

THE DRIVE METHODIST CHURCH

EASTERN AVENUE ILFORD IG 13PP

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2023



Minister Rev. Mmasape Zihle

Email: mmasape.zihle@methodist.org.uk

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.

Methodist Street Pastors

Street Pastors celebrated its 20th birthday last month. They bring together people from across the Church, all sharing the same values of selflessness, help and care for those in need. They offer pastoral support and community welfare.

Here is an account from Claire, a Methodist who is a Street Pastor, sharing her beliefs, commitments and achievements.

Claire Pearce, Winchester, Street Pastor for 8 years

“To me, being a Street Pastor, means being the hands and feet of Jesus in my local area. It sounds very worthy but is where I believe Jesus would be and this is where being a Street Pastor fits with the Methodist way of life, in caring for people, being open, serving and giving us the chance to tell others and share our faith.

It is a chance to celebrate with people who are out celebrating, talk to the lonely, help the vulnerable and reassure the anxious. There has not been a single patrol where the team and I have felt that our time was wasted, some are less eventful than others but every time we go out, we can see the power of prayer over the city and feel that we have made a difference.

If there is a local Street Pastor team near you I would recommend that you explore ways to get involved, go out for an evening as an observer, hold them in prayer or fundraise and consider joining this amazing initiative as the benefits you will gain far outweigh the cost of an evening given up once a month.

SEVEN KINGS METHODIST CHURCH

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THIS SERVICE AT 4PM ON
11TH JUNE, TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE
CHURCH. WORSHIP WILL NO LONGER BE HELD IN SEVEN
KINGS CHURCH FROM THIS SUMMER.

REVEREND BERNADINO MANDLATE

Bernardino is retiring this summer

Our previous minister, Revd Bernardino Mandlate will be retiring in July this year. There will be a Circuit Farewell Service for Bernardino on Sunday 9th July, 4 pm, at Barking Methodist Church.

The Circuit plans to present Bernardino and Elizabeth with a gift, from all the churches. If any of you would like to give towards the Circuit gift, please speak to a Steward. All contributions must be sent to the Circuit Office before Friday 23rd June. Cheques should be made payable to the Barking, Dagenham and Ilford Methodist Circuit but if you would prefer to give via bank transfer, please let a steward know or contact Jackie in the Circuit Office.

Also, please let a steward know if you would like to give a tribute to Bernardino during the presentation.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



Sandra Runeckles has been in hospital. It is hoped she will be back home very soon.

We hope that Audrey Taylor, soon gets suitable treatment for her painful knee.

We wish Andy Wright well as he too is suffering with a painful knee that thankfully is now being investigated.

The Selwyn Family have moved. We wish them many happy times in their new home.

Hello, to Peter, Marlene, Josie, Kathleen and Brian.

TDY news from Jo

Many of our young people have been busy with exams, assessments, and dissertations. We wish them all well, and we hope to see them soon. Funmi and my granddaughter, Iris, will be enjoying their last few weeks of term at primary school, as they both move up to year 7. Good luck to them both. How time flies!

Praying for all our young people LB

BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS

Sophia Bampoe will be the birthday girl on 3rd, followed by **Elizabeth Mandlate** on 9th.

Peter Bendon will be blowing out numerous candles on 23rd and **Audrey Taylor** will be celebrating on 25th.

Happy Birthday to you all



WE WISH OUR NEW KING, CHARLES III AND QUEEN CAMILLA A LONG, PRODUCTIVE AND HAPPY REIGN.

‘LONG LIVE THE KING’

Annual Church Meeting

Please grab a drink and stay after the service on 4th June for our annual church meeting led by Rev. Mmasape. Feel free to take a copy of the Annual Report. These provide an update of all the teams, groups and activities that make up the life of The Drive.

Stewards Corner

I've been a steward for about a year or so now and it certainly is a great way to get to know people. You have to turn your hand to anything and even if you get something wrong (which I frequently do), well, I'm only human, aren't I.

The way I look at it is that the Bible teaches us to care about our fellow man and help one another so what better way than to help our Church family and welcome newcomers because, after all, we all walked through those doors for the first time once!

Ruth



A Prayer from Oli



WELCOME JUNE

New month, new chapter, new page and new wishes.

*May the month give you courage, strength, self-love,
confidence, patience and inner peace.*

*May every day in June fill your days with Hope, love,
sunshine and energy. Let there be Joy Fun and
Laughter.*

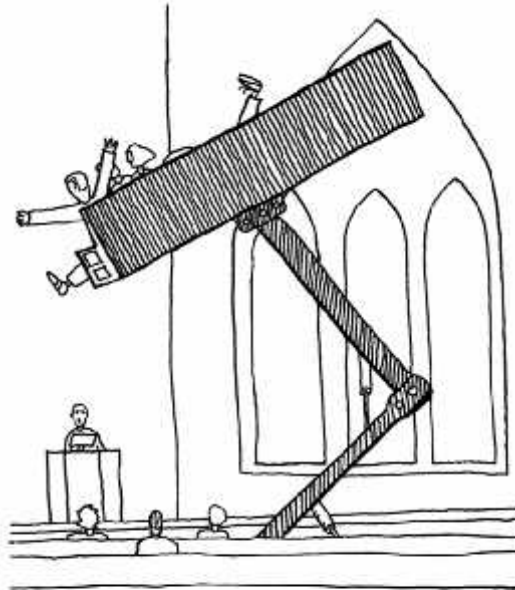
CAN YOU HELP ME TO

IMPROVE THE NEWSLETTER?

Would you like to adopt a page each month for a topic, prayer, recipes, local news, memories etc?

I'm sure there are many of you who have so much of interest in your lives that you could share.

A regular reader who is homebound, recently told me how much she looks forward to reading the newsletter and loves to hear what everyone is up to.



SOME OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE WANTED
CHURCH TO BE MORE EXCITING

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

We pray for the leaders of the nations, that you will guide them in the ways of freedom, justice and truth.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

We pray for those who bear arms on behalf of the nation, that they may have discipline and discernment, courage and compassion.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

We pray for our enemies, and those who wish us harm, that you will turn the hearts of all to kindness and friendship.

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

We pray for the wounded and the captive, the grieving and the homeless, that in all their trials they may know your love and support

Lord, in your mercy

hear our prayer.

Most holy God and Father,

hear our prayers for all who strive for peace

and all who fight for justice.

Help us, who today remember the cost of war,

to work for a better tomorrow; and, as we commend to

you lives lost in terror and conflict, bring us all, in the

end, to the peace of your presence;

through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

MONEY MATTERS — MAY Communion Collection

Christian Aid £33 benefitted from this months collection which amounted to

Thank you for your generosity



Anne and Ian Warden

For those who remember Anne and Ian; they are coming to London in July and would like to have lunch with church friends at ZiZi in Westfield Stratford on Tuesday 11th July.

Are you interested, please let Lorraine know.

.Bible Reading Group.

Jan and John Pearson welcome you to the monthly Bible Reading Group.



The details of this months group are as follows:

Friday June at 11:00 at Jan and John's.

This months discussion will be followed by refreshments.

All are welcome.

Thank You Again



In the May edition,

I knew I was bound to forget include everyone who undertakes roles within the church so apologies to:

Joel who looks after the Gift Aid

Kay and her staff who look after the Drive Preschool

Brian Taylor who sends out contracts to those booking the church premises and organises the posters for the A frames advertising church services.

Diane and Jeremy who ensure the external noticeboards.

Have I missed anyone? Please let me know.

The Drive Scout and Guide Minibus

I recently caught up Mike Seviour, and he was telling me about the sale of the Scout and Guide groups beloved minibus. I have memories of helping to fund raise for the minibus with cake sales and newspaper collections on Saturday mornings. It reminded me of the many happy memories that I have of travelling to camp in it. My daughter remembers various outing in it too.

The bus was kept in immaculate condition by Mike Seviour for many years. Thank you, Mike, for taking the time to look after the minibus, and enabling lots of people to enjoy the trips they took in it.

JO

A N X I E T Y

is the theme of Mental Health Awareness Week 2023

Anxiety is a normal emotion in us all, but sometimes it can get out of control and become a mental health problem.

Lots of things can lead to feelings of anxiety, including exam pressures, relationships, starting a new job (or losing one) or other big life events. We can also get anxious when it comes to things to do with money and not being able to meet our basic needs, like heating our home or buying food. But anxiety can be made easier to manage.

Focusing on anxiety for this year's Mental Health Awareness Week will increase people's awareness and understanding of anxiety by providing information on the things that can help prevent it from becoming a problem. At the same time, we will keep up the pressure to demand change - making sure that improving mental health is a key priority for the government and society as a whole.

Facebook: [@mentalhealthfoundation](#)

Instagram: [@mentalhealthfoundation](#)

If you are concerned that you are developing a mental health problem you should seek the advice and support of your GP as a matter of priority. If you are thinking about ending your life, please call 999 (UK) or go to A&E and ask for the contact of the nearest crisis resolution team. These are teams of mental health care professionals who work with people in severe distress.

Most people recover from mental health problems without needing to go into hospital. There are a number of specialist services including counselling and other talking treatments.

You may also need help with other aspects of your life - for example, claiming benefits or dealing with housing problems. Often these different services are coordinated by a **Community Mental Health Team (CMHT)**.

CMHTs are usually based either at a hospital or a local community mental health centre. Some teams provide 24-hour services so that you can contact them in a crisis.

MIND 020 8519 2122 (office) or 0300 123 3393 (Information line)

E-mail info@mind.org.uk | supportservices@mind.org.uk

Website www.mind.org.uk

Crisis and Home Treatment teams, which provide you with help in your own home and can come out to see you in an emergency or help you get into hospital if you need inpatient treatment.

Samaritans. To talk about anything that is upsetting you, you can contact Samaritans 24 hours a day, 365 days a year call 116 123 (free from any phone), email jo@samaritans.org

SANeline. If you're experiencing a mental health problem or supporting someone else, you can call 0300 304 7000 (4.30pm–10.30pm every day).

Citizens Advice Bureau for advice about benefits, debt problems, legal issues and local services. The Citizens Advice Bureau website has a directory listing its local offices.

Redbridge Mental Health Team

End of an Era!

In 1974, when our scout group was starting to undertake more adventurous activities, we took our first tentative steps into vehicle ownership, buying a 13 year old Bedford Dormobile for £50 from the parents of one of our scouts. It was old and thirsty and bits kept falling off it, most notably the gear lever, resulting in a pair of 'Mole Grips' being used for changing gear for the last couple of months!

Eighteen months with the Bedford gave us the taste of freedom the scouts needed, enabling us to go on activities without the need to hire a vehicle or rely on the generosity of parents for transport. With the demise of the Bedford we needed a replacement and over the next decade we owned a series of Ford Transit minibuses. They served us well but coming to us after hard commercial lives, combined with high mileages, they needed constant repair and maintenance, each needing to be replaced after just four or five years.

In 1985 the Group Executive Committee (by then we had joined forces with the Guides and Brownies to form *The Drive Scout and Guide Group*) took the far-sighted decision to buy a brand new minibus with the hope and expectation that it should last us for at least 15 years. Through the good offices of Peter Foster, our Group Treasurer, who had strong business connections with the motor trade, we were able to secure a new 15-seat Ford Transit which I collected from Perrys (now part of Essex Autogroup) at Rayleigh on 27th August 1985.

For months the Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides fund-raised by means of wastepaper collections, plant sales, craft fayres etc. and after about two years we were able to pay off our debt.

For more than thirty years the minibus was in regular use, taking young people in the Group all over the country, from Sussex in the south to Cumbria in the north and from Norfolk in the east to Devon in the west as well as countless more local destinations for activities and camps. We were also pleased to be able to use it for many years to help with Sunday morning transport to church for less able members of the congregation.

Fifteen years turned out to be a somewhat conservative estimate of the minibus's life expectation and although it was laid up after the scout troop closed in 2015, it is now nearly 38 years old! It has travelled more than 55,000 miles, yet in that time suffered only one significant breakdown (in 2001 when the cambelt failed on the Dartford Bridge resulting in it being relayed to Devon by the AA!).

Following the closure of the Group last year we knew we had to dispose of the minibus. We all feared that at the age of 38 it would be heading to the breaker's yard. However, it's approaching the age at which it can be considered a 'classic' and given its generally excellent condition, research indicated

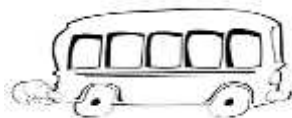
that it would be likely to generate significant interest so we therefore auctioned it on eBay. Bidding was strong and it sold for an amount only marginally less than 75% of its cost to us when new and it was sad when on 16th May it was driven onto a transporter and left The Drive for the very last time.

We are nevertheless delighted that, far from being scrapped, it is going to Co. Tipperary in the south of Ireland where it will be fully restored by its new owner and will start a new life as a chauffeur driven hire vehicle for weddings and parties. I wonder if it will still be going strong in another 38 years?

Mike Seviour

Now that's what you call upcycling!

I'm certain there must be many of you with memories of our Scout and Guide Group. Do share them. LB



A Message for PRIDE week

More than 7 in 10* British people support the LGBTQ+ community. This summer, take action by showing you stand with us.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first Pride march in the UK – a day when hundreds of LGBTQ+ people and their allies arrived in London to protest a society where we were not safe to be ourselves.

These brave protesters marched to Trafalgar Square despite fearing for their own safety. But they knew it was important that their voices were heard – and their actions that day paved the way for half a century of progressive societal change for LGBTQ+ people. We have come so far since then.

50 years on, we can take pride in a United Kingdom where the majority of the public are supportive of their LGBTQ+ neighbours, work colleagues, family and friends.

Today, we live in a society where LGBTQ+ people can live openly and free, where we can form our own families and where our lives and history are taught in schools to the next generation. But our hard-won rights are at risk and attacks still occur.

So this summer, we're calling on the majority to Take Pride in supporting LGBTQ+ rights, and to take meaningful actions to show leaders of the UK, Scotland and Wales governments that we want to live in a world where no one is discriminated because of who they are or who they love.
Support your LGBTQ+ community

Valentines Mansions

Step back in time and explore the Grade II* listed Valentines Mansion. With over 320 years of **history** waiting to be discovered, Valentines is a great day out for the whole family. Explore the period rooms, including Georgian bedchamber, Regency Parlour and Victorian kitchen. The Gallery hosts many art exhibitions all year round. Remember to pick up a free visitor guide from Reception, it's packed with information on history and highlights.

Enjoy our beautiful gardens

Our beautifully kept historic gardens are open all year round for all to enjoy. Take a stroll through the Old English Garden, Kitchen Garden and Victorian Rose Garden. Other highlights include the Dry Garden, Dovecote, Rococo Grottoes and Long Water. Continue your visit into Valentines Park, an award-winning open space with a boating lake and children's play area.

Gardener's Cottage Cafe

Nestled in the Kitchen Garden you'll find the Gardener's Cottage Cafe. Open everyday, the cafe has ample indoor and outdoor seating, Choose from a variety of hot and cold drinks, snacks, cakes, soups, sandwiches and other lunch options.

THE SATURDAY LUNCH

A choice of Homemade Soup with
a Bacon or cheese roll



The next Saturday lunch is on 10th June at the usual time of 12.30pm. Lunch costs £4

If you are planning to come along. Please make your choice on the form by the refreshment hatch in church.

We look forward to seeing you and hope you will bring a friend along.

Ruth, Anne and Lorraine

Ideas please ???

What would you like to have for lunch? Lets have your ideas.

It needs to be fairly simple to prepare as we have limited space.

Most importantly, we want to keep the cost down, to make it accessible for all.

We would love to hear your views.

Lets Sing!

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace and 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



You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace and 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



Steffi Geiser Rubin, Stuart Dauermann

Dear Lord

Thank you for the blessing of seeing another day.

*We lift up to you all who we love and care for
and ask you to bless them and meet their needs.*

*May your peace and joy fill our cups to overflowing
and may your grace sustain us.*

*Thank you for being our healer, protector and provider
and for every good thing that comes from your hands.*

We commit this day to you and ask you to go before us.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen





Summer Word Search

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

BARBEQUE
 BEACH
 HEAT
 LEMONADE
 OUTSIDE
 POOL
 SUNSCREEN
 SWIMMING
 VACATION

Fancy a coffee and a chat?



At The Drive, a small group of church friends meet together. Here are some details from Brian Grinham

Wednesday Coffee Mornings.

For several years now some of us have been meeting at 11.a.m. on a Wednesday, in Valentines Park Gardener's Café for a cup of coffee/tea and a chat. When Covid came we had to stop for a while but have started meeting again as soon as we could without running foul of the regulations. But now we can meet more freely.

During the winter months it can get a bit cold in the park, so we meet at City Gates Church, Clements Road, Ilford during the winter, and then in the Park when the weather gets warmer,

By the time you read this, we hope that the weather will be warmer, so from June we will be gathering at The Gardeners Café, and everyone will be welcome to join us.

Brian Grinham

SAVE THE DATE

Church Anniversary BBQ

Sunday the 2nd of July down at The Rodings.

We will be celebrating our church anniversary with a BBQ and bring and share meal. This will take place after our church service at the Rodings, at about 1.30pm. If you need a lift or directions then please speak to Jo, Michelle, or Lorraine.

Do you have a favourite dish or recipe that you would like to share? Please bring it along to the BBQ. We'd love to eat it!

Recently, some members of TDY met up with some young people in the circuit, and they have invited them to join us at the BBQ too. It will be lovely to meet them.

More details will follow in the weekly notices. JO

Thanks Jo. How can a year have gone past so quickly? LB

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Becontree Heath Methodist Church Summer Fete

17th July 10.30am, Church Hall more details to follow

Did you know that there is a Foodbank at Grange Hill Methodist Church that is supported by Redbridge Food bank.

Currently they have an urgent need for

Carrier bags, Shampoo, Shower gel, Deodorant

Washing powder, Shaving foam/gel, Nappies sizes 5, 6, 7, Dry egg noodles

Thank you for your support

The Redbridge and Grange Hill Foodbanks belong to The Trussell Trust.

The food bank model spread rapidly through church networks and, in particular, inspiration was drawn from a verse from Matthew's gospel in the Bible which reads:

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was in prison and you visited me.” (Matthew 25:35-36)

Well done everyone for keeping our food box topped up



CARERS UK

Information advice and support for people who are looking after a friend or family member.

Advice line: 0808 808 7777

Disability Rights UK Information and advice on a wide range of issues for disabled people.

Disabled Students Helpline: 0800 328 5050

Personal Budgets Helpline: 0300 555 152

24-hour National Domestic Violence A national service for women experiencing domestic violence or others calling on their behalf. Helpline: 0808 2000 247

Refuge - Help for Teenage Girls

Information and advice on violence against teenage girls and young women.

Helpline: 0808 2000 247 Advice line: 0808 801 0660

Men's advice line Free advice and support for men experiencing domestic violence and abuse .

Helpline: 0808 801 0327

ChildLine

Free confidential service to help young people under 19 with any issue they are going through.

Helpline: 0800 1111

Family Lives (previously known as Parent line)

Offers information, advice, guidance and support on any aspect of parenting and family life, including bullying.

Helpline: 0808 800 2222

Helpline: 0800 808 499

Cruse Bereavement Care

Provides support, advice and information to children, young people and adults when someone dies. **Hope Again** was set up by young people for young people to share their experiences of dealing with the loss of a loved.

Helpline: 0808 808 1677

AL-ANON For families affected by alcohol abuse

Helpline: 020 7403 0888 (10am-10pm)

A Summer Blessing

When young-leafed June is summoned by the sun,

And new-mown grass breathes fragrance through the air,

When work is over, holidays begun,

May peace and pleasure in themselves be prayer.

And in your leisure may you hear the one

Who is your blessing and by whom you're blest

Still calling you: Come unto me and rest.



CHURCH DIARY FOR June 2023

- J 28th May 11.15am Sunday Morning Service -
Pentecost with HC - led by Rev Mmasape Zihle
- J 4th June 11.15am Sunday Morning Service -
Trinity Sunday led by Rev. Mmasape Zihle,
Followed by Annual Church Meeting
- J 9th June 8pm Church Council Meeting
- J 10th June Saturday Lunch -12.30pm (see inside for details)
- J 11th June 11.15am Sunday Morning Service -
Methodist Homes for the Aged Sunday. led by
John Pearson
- J 18th June 11.15am Sunday Morning Service-
own arrangement
- J 18th June 4pm. Thanksgiving Service at Seven Kings Methodist Church
- J 25th June 11.15am Sunday Morning Service -
Conference Sunday led by Janet Tweedle.
- J 30th June 11.00am Bible Reading Group (see inside for details)

Services every Sunday at 11.15am

Communion Services as announced

Senior Church Stewards:

Michelle Garner stewards@drive-methodist.church

Property Steward Bookings Jeremy Foster
bookings@drive-methodist.church

Church Council Secretary: Priya Inbakumar
secretary@drive-methodist.church

Music @ The Drive Andrew Taylor
music@drive-methodist.church

Pastoral Secretary pastoral@drive-methodist.church

Flower Rota Secretary Anne Dellow

The Drive Youth Jo Wright
junior-church@drive-methodist.church

Safeguarding @The Drive Lorraine Bendon
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Pre School: Kay Whiddon
pre-school@drive-methodist.church

Term time only: Mon – Fri 9.15am -12pm, 1pm-3pm