

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

NEWSLETTER

September 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 Reverend Mmasape is on holiday.

Generous God, your call on our lives is always towards life, hope and grace.

We pray for all those young people who received their exam results only to be left with uncertainty and confusion.

We give thanks that you journey with them in joy and in sorrow.

We ask your blessing on them as they navigate their next step knowing that you are there for them always.

As we rejoice with those who will receive good news, we ask your blessing on them, knowing that you celebrate with us whenever life is rich and rewarding.

Bless also, we pray, those who are burdened with anxious thoughts; And comfort those who may face disappointment.

Finally, we pray for those who still wait, in hope and amid uncertainty: keep watch with them, loving God, and be their strength.

Remind us again of the infinite value which you place on every single life, and of your promise in Jesus to guide us to new life and purpose.

Teach us how to use all the gifts of mind and heart which you have given us, that we may work, and speak, and think for you, and for a fairer, more gracious world.

In all things, help us to know that we are never alone or abandoned, because, in Jesus, you meet us all and lead us together towards fullness of life. **Amen**

Important information about church reopening

Dear Friends

I expect that many of you are wondering when the church is going to open again for our weekly services.

Depending on any new regulations that the Government will issue, or lockdowns that they impose, we are advised that we can open for worship on **Sunday 13th September** providing we have been able to get all the safety features in place.

Social distancing must be observed at all times and to facilitate this, each alternate pew will be taken out of use. According to the latest instructions, masks must be worn and, as you are probably aware, singing is not allowed at present.

On entry to the Church you will be asked to sanitise your hands. The door steward will handle the bottle of sanitiser so that there are not multiple people touching it. You will then pass into the Church where you will have to register your presence. You will not receive a hymn book as these will be in the pews. As you enter a pew please pass towards the centre of the Church to avoid the necessity of people having to pass you.

The collection bags will not be used for the offertory but a plate will be placed on the seat in the recess by the entrance door, which will also be the exit door, as the Eastern Avenue Door will remain closed.

On communion Sundays, to maintain social distancing, we will remain in our seats, and the Minister and Steward will bring the elements to the congregation, both wearing suitable PPE protection, by passing through the vacant pews between the rows. We will not be using bread, but wafers, which will be handed with a pair of tongs and you will be asked to take a glass of wine from the tray, where the glasses will be in alternate holes to avoid contamination of another glass.

After the service we will not be serving refreshments, and the congregation will be asked to leave in an orderly manner compatible with social distancing ensuring that there is no congregating around the exits or in the Church grounds or car park.

We will send another letter if we, for some reason, are unable to open on 13th September. We do ask that as many of you as possible come to support us and to thank all those who have spent so much time and effort to prepare our premises for the big day.

Please all keep safe until we can see each other again even if we cannot use our normal greetings.

Yours in Christian Love,

**Brian Grinham,
Senior Steward**

P.S. Our Minister, Rev'd Mmasape Zihle, is on 2 weeks annual leave, and will not be available until 2nd September. If you need the services of a minister during her absence, please let me know and I will arrange one for you.

Lord, thank you for letting us work with you to share your joy with the world. Help us not take for granted the gift it is to share your gospel to the nations, and to our neighbours. Help us have eyes to see the needs around us and to respond to those needs in joy and hope. Thank you so much Lord for your love and care over us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

Greg Laurie

We hold in mind.....

Our church family and their friends and families who are struggling with mental and physical ill health. We have heard how for some, surgery and treatment programmes have been changed, postponed, or even cancelled. While others have experienced excellent care and recovery.

The many who are finding phone or virtual consultations with their GP difficult and miss the reassuring face to face contact they have been used to.

Those who feel lost and confused when they are admitted to hospital without regular visits by family or friends to bring much needed support and comfort.

Our friends, family, and neighbours who, regardless of the relaxation of lockdown, continue to feel vulnerable, anxious, and confused and in need of support and care. Our prayers of love and hope are offered for all who are in need.



Congratulations and Best Wishes

We continue to miss the opportunity to meet together to sing and applaud, demonstrating the pleasure we feel in celebrating the birthdays, milestones and anniversaries achieved in our church family. For those who have access, we are grateful that our Church What App group helps in this respect as messages and emoji's pop up in quick succession sending joy and best wishes to one another.

For those who have celebrated birthdays, anniversaries and a retirement in the past month –

Best wishes to you all



Lola's New Job

Lola will begin a new probationary teaching post in September with responsibility for planning, preparing and delivering lessons for Year 1 groups in preparation for Teacher Training.

Good Luck Lola

Huge congratulations to all our young people for their educational achievements in such an unsettling environment. Well done!

TDY

Congratulations and well done to all our young people who received their results this August. It has been a tough time for you all. Good luck in whatever you do next. Life is fun, and you must take time to enjoy it.

We had planned a picnic in August, but due to torrential rain we had to reschedule it for September.

It will be so good to see all our young people again. Our first service back is due to be on 13th September, where we will all join in with the main service. We look forward to seeing you and can't wait to catch up with everyone.

Jo

Thea and Rohit will be moving on to university in September and we send them our love and prayers as they begin their exciting journey by settling into their new 'homes'.

Hello Church Family, Thea here!!!

So, results day has come and gone and thankfully for me and my friends, it was a day of celebration and success. My results thankfully reflected the grades I feel I would have achieved had I actually sat my A-Levels.

I came out with A, A, B as my results and an A for an AS level and am very, very pleased. My place at the University of Southampton is confirmed and I've almost finished my enrolment!!! My accommodation offer came in a few days ago and so I'm very happy as I will be moving in at some point in September!!!*

My course start date has been pushed back to October 5th and I honestly can't wait, I'm so excited!!!

I want to thank you all for your love and support and say that I'll miss you all whilst in Southampton. Don't worry though, I'll definitely be back down for Easter's and Christmas so no worries about not seeing me!!!

Thea

`I think she's pleased. Best wishes Thea' LB

And now for something entirely different from Colin.

During the first part of the Covid lockdown, Pauline started behaving strangely. She was cleaning our house until it sparkled, bringing me fruit and coffees, and doing all the washing up. We've been married for 37 years and never had this behaviour. I wondered what it could be and could only think

that an alien had taken her place. As social distancing began and Pauline started going out to see her friends, the alien entity left and the house went back to normal as did the household chores and I have to make my own coffee again!
Let's hope it won't be long before Pauline is out and about with her friends once again. GO PAULINE - LB



Flowers online

Don't forget to ask Janet, Ruth, Anne or Lorraine if you want to dedicate flowers for a special occasion.

They will appear with your message on the Church What's App and a photo of the flowers on The Drive website.



I would like to thank Lorraine and Peter for preparing the newsletters following my eye surgery. Their help is greatly appreciated.

Diane Foster.

News of meetings from Jan and John



Bible Reading group this month

If you enjoyed the services going through Ruth during July, you might like to join our Bible Reading Group, as over a series of months we read through one of the Books. We have just started reading the Book of Joshua. This month the group will be reading or listening to, Joshua chapters 5 to 8 and Proverbs chapter 6 in their own time. It is likely that we will meet via Zoom on Friday 25th September at 3:30 pm when we will talk about what we thought about that section of the Book. Just like any book club, no expertise required and if you would like to come and sit in without participating to start with that is fine. Please give one of us your mobile telephone number and we will put you on the WhatsApp Bible Reading Group where we will share more information about meeting arrangements nearer the time.

Church Prayer Meeting

The monthly Church Prayer Meeting will be on Thursday 24th September from 7:15 - 7:45 pm. There is a sheet to focus your thought, on the Church website as during Covid we have not been meeting together for prayer. We would like to think that we might be able to meet in the Church for socially distanced prayer this month, however that will need to be organised nearer the time.

Jan and John



Keeping in Touch

Hopefully, you recently received either a letter or an email from Brian Grinham regarding our proposals to re-open the church for Sunday services.

Where we hold an email address for you, we sent an email (41 in total). To everyone else, we sent a letter by post. Almost a week after sending the email only 28 of them had been opened. Presumably the remaining 13 fall into one of the following groups:-

- You have been on holiday and not checking emails
- You've changed your email address and not told us
- You don't use email any more
- Our email is in your 'Junk' folder

If you received neither an email nor a letter, then you probably fall into one of the above categories.

It's a lot cheaper for the Church if we can use email wherever possible – just sending out the 37 letters cost over £20 – so if you have an email address and haven't told us, or if you've changed your email address in the last couple of years and are not sure if you've told us, please do so now.

Conversely, if you think you have provided us with an email address in the past, but no longer use email at all, please let us know, otherwise you won't be able to receive any communications from the church.

Please send any updates and/or queries to Brian Grinham or Lorraine Bendon who will be able to update your records if required.

Mike Seviour

Lock down Trials

In recent months many of us have had to get used to using our phones or webcam to join meetings or to talk to others. But there are often pitfalls in getting used to new technology!

My sister joined her church Zoom service and was not aware that her microphone and camera were on. She chatted with her daughter about the quality of the singing (!) and was then surprised to hear the minister saying it was good to hear from her and asking how she was. My sister suddenly found that she was flexible enough to duck down under the table and hide from the camera. She pulled the plug and hasn't joined a Zoom service since!

I found myself laughing hysterically on a family call to my niece. We were singing her happy birthday.- very badly!! - and I thought people were doing it on purpose but each of the 7 households on the call had started at a slightly different time and was going at a slightly different speed because of our internet connections! It was quite a noise. Even when I stopped laughing!!

I am sure you will have your own funny stories and I'm looking forward to hearing them when we get back to church.
Take care of yourselves,

Michelle

Oh, the joy of Zoom Meetings

My Lockdown Project – Anne Dellow

The purpose of my project was to collate photos, cuttings and stories that I've gathered over many years. My 'collection' could be deemed, a work in progress as it has been amassed since childhood.

Photos captured on an old Brownie camera; black and white, they are as colourless as the 1950s were portrayed following WW11. Memories stored in tiny diaries purchased in Woolworths for one shilling (5p). Cuttings from old newspapers, pictures of our Royal Family. There are 'Thank you' notes written to my parents on Sooty notepaper. How I loved my Sooty Stationary set with its little stamps bearing Sooty pictures.

There were so many things for my adult self to gaze upon in the future, but the future was a long way off and I knew not of the word, Pandemic. My project was one that would be a source of fun, a conversation piece - "Yes, my life sits on the top shelf of my wardrobe". How many people must have tired of hearing me repeat those words? Well in fact, it did sit on top of the wardrobe until Lockdown commenced eight weeks* ago and it now it covers every square inch of space (or centimetre) in my flat.

If I am honest it has overwhelmed me at times but the plus side to it has been the joy it has given me in reminiscing special moments in my life.

* This was written some weeks ago. Since Lockdown eased, my project is on hold, but to date I have finished four large albums.

The Re-Opening of The Drive Pre-School

The effect Covid 19 has had on our lives has been huge as we have never experienced anything like this before.

As it all started in February, I was already thinking ahead of how to keep everyone safe, so on arriving at the pre-school in the mornings I would go around disinfecting door handles, the telephone, light switches and other surfaces.

Following the fast escalation of the disease, the pre-school closed on 18th March and at the time I thought we would return after the Easter holidays. However, this virus started killing thousands of people and my dear old Dad was one of them. As the death toll rose higher and higher, I realised we would not be returning at the end of April.

At home I began to grow vegetables in my garden to keep my mind off my sadness at the loss of my Dad who I miss very much. I have never grown vegetables in my life and found myself looking after tomato, courgette, strawberry, runner bean and aubergine plants!

This proved very rewarding when I started picking my harvest and felt very proud that I had actually grown the food I was cooking.

We were asked by the local authority to think about opening the pre-school in June, however, after 2 meetings with the staff and researching advice given by SAGE, I considered the situation very carefully and decided against opening in June as I felt it wasn't safe.

Time has passed and I have concluded following advice and recommendations from health professionals that it is safe to return in September. This included information from UNICEF on how to open preschools safely and a plan to put measures in place to ensure a safe return. This included a meeting with

Jeremy and Mike about Risk Assessment as part of our action plan.

We will work in small 'bubbles' made up of an adult and a small group of children. The bubbles will not mix, and all will follow a strict routine of hand washing, sterilizing equipment and surfaces and social distancing.

We are very aware of the signs and symptoms of Covid 19 and will act quickly to inform appropriate authorities and the church should a case be confirmed.

Children's and practitioners' temperatures will be taken daily and anyone with a temperature of 37.5 or over will be asked to go home, arrange testing and self-isolate for 14 days in accordance with government guidelines.

Parents will not be allowed to come into the preschool and social distancing and a one-way system will be followed outside with a one-way system for arrivals and departures.

Of course, our main focus is the children and ensuring that we offer a safe learning and stimulating environment both indoors and out. Playing outside will be particularly important during these times to ensure the children get lots of fresh air. Good ventilation will also be a priority in our daily routine for clean air to circulate.

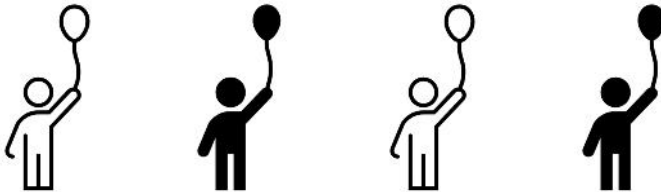
Prior to the children returning we will spend 2 days disinfecting all the toys and equipment ready to welcome the children and their families back to our pre-school.

We only have 16 children coming back but we hope with the good reputation we have built up over many years, we will be busy again. However, I am aware that lots of parents are scared to send their children back to school especially with the concern that the virus could escalate during winter months.

We all pray and hope this doesn't happen and will cross that bridge if we come to it but for now we are all feeling and thinking positive that we can return to some normality and continue to offer a great service to our local community and beyond.

Kaye Whidden
The Drive Pre School Leader

My goodness Kaye, what a lot of responsibility you have. I'm sure I am joined by others in wishing you, your staff and children a very safe and successful return to your 'new normal'. **LB**



Let us Pray

Dear Lord, we pray for all children and teachers going back to schools this next school year. We pray for their health and safety as classrooms and schools have been modified to allow for proper social distancing and hygiene. We pray for all the staff involved in the smooth running of a school. We pray that you will keep them safe and protected from the virus. Please protect the families of the children and teachers as they return home each day. Lord, we also pray all are provided with energy and rest to allow for positive play, teaching, learning and spiritual growth. In Your name, Jesus. Amen.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



In normal times I would be advertising my 15th Coffee Morning at the Redbridge Social Centre on 25th September. I have received the Organiser Pack urging us to take part in some form.

I had already decided that with my ageing team (all 80 and 90s) to cut back on stalls – then Glynis (bric-a-brac and flower basket queen) and George had to move out of their house following the fire next door causing water damage and affecting their roof.

As time has passed with all the safety measures involved and no date for reopening the Centre, everything is on hold.

Of course, the needs of the charity are as great as ever so I am thinking of asking people to have a cup of coffee that day – maybe with a friend or the family and kindly let me have a donation.

Watch this space!

Audrey Taylor

A good alternative, in these restricted times, so let's support Audrey to continue to help Macmillan. **LB**

Ruth - Project Lockdown!

When I first heard about lockdown, I decided to finish all those jobs that I've been promising myself to do for ages, so I wrote myself a list:

- Learn to play the piano
- Re-organise my filing system
- Re-do my garden which has been very neglected
- Make lots of lavender bags to increase my stock so I can make lots of money for 'Raysin Hope'.
- Redecorate my bathroom
- Wash my net curtains and turn up the heavy curtains.

I'd been thinking of learning to play an instrument for a while and after chatting to Andrew, I started piano lessons with Ken who he recommended. I had two lessons face to face then we have had the following lessons by the internet.

Result: Piano playing is coming along and I'm enjoying it and NO, I won't be playing at Church any time soon so don't even think of asking!!

I decided to start positively with my filing system by taking out everything that was old (and I mean old), shredded as much as I could, then had to store the bags of shredding in my garage as the bin men weren't taking re cycling (now they tell me). I got about halfway through the whole project and found I was losing the will to live so the job has been deferred.

Result: Filing project 50% done.

Maybe I'd have more luck with my garden. I cleared, dug, weeded and did everything I could think of to prepare for runner beans and tomato plants which I ordered on-line. They took forever to arrive and when they did, half were dead which was rather demoralising. However, not to be downhearted, I went to Chigwell Nursery once we were allowed out and bought new ones which are now growing, albeit about 6 weeks later than I originally planned.

Result: Much tidier, more colourful garden with things happily growing.

Next I turned my attention to the lavender bags and collected everything I needed from the different cupboards and drawers I store them in so I would have it all close to hand. Then Jo phoned and told me she knew I was crafty (luckily, I knew what she meant) and before I knew it, I was making nurses uniform bags along with lots of others at Church. Just as I finished them, I was speaking to my daughter in France who told me that she was making masks for her village and would I like the pattern (bless her!!) So, now, I was making masks for what seemed like the whole of Ilford (thank you for the elastic Lorraine, it was invaluable) but no lavender bags. I even wore my sewing machine out which had to go to that kind man at Regent Sewing in Ilford who made it better.

Result: Lavender bags 0, Nurses bags, 25, masks 250.

Next to my bathroom, I began stripping like mad (the walls, I hasten to add), re-varnished my bath panel and thanks to a lovely man at a decorating shop in Woodford Bridge who delivered paint, the walls are now a lovely shade of magnolia.

Result: Bathroom finished.

Finally, I turned my attention to the net curtains, put them on a gentle wash in the washing machine and who would had thought that nets could end up in so many bits – oops! So I had to live in a bit of a gold fish bowl till I could get new ones. To add insult to injury, while I was trying to turn up my heavy curtains, the rail came out of the ceiling so for about 6 weeks, I was living in a huge goldfish bowl with no nets or heavy curtains. Rail now fixed but still not finished turning the curtains up. This was getting to be a bit like that song from way back, “there’s a hole in my bucket, dear Liza”.

Result: Nets sorted, heavy curtains - work in progress.

To review my endeavours, whilst I may not have completed all the tasks I set myself, I certainly got a lot more done because

of the beautiful weather than I would have if it had rained so I don't feel too bad. However, should you feel inclined to ask me about my filing or curtains, I won't be in the least upset!

Ruth



How do we follow that? LB

A message from John Higgins

With the church still closed, we are unable to draw any income from the usual weekly church collections. I previously suggested that giving could continue with the setting up of a bank standing order. If anyone would like to consider this, details are available on the church website or you can call me on 07914765566. Alternatively, cheques are also acceptable. Thank you

The Importance of Hugs

Throughout Lockdown I was able to see four of my six grandchildren from across the gate to my home but as my other two live in Kent it was thanks to technology and FaceTime that I could see them at all. When we were told that families could come together, I was overjoyed to know they could hug me again. That moment will stay with me, as the two of them ran toward me, arms outstretched shouting "Nanny, Nanny." They wrapped themselves around me and we held each other so tight that I wanted the hug to last forever!

My story is special to me but I have another story of some hugs that were so special to the recipients that I asked if I could share the story with you and they were pleased to do so.

The couple who attend the Brain Tumour Support Group had been longing to be grandparents but when the wife was diagnosed with a brain tumour she wondered if she would ever see her grandchildren. Her tumour went into remission and she was overjoyed to hold her first grandchild last year. This year just as Lockdown happened her other daughter in law gave birth to twins so the new-born hugs had to wait. Meanwhile the grandad who raises money for Brain Tumour UK wrote a song for his grandchildren to listen to when they are older, and the grandmother waited patiently until the day that families could come together again. When that moment happened, I received a text and a photo from them, it was a photo that encapsulates pure joy and love. I have kept the photo on my phone to remind me that there is always hope and love.

Anne Dellow



News from the Wright Bunch

During the lock down and the school holidays Andy and I have taken the opportunity to go out walking. Our daughter and granddaughter have moved out and now live in Aldersbrook, which is a short walk through Wanstead Park. On one walk through the park we met Sandra and Colin and stopped to have a nice chat with them. The next day we took a walk in Valentine's Park and saw Sue Ruckes and, once again, had a nice chat with her. On another walk, Dad came with us to Valentine's Park where we met John and Audrey Manuel and enjoyed chatting to them too.

We feel incredibly lucky to have such lovely parks on our doorstep where we can get some fresh air and enjoy some much-needed human contact.

Empty Nest Syndrome!!

If anyone would like to come round late at night, switch on all the lights and play loud music, or you would like a go on the swing, or you need your washing doing, please feel free to come round, as I'm missing all these things dreadfully.

Jo

Any offers? LB

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BOOKS OF THE BIBLE. A Puzzle from Brian Grinham

30 books are hidden within text. Have fun.

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends.

One friend from Illinois worked on it while fishing from his John boat. Another friend studied it while playing the banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend judges the job of solving the puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot.

That is a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalised.

Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst.

Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in the paragraph.

During a recent fund-raising event which featured the puzzle, the Alpha Delta Philemonade booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 persons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult it had ever seen. As Daniel Hummana humbly puts it, "the books are right there in plain view hidden from sight".

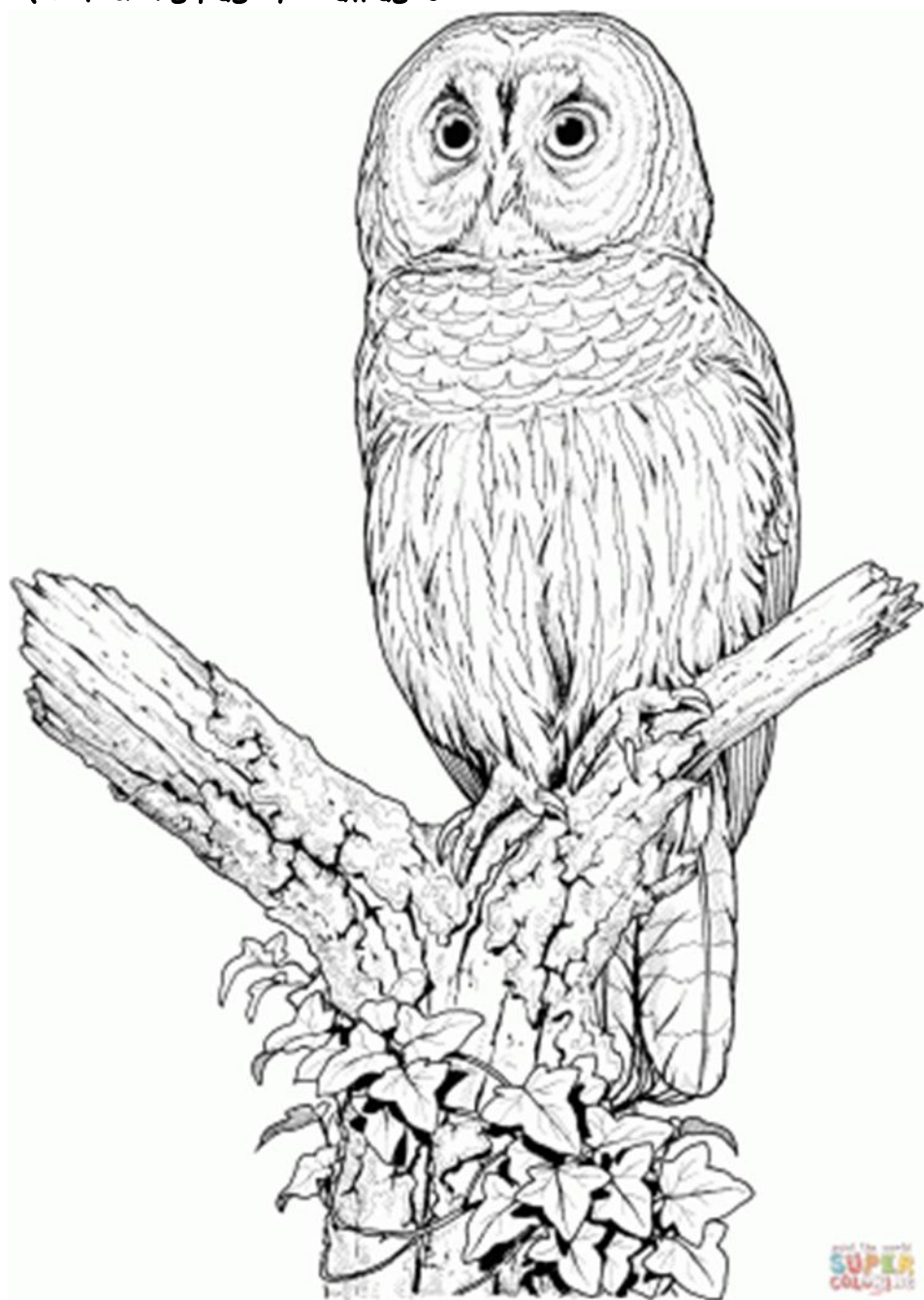
Those able to find them all will hear great lamentations from those who will have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also keep in mind that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know all the answers.

Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

Answers on the back page

†

A colouring page for all ages



HOW LONG CAN IT LAST?

The strange life continues and almost becomes normal. It is harder to get in touch with people because many go out more often and some even have short holidays. I am grateful to be living a long way from beaches and beauty spots. I am lucky to be living opposite Valentines Park at The Wash.

Crosses are still appearing in my 2020 diary. Peter Sharp and I should have been in Lincoln on VJ Day, but his nephews wedding has been postponed until 2021.

VJ Day seemed to be ignored by the general public but I was pleased to hear there were official events broadcast on TV but hardly anything on radio, I came across the 11am 2 minutes silence by chance on Radio 4 and was able to participate. Sadly, the Red Arrows Fly Pass was cancelled because of the weather. I do miss them going over the park.

My flag was outside the window by 8am, The Forgotten Army still appears to be the Forgotten Army.

*`when you go home, tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrows, we gave our today.'*

The Kohima Epitaph

Music has still featured prominently in 'my lockdown'. I listen to Classic FM and sing with the Cambridge Singers, Monteverdi Choir, Kings College Cambridge Choir and choirs from the continent, whose names I forget.

Parry's 'Jerusalem' and 'I was glad', Handel's 'Zadok the Priest' and 'The Hallelujah Chorus' turn up regularly. I have time to find the scores for Verdi's 'Va Pensiero' (speed your journey) while the introduction is being played.



A few of us meet about once a week at Gardeners Café in the walled garden near Valentines Mansion. Liz couldn't find us but was luckily found by Elizabeth Mandlate who escorted her to the café. Elizabeth happened to be in the park with a friend. If you find Liz in Valentines Park, please escort her to the walled garden.

Liz lived in Ilford near Valentines Park for many years and used to take her boys to the park when they were little. As you will have noted, they are not exactly little now....

I really wish the dreadful virus would 'go away', but it shows no sign of doing so. Thank you to all of you who organise the newsletter and telephone to see that everyone is all right. If I am not in, I shall probably be in Valentines Park looking for missing persons or checking that the cream teas are up to standard!

Susan Ruckes

ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE

The words from a favourite hymn of our late friend Roy Brunnen

Let us build a house where love can dwell, and all can safely live

A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace.

All are welcome

All are welcome

All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where prophets speak and words are strong and true

Where all God's children dare to seek to dream Gods reign anew

Here the cross shall stand as witness, as a symbol of God's grace.

All are welcome

All are welcome

All are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard, and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace.

Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter,

All are welcome

All are welcome

All are welcome in this place.

Marty Haugen

The Color Green Word Search Puzzle

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

| | |
|-------------|----------|
| ARTICHOKE | LETTUCE |
| ASPARAGUS | MARKERS |
| BEANS | MARTIAN |
| BROCCOLI | MONEY |
| CABBAGE | PEAS |
| CHLOROPHYLL | PLANTS |
| CLAY | SHAMROCK |
| CLOVER | STEMS |
| DINOSAURS | TREE |
| ENVY | TURTLE |
| FROG | |
| GRASS | |
| IGUANA | |
| KERMIT | |
| LEPRECHAUN | |

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE – ANSWERS

This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much he passed it on to some friends.

One friend from Illinois worked on it while fishing from his John boat. Another friend studied it while playing the banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column.

Another friend judges the job of solving the puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot.

That is a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalised.

Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of the them at the worst.

Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in the paragraph. During a recent fund-raising event which featured the puzzle, the Alpha Delta Philemonade booth set a new sales record.

The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 persons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult it had ever seen. As Daniel Hummana humbly puts it, "the books are right there in plain view hidden from sight".

Those able to find them all will hear great lamentations from those who will have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also keep in mind that punctuation and spaces in the

middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know all the answers.

Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus, there really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

***Last date for items for the October newsletter:
Sunday 25th September***