temptation the devil threw his way – food and power. The devil comes to Christ when he is hungry and tired and tempts Christ to use his power to turn stone to bread, yet Jesus resists by remembering that we need more than bread; we also need the Word of God. We need to put our faith on God alone.

As part of our closer walk with Christ this lent I commend to your attention, prayers and participation in our circuit services and study "Sensing the Passion".

"I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee
Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be"

May almighty God grant us the ability to resist temptation.

Wishing you a peaceful and reflective journey through Lent.

Mmasape

CIRCUIT CELEBRATION OF LENT 2020

SENSING

THE PASSION OF CHRIST



"An interactive Lent study that explores the passion using our five senses, sight, hearing, smell, taste and touch/feel"

Ash Wednesday Service 26th February, 7.30pm
Barkingside Methodist Church

Lent Study Sessions

Thursdays, 7.30pm – 9.00pm
Gantshill Methodist Church

5th March – Introduction
12th March – Sight
19th March – Hearing
26th March – Smell
2nd April – Touch
9th April – Taste

Palm Sunday Celebration 5th April, 4.00pm
Barking Methodist Church

Our thoughts are with a number of friends from church who are unwell at present. We ask for God's blessing on them and for all those we have concerns for at this time and remember them and their families in our prayers.

We especially pray for Corinne Smith who has now been transferred to Queens Hospital.

We were sorry to hear that Joan Miller, wife of our former minister, John, has passed away and also Brian Thompson, a former member of the church. We offer our condolences and prayers to their families and friends.

Betty's dog Belle

We are so sorry to hear that Betty Griffiths' lovely dog, Belle, has died. Lorraine and some of our younger children designed Betty a card to let her know we were thinking of her. Betty replied to this and sent a lovely prayer that I thought would be nice to share. It is by Albert Schweitzer.

Thank you Betty.

Jo Wright

We pray today, O God, for our friends, the animals, especially for animals who are suffering; for animals that are over-worked, under-fed, and cruelly treated; for all wistful creatures in captivity that beat their wings against bars; for any that are hunted or lost or deserted, or frightened or hungry; for all that must be put to death. We entreat for them all thy mercy and pity; and for those who deal with them, we hope for a heart of compassion, gentle hands, and kindly words. Make us ourselves to be true friends to animals, and so to share the blessings of the merciful. Amen

March Birthday Greetings

We wish a very Happy Birthday to:
Iris Bennett-Wright will be 8
Tunrayo Fadina will be 12



Property Committee Work Morning – 14th March

The Property Committee has organised a work morning for Saturday 14th March. We will start around 10.00am with coffee at 11.00am and will finish before lunch. Any help you can give, even if for just for an hour will be greatly appreciated.

Jeremy Foster

Film show at The Drive – 21st March

We will be showing *The Case for Christ* at 2.30 p.m. in the Church Parlour of The Drive Methodist Church. There will be no charge for admission, but donations towards the expenses would be gratefully received. We expect to have an interval at an appropriate time during the film when refreshments will be served.

Brian Grinham

(See advanced notices for future films and dates – Ed)



Church Prayer Meeting – 26th March

The Church Prayer Meeting is on Thursday 26th March 7.15pm to 7.45pm in the Minister's Vestry.

A Prayer for Lent

Almighty and ever living God,
you invite us deeper into your world, your people, your Lent.
May this time be one of outward focus;
seeking you in those we often ignore.
Help us live a Lent focused on freedom, generosity, and
encounter.
Give us hearts hungry to serve you
and those who need what we have to give.
Amen

Bible Reading Group - 27th March

Bible Reading group is on Friday 27th March from 10.30am to 11.30 am at 104 Wanstead Lane followed by refreshments.
We will be discussing Acts chapters 20-28.

Jan and John Pearson



Advanced Notices

Easter Egg Hunt – 11th April

We will be having our usual Easter Egg hunt and craft morning on Saturday 11th April 10.30-12.30. This will be in the hall building. Come and share in a hot cross bun and a cup of tea. You're never too old to enjoy fun and fellowship. Hope to see you there.



Volunteers needed!

The Easter Egg morning is a wonderfully busy and enjoyable morning. All offers of help will be gratefully received. If you would like to help with craft making, serving tea, hiding eggs, playing table tennis, setting up or packing away then please speak to me or any other TDY team member. Thank you.

Sponsor an Egg please



You are all so generous here at The Drive!

We are asking for people to sponsor an Egg for the hunt on Easter Saturday. Shortly there will be an Easter tree in the porch area. Please write an Easter message, which will be stuck onto the Eggs, and put a small donation in the box. This will go towards buying the Easter Eggs. Any money that is left over will be put towards TDY's new chosen charity. This is a charity connected to children's hospitals and hospices. More details will be available soon.

Jo Wright

Future film dates and films for 2020

Saturday 16th May - God's Not Dead 2

Saturday 18th July - I'm Not Ashamed

Saturday 19th Sept - God's Not Dead A Light In Darkness

Saturday 21st November 2020 -A Christmas Film tbc

Brian Grinham

Diary February

Wed 26th 7.30pm Circuit Ash Wednesday Service
at Barkingside Methodist Church
See page 3

Diary March

Sun	1st	11.15am	1st Sunday in Lent Morning Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd Mmasape Zihle
Tue	3 rd	8.00pm	Pastoral Committee
Thur	5 th	7.30pm	Circuit Lent Study at Gantshill Methodist Church see page 3
Sun	8th	11.15am	2nd Sunday in Lent Morning Service led by Mr Robert Debrah
Thur	12 th	7.30pm	Circuit Lent Study at Gantshill Methodist Church see page 3
Sat	14 th	10.00am	Property Committee work morning see page 5
Sun	15th	11.15am	3rd Sunday in Lent Morning Service led by Mr John Pearson
Wed	18 th	8.00pm	Finance Committee
Thur	19 th	7.30pm	Circuit Lent Study at Gantshill Methodist Church see page 3
Fri	20 th	10.30am	Coffee in the park Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion
Sat	21 st	2.30pm	Film show at The Drive see page 5

Diary March contd.

Sun	22nd	11.15am	Mothering Sunday Morning Service led by Mrs Jan Pearson
Thur	26 th	7.15pm	Church Prayer Meeting in the Minister's vestry - see page 6
Thur	26 th	7.30pm	Circuit Lent Study at Gantshill Methodist Church see page 3
Fri	27 th	10.30am	Bible Reading Group 104 Wanstead Lane, see page 6
Sun	29th	11.15am	5th Sunday in Lent Morning Service led by Members of the congregation

Diary April

Thur	2 nd	7.30pm	Circuit Lent Study at Gantshill Methodist Church see page 3
Sun	5th	11.15am	Palm Sunday Morning Service led by The Revd Mmasape Zihle
Sun	5 th	4.00pm	Circuit Palm Sunday Celebration at Barking Methodist Church see page 3
Thur	9 th	7.30pm	Circuit Lent Study at Gantshill Methodist Church see page 3

***(Last date for items for the April Newsletter:
Sunday 22nd March)***

See the land, her Easter keeping,
Rises as her Maker rose.
Seeds, so long in darkness sleeping,
Burst at last from winter snows.
Earth with heaven above rejoices;
Fields and gardens hail the spring;
Shaughs* and woodlands ring with voices,
While the wild birds build and sing.

You, to whom your Maker granted
Powers to those sweet birds unknown,
Use the craft by God implanted;
Use the reason not your own.
Here, while heaven and earth rejoices,
Each his Easter tribute bring -
Work of fingers, chant of voices,
Like the birds who build and sing.

Easter Week by Charles Kingsley

*(*Shaugh is an old fashioned word for a small wood, thicket, copse).*