

The Drive Methodist Church
Eastern Avenue Ilford IG13PP

Newsletter

JUNE 2022

JUBILEE EDITION



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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.

Mmasape's Message

June 2022

Again the time for our church news article finds me reeling at news of yet another bereavement in my family just two months after my mother's death; this time it's news of my children's other grandmother, my mother in law. So not being in a good head and emotional space, I came across this article, as another colleague had asked on a female clergy Facebook group for an article as she was dealing with some difficult situation and unable to pen a newsletter article. So thanks to the "mummy" who offered this.

It's a time for Jubilee!

"The things which I have here before promised, I will perform and keep. So help me God." - Her Majesty The Queen

As we join together as a nation to celebrate the many and various acts of service made by our Queen, it is good to reflect upon the nature of that service and the example that it provides to us all.

Much of what the Queen promised related to words of power, law and justice, but when we reflect on her years of service these are not the words that come to mind. When I think about how I see the Queen go about her acts of service to her nation I am struck by how small each individual act seems and yet together they add up to the job of being the Queen.

Not quite the image that we might have had in our head when we dreamed of being a prince or princess as a small child!

So much of the Queen's reign is caught in her smile. As she goes about the country meeting the people, the Queen is always quick to smile. She smiles at the child who hands her some flowers; she smiles as she pulls the ribbon to unveil the plaque; she even smiles as she walks along streets paved with crowds of well-wishers calling her name and waiting for her attention. Even more than this, the Queen smiles as she presides over yet another formal banquet, while she waits for the translator to communicate her harmless remark about the weather or the food to the waiting dignitary.

The Queen's act of service is made up of small, everyday actions of a handshake, a smile and a listening ear. It is the sum of a whole host of small actions that make up the role of the Queen and what a fantastic example this is to each of us. We can all emulate the Queen in this: smiling at the people in the shop queue; passing the time of day with those we walk past; taking an extra moment on our journey to help someone out.

Over these weeks of the Jubilee celebrations, let us take wisdom from the words of her Majesty as a reminder of what each of us is called to every day and do our bit to act with kindness to others, preferring their needs to our own.

“At the heart of our faith stand not a preoccupation with our own welfare and comfort but the concepts of service and of sacrifice.” - Her Majesty The Queen

By Jo King (Clergy Mummies)

As we celebrate the events of our nation, let us not forget the celebration of Pentecost, as the promised comforter, the Holy Spirit, came upon believers and each could hear the good news of Christ’s selfless love in their own tongues or language. May we continue to share the good news in ways that opens up the gospel to all people.

Best wishes

Mmasape

Praying with children in church and at home

Alphabet Prayers

Sit the children in a circle and start by praying for something beginning with the letter 'A', then ask each child, in turn, to pray for something beginning with the next letter of the alphabet. This can be used for prayers of thanks or prayers for others.

Echo Prayer

Pray a short prayer or line of a prayer out loud. Pause and ask the children to repeat that prayer or phrase. The children can work as a group to write these prayers before they are used.

Church Family News

Congratulations to our friends who all celebrate their birthdays during the month of June.

3rd Sophia Bampoe

9th Elizabeth Mandlate

23rd Peter Bendon

25th Audrey Taylor



We pray for **Sandra Foukes** who has been admitted to hospital and send her best wishes for her recovery.

We offer our condolences to **Reverend Jonji and his family** on the loss of their mother and grandmother.

We hope that **John Higgins** is comfortable and recovering well from recent knee surgery.

Please remember **Pauline and Errol** in your prayers, (Michelle's sister and brother) Errol has recently had treatment and Pauline is unwell and waiting for test results.

We pray for **Sophia** whose brother David died recently in hospital in Ghana after a short illness. Sophia will be travelling to Ghana to be with her family.

Michelle and Thea will be among approx. 16 members of their family, taking part in Cancer Research Race for Life on Saturday 28th May. All sponsorship gratefully received.

Our friend **Josie** unfortunately had a fall recently. We pray for her recovery and send our love and best wishes.

Elizabeth Mandlate is recovering from a recent operation and we send her our love and prayers.



Peter and Lorraine Bendon became proud Great Grandparents to baby Rafe James Richard Phillips. Rafe's dad, Jordan was baptised at The Drive and as a little boy often joined in Junior Church. We are grateful to you all for your good wishes.

Frank

My family and I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone at The Drive following my dad Frank's death. You have all been so kind and we appreciate all your love and support.

Frank was a member of The Drive for decades. He had many friends, and enjoyed people's views and company, especially when sitting having coffee after the service.

We will all miss him dearly, but he had a strong faith and believed in spreading God's word. He loved to play the organ and piano and to sing his favourite Wesley hymns.

Thank you to Rev. Mmasape for a lovely service, to Andrew for his amazing organ voluntaries, and the choir for singing so wonderfully. The flowers were beautifully arranged by Anne and Lorraine expertly guided me in producing arrangements for the tables in the hall.

You truly are my amazing church family.

Jo

**A Prayer for Ukraine by Sally Foster-Fulton,
Head of Nations and Church Relations**

Borders, barricades, bewilderment...
When the bargaining begins,
God please protect peace.

Sanctions, security measured in minutes and it's scary...
When safety scatters,
God please protect peace.

War dresses up in peace-keeper's clothes,
Troops amass, the ground trembles and so do people...
When the future feels fragile,
God please protect peace.

The littlest, the least likely to have a say,
Those whose lives are sanctioned and bargained over –
Violence always finds them first.

And the 'oh-so-important' political manoeuvres mean
nothing to them.
They just want to live.

When the winners want to wipe them out of the way,
God please protect peace.

We will not turn away. We will stand together –
God give us the strength to protect peace.

AMEN

Lets Sing



You shall go out with joy
And be led forth with peace
The mountains and the hills
Will break forth before you
There'll be shouts of joy
And all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands



And all the trees of the field
Will clap their hands
The trees of the field
Will clap their hands
The trees of the field
Will clap their hands
While you go out with joy



Stuart Dauermann/ Steffi Geiser Rubin 1944

The Queens Jubilee

As you read this newsletter, it is likely we will be enjoying or preparing for the bank holiday weekend of celebrations for Queen Elizabeth's incredible 70 year reign.

I hope you may be celebrating at the Jubilee Afternoon Tea with family , friends of the church and local community.



***Come and join in The Jubilee AFTERNOON TEA
at The Drive —Saturday 4th June 2pm—5pm***

***This will be held in the church hall. Tickets must be
purchased in advance for this event.***

***Don't forget to wear your crown and enter the
competition for BEST CROWN***

Children £1. Adults £5

***Tea, Games, Activities, Crown competition, Memories and
recollections, Live music, Tombola.***

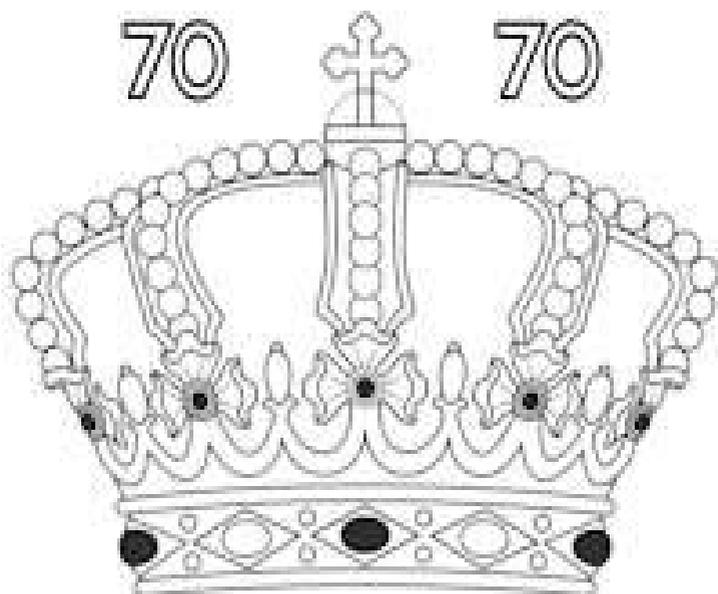
***For last minute tickets, see Anne, Ruth, Lorraine,
Michelle , Sandra or Jo.***

PLATINUM JUBILEE

70



70



2022

eParenting.co.uk

*God save our gracious Queen
Long live our noble Queen, God save the Queen
Send her victorious, happy and glorious
Long to reign over us
God save the Queen.*

The British National Anthem in its present form dates back to the eighteenth century. The words and tune are anonymous, and may date back to the seventeenth century. 'God Save The King' was a patriotic song first publicly performed in London in 1745, which came to be known as the National Anthem at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

In September 1745 the 'Young Pretender' to the British Throne, Prince Charles Edward Stuart, defeated the army of King George II at Prestonpans, near Edinburgh. In a fit of patriotic fervour after news of Prestonpans had reached London, the leader of the band at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, arranged 'God Save The King' for performance after a play. It was a tremendous success and was repeated nightly.

This practice soon spread to other theatres, and the custom of greeting monarchs with the song as he or

she entered a place of public entertainment was thus established

There is no authorised version of the National Anthem as the words are a matter of tradition. Additional verses have been added down the years, but these are rarely used.

The words used today are those sung in 1745, substituting 'Queen' for 'King' where appropriate. When 'God Save the King' was adopted in 1745, the lyrics were: *God save great George our king, God save our noble king, God save the king! Send him victorious, Happy and glorious, Long to reign over us, God save the king!*

However, the third and fourth words were soon changed to 'gracious' after they realised that William IV and Victoria's names (who succeeded George IV) didn't scan.

On official occasions, only the first verse is usually sung. The British tune has been used in other countries and European visitors to Britain in the eighteenth century noticed the advantage of a country possessing such a recognised musical symbol.

SUPPORT REDBRIDGE FOOD BANK

Helping Local People in Crisis

Jubilee Church 14 Granville Road Ilford IG1 4JY

Website: www.redbridge.foodbank.org.uk/

Phone: 020 8518 0056

The Foodbank has distributed 11,500 3 day emergency parcels between April 2021 - March 2022

Foodbanks in the borough are:

The Jubilee Church Ilford (Tues, Wed, Sat);

All Saints Goodmayes & Woodford Baptist Church (Fri)

Grange Hill Methodist (Sat)

Our shopping list is:

Tinned Meat/Fish Custard/Rice Pudding

Tinned Fruit Pasta Sauce Jam/Spreads

Long Life Milk and Juice Tinned Spaghetti

Sanitary items Toilet Paper Toiletries

Size 6+ Nappies

Donations of Money are also very welcome.

HERES THEA!

Hi church family!! I hope you're all doing well :) I just thought I'd give you a little insight into how I'm doing at uni. I'm enjoying my course very much and find that with each day I'm becoming more independent as a nurse which I love. I'm currently doing some exams and essays but after that I start another placement on an orthopaedic ward in Southampton general which I look forward to greatly.

Of course going to uni involves studying and essays and lectures but there's also the fun side which I have been enjoying to the fullest!!! I went on a short trip to the south of France with 2 of my housemates during the Easter holidays and it was truly amazing. I wish I could have taken you all with me but I'll try my best to describe the trip to you instead.

The evening we arrived in Nice, we all went exploring a little bit, just to see what was around before exploring properly the next day. We walked along the whole of the promenade which was 5k in length before stopping to explore the old town. We hadn't sussed out the buses and trams at that point and so had to walk the whole length of the promenade back to our accommodation!!

We had a big sleep and awoke the next morning ready to explore Nice properly. We took some photos by the ocean before visiting Cathédrale Saint-Nicolas de Nice (a Russian orthodox cathedral with an exterior resembling the Kremlin), some markets, a monastery garden and Castle hill, a worthwhile hike up steps to the summit with stunning panoramic views and waterfalls. It was a lovely day with the sun shining throughout and at 33,209 steps for the day, I would say it was very good exercise too haha.

The next day we left Nice and went to Antibes where we did a beautiful coastal walk. The views were truly amazing and unfortunately we didn't make it the whole walk because we stopped every few steps to take a new photo. Nearing the end of the walk, we were treated to a sunset that provided yet another photoshoot as the sky was filled with vibrant pinks, oranges and golden yellows, a wonderful sight to behold.



The third day we went to Monaco and after a busy second day we could feel the ache in our legs but there was still so much we had to see. We exited the station and found ourselves on the famous grand-prix circuit before another little hike to the Prince's palace. We explored the old town and gardens by the palace and took pictures with the yacht filled ports in the background. After making our way back down, we went to a museum of the Prince's car collection which included the famous Bond car which I, of course had a photo with being an avid fan!! We spent the rest of our time looking at the expensive shops Monaco had to offer before dressing up in our formal attire so that we could enter the Monte Carlo Casino. It was a very cool experience being in the casino and I definitely felt like I belonged in Casino Royale with 007 and the rest.

The last day of the trip we spent in Menton, where we realised that we'd made it so far along the coast that we had met the border of Italy!!! This day we spent ambling around, looking at all the brightly coloured buildings and the vast expanse of the sea. Once we'd seen all the sights we wanted to, we decided to go kayaking for we longed to fully explore the blue that surrounded us.

It was lovely being in the kayaks and the water was so clear. We hadn't realised the kayak would have holes in and so spent the journey back to Nice rather wet in the shorts department and I thoroughly enjoyed laughing at the funny walks my friends were doing to accommodate their wet clothes.

It was such a lovely trip, full of fun, memories and photos that I look back on very frequently. I love to travel and can't wait for the opportunity when I can again which will hopefully be soon so that I can share another story with you all :)

Thea Garner

Well who can top that much fun? What a brilliant trip. Thea its always so good to hear from you and how you are progressing. LB

GOD LOVES YOU TOUR

XCEL Centre London 16th July

Join Franklin Graham as he shares a personal message of hope and enjoy an exciting evening of live music. This event is **free of charge**. Bring your friends and family!

Franklin is continuing the lifelong work of his father, Billy Graham, who had a profound appreciation and respect for the UK, and preached here more than any other place in the world outside of the US. Just like his father, Franklin is working with local churches to share with the people of the United Kingdom that God loves them and has a purpose for their lives.

Franklin Graham is the founder of The Samaritans Purse.

Our Friend — Frank Edward Sayers

A special service to celebrate Franks life took place at The Drive on 13th May 2022

Frank wrote this part of the eulogy himself, and the family would like to share it.

I was born in Worthing West Sussex, the third and last child of Walter and Lilian Sayers on November 5th, 1927. My brother Sydney and sister Dorothy were both teenagers when I arrived.

When I was 5 a new Methodist Church was built in our road, and the first minister was The Reverend William Freeman. His wife, Olive called at all the houses in the area to start a Sunday school and so I grew up in Methodism, though my family were not church goers.

The organist at the church taught me to play the organ, as I had previously had piano lessons.

When I left school, I had this strange idea that I would like to be a teacher, though there was no teaching tradition in the family.

After teacher training at the Westminster Methodist teacher training college, I did compulsory National Service for two years.

I enjoyed this and was invited to stay on in the army. However, the Education Officer for Newham recruited those of us who were teachers in civilian life to come to teach in Newham.

I found somewhere to live in Ilford and came to the nearest Methodist church, then called Eastern Avenue Methodist church, later to be The Drive Methodist on amalgamating with the then Cranbrook Park Church.

Here I met my wonderful wife, Catherine. We were married on 14th April 1962, at The Drive. Once we arrived home from our honeymoon the then minister, Leonard White, asked me to be organist and I became organist and choirmaster for over 32 years. The organ, music, and choral singing have always been at the heart of Methodism, and I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of it.

You can request a copy of the complete Eulogy , which was read by Reva friend of the family.

Memories of Grandad/ Great Grandad

Lorna's Memories

It has been very difficult to write down just a few memories as there are so many. Memories of our wonderful holidays together, family trips out and family dinners in.

Grandad was such an amazing, kind, caring man and his enthusiasm towards his Grandchildren and Great Grandchild's lives was immeasurable. Whatever we accomplished, came close to accomplishing or decided after just a few sessions of that particular club or activity that it just wasn't for us anymore he was always our cheerleader! And there was always a photo or two of those moments which he would take pride in labelling and dating, so even now as adults we can look back at those moments captured in time.

Like I just said Grandad loved taking photographs and that also included turning them into slides. We would love it when Grandad would announce he was going to have a "Pictures on the wall" evening. Grandma would provide the tasty treats and Grandad would put on a home cinema experience. It was truly magical being snuggled up as a family watching all these pictures of Grandma and Grandads and also Mum and Uncle Nick's adventures.

As most of you probably know Grandad was a fabulous pianist and organist which was of great use when I decided age 14 to take GCSE music.

Little did Grandad know that he would become mine and my best friend Rebecca's personal pianist? Day or night and even the odd weekend he would help us rehearse for our solo and duet performances. He went from playing Bach and church hymns to Disney classics, Cold Play and our favourite teenage band Evanescence. I'm sure when he started playing piano this was something not on the cards.

We are so lucky to have had such loving Grandparents. Grandma a whizz in the kitchen, delicious cakes, pies, dinners and puddings and Grandad providing us with the entertainment, slideshows, Tots TV and musical concerts and all within the walls of their home. Thank you for giving us our amazing mum and Uncle Nick and for all the wonderful memories. The dream team united together. We will love and miss you always!

Iris' Memories

Great Grandad was my little bestie and I loved when I saw him. We would talk and he would give me lots of biscuits. We would go to the park and I liked wheeling him in his wheelchair really, really fast. Gracie the dog would sit on his lap and would fall asleep. Love you Great Grandad because not many people have Great Grandparents.

Tim's Memories

Our grandad Frank, who didn't mind me playing tennis on his beautiful, soft green, lawn.

Full of fun, friendship, and fellowship and all who knew him, knew him as a man who lived a caring, sharing life.

From rigorous cycling to creative calligraphy, from organ playing to amateur dramatics, from gardening to DIY, from photography to cross words, Frank fostered and was enriched by many talents.

The immediate family, the wider family, the school family (he was a deputy head teacher) and the extended Church family - all important to Frank and he gave of his time freely and deeply.

From Worthing to Ilford and having visited most of the UK and beyond, with his beloved Catherine our grandma. Frank was widely travelled, and he made many friends along the way.

Frank used digital typewriters to spread the news. He didn't shy from the new, and I am sure he would be delighted that his nieces Jean and Sarah and other family and friends can share the service on the Internet today.

Our grandad Frank, a man of many talents, but most of all just a lovely, polite, kind gentleman.

Dave's Memories

Whether it was allowing me to use his and Grandma's precious cheeseboards to practice my forehand and backhand, or beating Tim in a penalty shootout and ploughing the football straight into the flowerbed it was always a great time at Grandads house.

All the lovely food we used to have and even Grandad allowing us to have a glass of wine (which I was very upset to find out was sparkling water when I grew up) I was also super excited to give Grandad a kiss on the cheek and that feeling of his razor sharp beard on my face which we used to call prickles.

So many amazing memories that I am so thankful to have.

Such wonderful recollections of a special man.LB

Bible Reading Group

The group will meet on Friday

June 24th at 11.00am at 104

Wanstead Lane .

All are welcome.



A Prayer for Frank from Hilary

Lord we thank you for Frank. What a lovely person he was, gentle, and kind. The world would be a much better place if there were more people like Frank.

Frank was one of the first people I got to know when I joined this church. I didn't come from a church going background and I'd not been to Sunday School so I had a lot of questions to ask and I asked Frank. We would stand outside the church on the way home (this was before Frank was married) and I would bombard him with questions. I expect he wanted to get home but he was infinitely patient.

Lord, Frank and Catherine were always at the centre of this church and had a hand in most things, but we especially think of Frank as organist and choirmaster which he was for many years. He always said he was not a very good organist. That wasn't true ,he played with great sensitivity and his faith shone through. His singing of 'A Wandering Minstrel I ' from Gilbert and Sullivan at a church concert will stay with me always. Frank loved music but his voice was not the most tuneful.

were.

We think of Franks career as a teacher. He must have touched the lives of so many children over the years. Im sure he was the sort of teacher children remember as adults, not only for the subjects they taught but because of the sort of people they

And Lord, we know how much his family meant to him, his long marriage to Catherine and his love of his children, grandchildren, great grandchild and his extended family. He so much appreciated all they had done for him in recent years.

So Lord, we thank you for Frank. He was unique as we are all unique, but he was special and today we celebrate his life, along life well lived. May he rest in peace with Catherine. Perhaps the harp will be easy to play after the organ.

God Bless you Frank. All of us who have known and loved you will remember you with love and affection all our lives.

Amen

Wonderful memories of a very special man.LB



BARKING CHURCHES UNITE

Food collection & Distribution Worker – Job Advert

Barking Churches Unite (BCU) and Dagenham Christians Together (DCT) are looking to recruit a food collection & distribution worker to support the ministry of food provision to the homeless and disadvantaged within the London borough of Barking & Dagenham (LBBD) for up to 20 hours a week for £11.50 per hour.

We work in partnership with LBBD Council from their premises at the Barking Learning Centre (BLC) and Dagenham Library (DL) serving upwards of 150 people per day through our Pit Stop food provision service and 40 – 50 families per week through our community food club's(CFC).

We are looking for a self-motivated individual to support the BCU/BLC/DCT Ministry by collecting from our numerous retail and non-retail partners on a daily basis and having collected, to deliver goods into the BLC / DL in a timely fashion. Being willing to use your own car or van is essential to this role, typical collections can range up to 12 supermarket crates worth of donations. You will have the good interpersonal skills necessary to build and maintain relationships with our existing partner organisations and with new one's as they come on stream.

A mobile phone is essential to the role as all donations are managed through WhatsApp, email and text communications. Key to the role is communication both with supervisory trustee's and partner organisations. You will need to be flexible at all times as donations can be variable both in size and frequency of occurrence and venue for collection

Closing date and interview date details are below

Closing Date: 10th June 2022

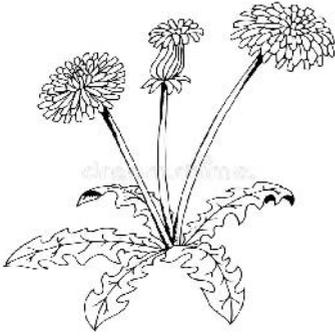
Short Listing Date: 11th June 2022

Interview Date: 13th June 2022 (12.30 - 5.30pm)

For further details, job description and application form contact
Mick Mednick

Michael.mednick@barkingchurchesunite.org 07818507946

Website www.barkingchurchesunite.org



“Hello, I'm a dandelion.

A lot of people call me a weed but I'm a friend and come to help you!.

When you see me, remember that I'm the **ONLY** one who wants and can grow in that

particular spot. Because:

Either the soil is too compact / hard / stomped and I want to loosen it for you with my roots.

Or there is too little calcium in the soil - don't worry, I will replenish that for you with the dying of my leaves.

Or the soil is too acidic. But I will also improve that for you if you give me the chance.

Or a mixture of the above reasons, of course.

I'm here because your soil needs my help so best you let me grow without disturbing me! When everything is fixed, I will disappear again, I promise!

Are you trying to remove me prematurely with my root? However meticulous you are, I will return 2x as strong! Just until your soil is improved.

You can even tell by my growth at which stage my help is at.

If my leaves are flat on the ground then I'm far from ready but if they all reach up then I'm already a long way on my way.

Something completely different is that I am 1 of the first bloomers in spring so I will announce spring / summer for you.

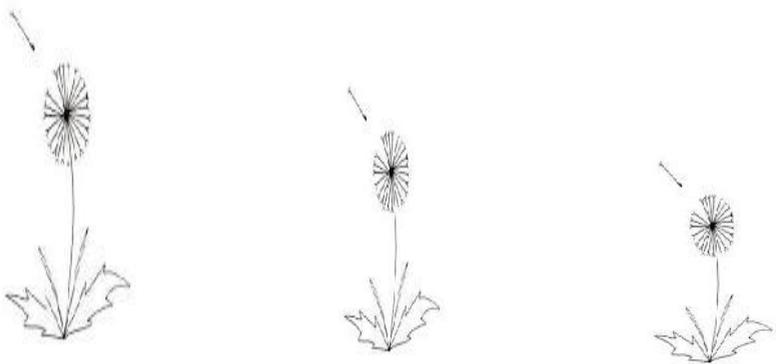
During the day when it's hot, I open my flowers but in the evening when it cools off I close them again quickly. In fact, if it's not hot enough during the day I won't open them at all!

.My flowers are the first food for insects after hibernation and unlike most other plants, I have pollen AND nectar, not merely one OR the other! And I am generous with them!

My flowers are even delicious for you people by the way, did you know?

I used to be called honey (or gold) of the poor because my flowers are so sweet in e.g. jam, sauce or salad! The internet is full of recipes - check them out.

But wait until the end of May or later before you start picking and even then, don't pick everything yet! The biodiversity and bees will be very grateful!"



PENTECOST - 5th June 2022.

The Day of Pentecost marks fifty days since Easter Day and brings the Easter season to an end. It is a major feast of the Church's year when Christians recall how God's Holy Spirit was given to the disciples after Jesus' ascension, empowering them to begin the work of making disciples of all nations.

Pentecost (which comes from the Greek word for 'fiftieth') has its roots in the Jewish Feast of Weeks

Jesus had promised his followers that, although they would not see him after his Ascension, they would receive the Holy Spirit to guide and inspire them.

The Acts of the Apostles describes how the crowds gathered in Jerusalem – representing many nationalities and speaking many languages – were able to hear the disciples preaching in their own language.

The colour most often associated with Pentecost is red, representing the tongues of fire which the Acts of the Apostles describes appearing above the heads of the disciples as a sign that they had received the Holy Spirit.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.'

Acts 2, Chapter 2

With its focus on God's Spirit being poured out on believers, Pentecost is one of the most popular days for baptisms and confirmations in the Church's year.

Thy Kingdom Come

Many churches set aside the ten days between Ascension and Pentecost as a special time of prayer for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thy Kingdom Come – the global wave of prayer established in 2016 following an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York – has seen millions of Christians across denominations and across the world joining together to pray for more people to come to know Jesus.



Outcome of Church Vision Day at The Drive 7th May

What do we need to change?

- Become more outreach/outward focussed
- Communicate clearly what next steps are to new members, office holders, volunteers
- Clear information – guard against “exclusivity” and religious jargon

How do we make changes to help us to flourish?

- Review our current practices
- Make more use of our outside notice boards
- Encourage more volunteers
- Approach people individually to ask them to serve
- Have a Feedback Box
- Increase our church profile on social media
- Go leafleting
- Be ware of our unconscious bias- attend

Group work: Practical/tangible actions to increase our visibility and help us to grow.

4 groups were asked:

Visibility

- Change Eastern Avenue door to be more open (glass) to a more visible area
- Use changeable signage
- Hold more events and invite widely
- Increase communication : social media, printed notices, newsletter, change big notice boards regularly.

Growth

- Social media
- Choir collaboration with others
- Outside preaching to evangelise
- Increase outreach
- Use clearer simpler language
- Create link to sermon content weekly, preachers to be more sensitive/aware of the audience
- More minister led services
- Membership classes
- Support and encourage young people to be active in all aspects of church.

The final session focused on where the circuit is guiding the churches and how we fit into the vision.

MZ outlined the circuit vision day2 resolution going to the June circuit meeting to recommend reducing staff ,to 3 ministers, reducing number of churches, to support and focus on identified circuit priorities.

Closing remarks:

MZ read the following church mission statement as the statement that says who we are as a church:

“The Drive Methodist church aims to be faithful to the commandments of Jesus Christ.

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.”

In view of the conversation held we felt that it was important to review the language in the top half of the mission statement to be more easily understood.

The Meeting was closed by sharing the grace together at 12.30 and sharing in a church lunch.

Grateful thanks to Priya for making an excellent job of writing up the notes for this meeting. LB

Brian's Musings



Two roads diverged in a wood and I - I took the one less travelled by, and that has made all the difference.”

Robert Frost

“I may disagree with what you have to say, but I shall defend, to the death, your right to say it.”

Voltaire



MIND THE GAP!



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

BAKERLOO
BAKERSTREET
BARRIER
CAMDENTOWN
CHARINGCROSS
CIRCLE
DELAY
DISTRICT
DLR
ELEPHANTANDCASTLE
ESCALATOR
EUSTON
HAMMERSMITH
HEATHROW

HELPIAMLOST
HIGHBARNET
JUBILEE
LEICESTERSQUARE
LIFT
LIVERPOOLSTREET
LONDONBRIDGE
MAP
MARBLEARCH
METROPOLITAN
MINDTHEGAP
MONUMENT
MORDEN
NORTHERN

OXFORDCIRCUS
PASSENGERS
PICCADILLY
RICHMOND
SOUTHKENSINGTON
STAIRS
STJAMESPARK
TICKET
TOTTENHAMCOURTROAD
TRAIN
TUBE
VICTORIA
WATERLOO

A Turn up for the Book(s)

It's strange how the most simple things can inspire one to 'get going' again after a bout of apathy. Those who know me well enough will recall my photo project, it had been waiting years to be finished and the Lockdown gave me no excuse to say, 'There's not enough time.' Three months into 'Social Distancing and Bubbles,' I lost enthusiasm for the task and packed the boxes away for another day.

Two years on I found myself steeped in nostalgia again as I searched for photos of past Royal events to support a memory board that I was making for the Jubilee Afternoon Tea. I wouldn't say I am a hoarder in the broad sense of the word but the contents of an old box from my school days would seriously contest that statement! Amid the myriad of memories in that box a notebook surfaced, it was in immaculate condition and on the front cover neatly underlined was written;

Anne Hatwell, L5H, Rough Note Book

I flicked through the pages, each was blank, I recalled my form teacher Mrs Harper who taught English, one of my favourite subjects. I remembered the reason for the blank pages, Anne Hatwell decided to leave school at the age of sixteen. I wondered what those pages would have held, had she not given up her education. What would I now tell that young girl about her

future, would it have changed her mind and her destiny? Hairstyling was never the plan but her mind was made up and her path into the world of work began.

She never forgot her first day at work, she looked at the clock, it was 3.15pm and her friends were just going home from school, she had another three hours to stand on her feet!

Those feet walked the path of life and eventually after twenty years found their way to the Drive Church thanks to her new neighbour Pat Grinham.

Forty two years later the discovery of my notebook prompts me to consider why those blank pages spurred me on to write this piece for the magazine. For my family, the Drive Church became a great part of our lives as my children gained confidence through the many activities they took part in at church. I too found confidence in being involved in various parts of church life.

TDY were recently given an opportunity to show their skills as they presented an excellent Sunday Service.

We must ensure that there are no 'blank pages' for our young people and that they are encouraged to, not only grow spiritually but in confidence too as they are the future of our church.

Thank You TDY for all your ideas and inspiration.

Anne Dellow

Thank you Anne, we love your life stories. LB

FOSTERING IN REDBRIDGE

I'm sure you are all aware of the urgent need across the UK for foster families. Gemma Seabrook often send articles for our newsletter and here is her latest.

Fostering Communities.

Foster for Redbridge.

Redbridge Foster Carers share what it is like to be part of the Redbridge Fostering Community and caring for the Borough's most vulnerable children as part of the Foster Care Fortnight #FosteringCommunities campaign. Take a look at what our foster carers say:

<https://youtu.be/4rnBZ3YpqbI>

If you have a place in your heart and home to foster, please call us on 020 8708 6068 or email

fostering@redbridge.gov.uk

Gemma Seabrook

Recruitment, Engagement and Development Officer – Fostering

Fostering, Adoption and Children with Disabilities Service
London Borough of Redbridge

Ascension Day

*Grant, we pray, almighty God,
that as we believe your only-begotten
Son our Lord Jesus Christ
to have ascended into the heavens,
so we in heart and mind may also
ascend
and with him continually dwell;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.*

Amen.

Helplines and Support

Christians Against Poverty (CAP) provides free debt help and local community groups across the UK.

Iford CAP Debt Centre is run in partnership with City Gates Church. Call 0800 328 0006 to speak to a debt coach.

Concerned about a rough sleeper? Tell someone.
0300 500 0914 .

Victim Support_ 08 08 16 89 111 is here to help and support anyone affected by crime.victimsupport.org.uk/help-and-support/get-help/support-near-you/east-england/essex

Mind for Mental Health Support Infoline: 03001233393
Email: info@mind.org.uk

Samaritans now has a free telephone number .

11612324 hrs. email and you will receive a response within 24 hours by contacting us on jo@samaritans.org

Childline_You can talk to us about anything. Call 0800 1111 or via 1-2-1 chat between 7.30am and 3.30am every day.

Call the National Domestic Abuse helpline on **0808 2000 247**

CHURCH DIARY FOR June

29th May 11.15am Sunday Worship

led by Sharon Grundy

4th June 2pm –5pm Jubilee Afternoon Tea

In the CHURCH HALL

5th June 11.15am PENTECOST Sunday Worship

led by Rev B Mandlate HC

12th June 11.15am MHA/TRINITY SUNDAY

Worship led by Deacon Andy Packer

19th June 11.15am Sunday Worship led by

Collins Frimpong-Manso

24th June 11.00am BIBLE READING GROUP

104 Wanstead Lane

26th June 11.15am Sunday Worship

led by Nelly Debrah

Services every Sunday at 11.15am

Communion Services as announced

Senior Church Stewards:

Michelle Garner , assisted by Diane Foster

Property Steward
Bookings (J Foster)

Jeremy Foster
bookings@drive-methodist.church

Church Council
Secretary:

Priya Inbakumar

Music at The Drive

Andrew Taylor
music@drive-methodist.church

Flower Rota
Secretary:

Janet Brunnen

Youth Church
Leader:

Jo Wright

Safeguarding:

Lorraine Bendon

JMA Secretary:

Diane Foster

Newsletter Editor:

Lorraine Bendon
newsletter@drive-methodist.church

Uniformed Organisations
Group Scout Leader:

Mr M Seviour

Cubs:

Mr R Shah

Pre School:

Kay Whiddon Term time
only: Mon – Fri 9.15am -12pm 1pm – 3.45pm