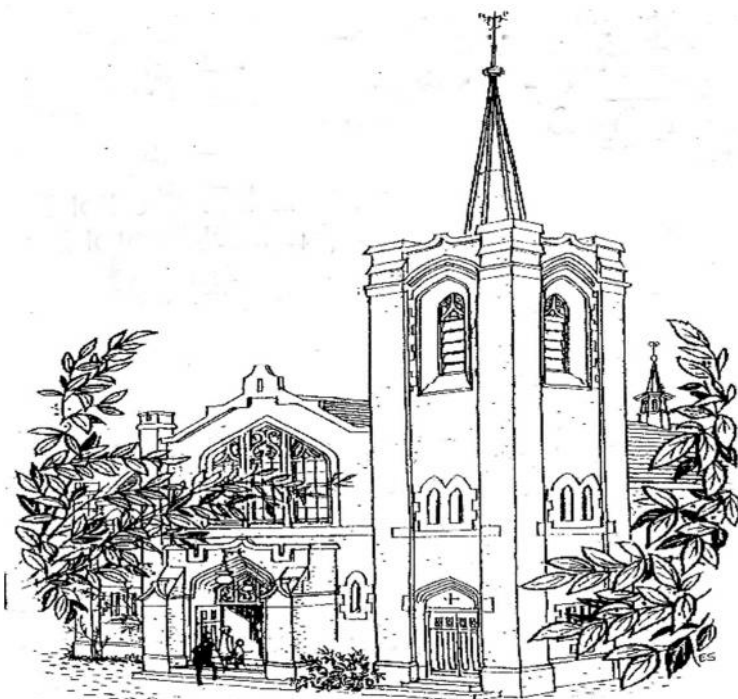


# The Drive Methodist Church

Eastern Avenue Ilford IG13PP

## Newsletter

### October 2023



Minister Rev. Mmasape Thathane-Tyolweni

[www.drive-methodist.church](http://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.

## Message from Mmasape

### Celebrating black and brown women in Black History Month

Dear friends,

October has been set aside as Black history month: a time to consciously recognise and hear stories of achievements and challenges faced by black and brown people over the centuries and today. In this article, I will share the black women's story in the wider world and in Methodism. It is not exhaustive and is limited to a few and within the context of my background as a black, South African woman presbyter in the Methodist Church in Britain. I hope this will open up discussions about other stories and experiences of others from other parts of the world and locally.

This is a tale of resilience, strength, and unwavering faith that has shaped our community and continues to inspire us all.

As I read the book "Hidden Figures" by Margot Lee Shetterly - also a movie by the same name, I was led to reflect on the life and contribution of black women to our world!

The book is incredible, it sheds light on the remarkable achievements of three extraordinary African-American women: Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, and Mary Jackson. They were brilliant mathematicians and engineers who played vital roles in NASA's space program, particularly during the early 1960s.

Katherine Johnson, known for her exceptional mathematical skills, calculated the trajectories for numerous space missions, including the historic Apollo 11 mission that landed the first humans on the moon. Her calculations were crucial in ensuring the success and safety of those missions.

Dorothy Vaughan was a trailblazer herself, becoming NASA's first African-American supervisor. She was an expert in computer programming and played a significant role in transitioning NASA from human "computers" to machine-based computing.

Mary Jackson, a highly talented engineer, became the first African-American female engineer at NASA. She faced many hurdles and fought for opportunities to advance her career, eventually making significant contributions to the development of aerospace engineering.

These women not only made groundbreaking contributions to space exploration but also broke down barriers for African-American women in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Their incredible achievements and determination continue to inspire and empower others.

During Black History Month, it's important to recognise and celebrate the contributions of these remarkable women, as well as many others who have made a lasting impact on history.

In the face of racism and injustice, our black sisters have consistently broken barriers and utilised their creativity and innovation to make a lasting impact on today's society.

The theme "Saluting our Sisters" pays tribute to the black women who have endured having their contributions overlooked, their ideas plagiarised, and their voices silenced.

It serves as a powerful reminder of the immense fortitude and perseverance displayed by black women throughout history.

Within the church, black sisters played a crucial role in shaping our faith community, as pillars of strength, devoted and committed to serving God and their fellow believers.

Their contributions, both visible and concealed, have enriched our worship, nurtured our spirituality, and inspired us to pursue justice and equality. To this end, I wish to pay tribute to the Revd Dr Sonia Hicks (the first black woman president of the Methodist Conference 2020) and my sister Revd Charity Nzegwu (current Chair of the Justice, Dignity and Solidarity group in the Methodist Church).

Throughout history, black sisters have faced unique challenges and obstacles within the church. They have had to navigate the intersectionality of race and gender, often finding themselves marginalised and disregarded. Despite these challenges, they have remained steadfast in their love for God and unwavering in their commitment to their faith.

Our black sisters have been tireless advocates for justice and equality within the church. They have challenged discriminatory practices, shattered glass ceilings, and paved the way for future generations. Their persistent voice and unwavering faith have created a space where everyone can worship freely and without prejudice.

This subversive attitude can be traced back to brave women in the bible such as Vashti, Queen of Persia and first wife of Persian King Ahasuerus in the book of Esther. Her refusal to obey the summons of her drunken husband to dance naked for his and his friends' amusement is seen as the "first stand for women's rights" (Stowe, Harriet Beecher 1878: Bible heroines being narrative biographies of prominent Hebrew women in patriarchal, national, and Christian eras, giving views of women in sacred history as revealed in the light of the present day). Also, Hagar's story who in Genesis is Sarah's handmaiden, an Egyptian slave, and mother of Abraham's first born son Ishmael, is viewed in their writings by several black American feminists as a comparable to those of slaves in American history of ethnic prejudice exacerbated by economic and social exploitation.

Additionally, our black sisters have played an instrumental role in nurturing and empowering the next generation of believers. Through their mentorship, leadership, and unwavering support, they have inspired countless individuals to embrace their spirituality, discover their talents, and actively engage in the work of the church.

The Methodist Church in Britain recognises the invaluable contributions of our black sisters and actively strives to create a welcoming and inclusive environment for all.

We acknowledge the need to address past injustices, learn from them, and work towards a more equitable and diverse church community.

Through various initiatives and events, the Methodist Church acknowledges and uplifts the stories, achievements, and struggles of black sisters. We provide platforms for them to share their experiences, wisdom, and faith, fostering a sense of belonging and empowerment within the church. Their voices are acknowledged, their contributions recognised, and their leadership celebrated.

As we celebrate Black History Month, let us remember the tremendous impact of our black sisters within the church. Let us honour their courage, resilience, and unwavering faith. May we actively seek to uplift their voices, support their leadership, and create spaces where they can thrive within our faith community.

In conclusion, my dear friends, the story of our black sisters in the church is one that deserves celebration, cherishing, and sharing. Their contributions have enriched our faith and deepened our understanding of God's boundless love. Let us walk alongside them, supporting and amplifying their voices as we journey together towards a more inclusive, just, and loving church.

Yours in Christ,

Revd Mmasape Thathane-Tyolweni

## News of our Church Family



With great sadness we learned of the death of our dear friend **Sandra Runeckles** who was a quiet powerhouse in the life of our church and community. We hold Colin, Jenny, Martin and their family in our prayers.

We pray for **Derek Gabbidon** as he waits for results of hospital investigations.

We are pleased to know that **Janet Brunnen** is now at home recuperating following her stay in hospital. We hope you feel better soon Janet.

We hope that **Antonia** is feeling recovered after a somewhat lengthy time at home with Covid.

**Hello to all our friends** who are no longer able to worship together in church. We hope you are able to watch the services online.

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

We wish **Janet Brunnen** a very happy day on 1st Oct and **Sheela** an equally happy birthday on 3rd Oct.



## Sandra Runeckles

Church members will no doubt now have heard the sad news about Sandra's passing.

Her wish was for ' No Funeral', and in keeping with that, there will be a short committal at the City of London Crematorium for family and close friends only.

This will be followed by refreshments in the Church Hall at The Drive on Saturday 21st October 2023 from 1pm onwards until about 4pm, to which all are very welcome.

The hall will contain many items covering all of the aspects of Sandra's life, and the family would be pleased to have everyone celebrate her life with them. We would prefer it if people wore clothes that are anything apart from black.

Collection plates will be put out in the hall and donations in Sandra's name will be split between Macmillan Cancer Support and St Francis Hospice.

Colin Runeckles



## ***LET US PRAY***

**Open** our eyes Lord, to gently scan the life we lead, the home we have, the world we inhabit, and so to find, among the gremlins and the greyness, signs of hope we can fasten on and encourage.

**Give** us, whose eyes are dimmed by familiarity, a bigger vision of what you can do, even with hopeless cases and lost causes and people of limited ability.

**Show** us the world as in your sight, riddled by debt, doubt and disbelief, yet also shot through with possibility for recovery, renewal, redemption.

**And** lest we fail to distinguish vision from fantasy, today, tomorrow, this month, open our eyes to one person, or one place, where we – being even for a moment prophetic – might identify and wean a potential in the waiting.

**And** with all this, open our eyes, in yearning, for Jesus. On the mountains, in the cities, through the corridors of power and streets of despair, to help, to heal, to confront, to convert, O come, O come Immanuel.

Rev. Kido Baek – November 2022

# Harvest Festival and Lunch

At the service on Sunday 1st October we will be giving thanks for all we are provided with from Gods earth.

All donations, whether food items or gifts of money will be given to help those in need.

Following the service, you are invited to join the Harvest Lunch in the church hall.

There is no charge but  
donations accepted.

All welcome



# Reverend Marie Segal

The Rev. Marie Segal is retiring as Vicar of St Andrews Church on Sunday 8th October. There will be a Farewell Service at 10.30am followed by a reception in the church hall.

All are welcome.

# Maggie Smith



**In case you are aware of any veterans in your area.**

## **Plans for D-Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2024**

The Royal British Legion are searching for D-Day veterans who want to take part in events to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings in June next year.

We believe we should 'never forget the freedoms won and defended' so, we're looking ahead and calling on veterans, their families and carers to register their interest to take part in the commemorative events for this historic milestone.

Please pass on the following link to anyone who you think this applies to, which provides further details and an interest registration form .

[D-Day | Remembrance | Royal British Legion](#)



## LETS SING !



1. For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies.

*Refrain: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light.

3. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, pleasures pure and undefiled.

4. For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given, graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven.

5. For thy Church which evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love.



## Films at The Drive

The film shows started again on 9th September after the Saturday |Lunch, when we showed "The Case for Christ". There were 12 people in attendance and the film was well received with attendees saying what a good film it was.

For the future, our next showing will be on 11th November, again after the Saturday lunch. We will be showing "God's not Dead" starting at about 2.30pm, with film lasting up to 2 hours, we will have a break about halfway through for a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit or two.

There is no charge for the event, but we would appreciate a donation to assist with expenses.

It is our intention to show future films at two monthly intervals after the Saturday Lunch. So for 2024, this will be January, March, May, July, September and November.

We hope to see you there.

Brian Grinham and helpers.

SATURDAY  
AFTERNOON TEA  
14th October 3PM



To ring the changes we thought you might like to come for Afternoon Tea instead of lunch.

There will be:

Tea/coffee, yummy sandwiches, delicious cakes, scones and cream.

Vegetarian options available

Please add your name to the form at the back of the church or call Lorraine or Ruth

Ruth 07780852858

Lorraine 07929973430





## **Bible Reading Group**

### **OCTOBER MEETING**

You are invited to join **The Bible Reading Group** meeting on Friday 20th October at 11:00 at Jan and John's.

We will be discussing **Mark chapters 9-12** followed by refreshments.

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### **THE BIG QUIZ NIGHT**

Hundreds of Churches, Thousands of People, One Big Quiz

**BECONTREE HEATH CHURCH**

**SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER 7PM**

Make up a team of six

Every pound raised will benefit people in poverty

Visit [tearfund.org/quiz](http://tearfund.org/quiz) for more Information

**Audreys Macmillan Coffee Morning raised £960**

so far. Another great result, in a cost of living crisis! Thanks to all who supported.

Audrey



## **News from the Senior Steward**

### Praise and Worship

You may have noticed that since September we have a new start to the service. We are developing a section where we all praise God through song and prayer for the first 10-15 mins, at the beginning of the service. We've started with singing and will soon be adding prayers.

### Methodist Membership

You may have heard us talk about recent Confirmation classes and about becoming a member of the church. I wanted to be clear that if you attend church, you are an important member of the congregation. But the Methodist Church also offers you the chance to show another step of commitment by being 'confirmed' and received into membership.

To become a member there is a service in which you make promises– the same promises that are made when someone is baptised. The congregation also make promises to support you in your Christian life and growth. A prayer for the work of the Holy Spirit in that persons life is also said. If you have already been confirmed in another denomination, you can be received as a Methodist member by a simple act of welcome.

Please speak to Mmasape or to a steward if you want to find out more and know that doing the classes does not commit you to anything.

**Michelle**

# Moji's London Marathon Fundraising

Hi everyone,

I'm running the London Marathon to fundraise for the National Autistic Society (NAS). I've recently been diagnosed with autism and I'm trying to help reduce the stigma associated with autism and help others that struggle with the poor mental health issues that come with being autistic.

Over the next few months I'll be doing some cake sales and raffles to help with my fundraising. Below are my reasons running the marathon.

Autism is a life long developmental difference that affects how people experience the world. Autistic women are under diagnosed as autism is assumed to mainly affect men. Many autistic women are often misdiagnosed with anxiety and depression. Therefore, many autistic women can struggle to hold down full-time job and we, are often bullied or misunderstood for our differences.

Increased awareness and early diagnosis can help to better our quality of life and improve our life expectancy.

A statement from the UK government quoted data from the British Journal of Psychiatry that autistic people on average live 16 years fewer than their non-autistic peers and almost 80% of autistic adults experience mental health problems during their lifetime. I'd fundraising for NAS to try and make a small difference.

If anyone would like to donate my fundraising page is below:

<https://2024tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/mojisola-banjo>

UK Government statistics on life expectancy and mental health in autistic people:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-landmark-strategy-to-improve-the-lives-of-autistic-people>

Thanks Moji.

Well done Moji, we wish you all the very best in your endeavors to raise funds and awareness for the Autistic Society. LB



## FAMANON

What exactly is FA? Families Anonymous is a world-wide fellowship of family members and friends affected by another's abuse of mind-altering substances, or related behavioural problems. FA has groups, spread throughout the country, which meet regularly.

When drug addiction enters a family via one of its members, the effect can be devastating. If you have reason to believe or even a vague suspicion that someone close to you may have a drug problem, we know how you feel. We know what it is like to be alone with this problem. We remember the feelings of panic and frustration that resulted from this discovery. We in Families Anonymous have experienced this too.

### Get in Touch

Helpline 0207 4984 680

Email [office@famanon.org.uk](mailto:office@famanon.org.uk)

### Online Forum

[Famanon.org.uk](http://Famanon.org.uk)

## **ADAM DAY 10<sup>TH</sup> August**

What do Christianity, Islam and Judaism have in common? All trace their ancestry to Adam, who was created by God.

This fact is celebrated each year on 10<sup>th</sup> August. An event this year at East Ham Town Hall was arranged by the AZEEMA FOUNDATION. Representatives of all three faiths and some civic dignitaries took part.

The annual event promotes Unity in Diversity. In these days when there is such division between groups of people, Adam Day promotes peace and harmony, however difficult that is to achieve.

Among the speakers were two familiar names, Cllr. Rev. Canon Anne Easter and Rabbi David Hulbert, representing Christianity and Judaism.

Susan Ruckes.

## **Fancy a chat and a cup of coffee?**

Take a walk to Valentines Park where on a Wednesday around 11.am in the Gardeners Café you are sure to find a few church friends who will be happy to see you.



# What is Prisons Sunday?

Prisons Sunday marks the beginning of Prisons Week, 9-15 October.

An ecumenical Prisons Week Committee was formed in 1975 to encourage Christians to focus their thoughts and prayers, upon prisoners and their families, victims of offenders, prison staff and all those working for prisoners and their families.

Britain's prisons are in the news more than ever, and generating more grave headlines. The same words and phrases keep cropping up: crisis, scrutiny, overcrowding, violence, prison officer action, private companies, drugs, drones, "disaster waiting to happen". . .

Good things happen, too – good rehabilitation, good preparation for life "on the outside" – not least through the work of chaplains, visitors and volunteers. The Methodist Church is deeply engaged with this good work and also supports Prisons Week through the [Free Church Group](#)

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. We pray for those in prison. Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist. Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends, prison staff and all who care. Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others, especially the victims of crime. Help us to forgive one another, to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly together with Christ in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day. Amen

## Featured Sponsor – PACT

Pact is a pioneering national charity that supports prisoners, people with convictions, and their children and families. We provide caring and life changing services at every stage of the criminal justice process: in court, in prison, on release, and in the community.

We believe in the innate worth and dignity of every human being, whatever they may have done. We believe in walking alongside those affected by imprisonment, for whom life may be unbearably difficult but who are nevertheless part of 'us'. We believe in the value of listening to those among us who have lived experience of the criminal justice system. We ensure that those voices shape change in Pact, in the criminal justice system, and in parishes.

Our President Cardinal Vincent Nichols says, 'This work is a direct expression of our discipleship and a very concrete expression of our desire to serve the Lord in those who are most vulnerable.'

We work for the common good of Society, taking a public health-based approach. Our services operate at the intersection of criminal justice, child and family welfare, mental health, wellbeing provision and health & social care. Our Faith in Action team works to empower parishes and groups to become places where prisoners, people with conviction and their families can feel known and loved. We are proud to join with like-minded organisations in supporting Prisons Week together.

Visit <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/> for more information.

## **Homelessness Sunday 8th October 2023**

is held on the Sunday before World Homeless Day, and is hosted by the ecumenical charity Housing Justice. The theme in 2023 is “Love and Justice”. Churches are encouraged to bring our call to love and justice before God in worship, praying for people impacted by homelessness and committing to work for justice for everyone.

You could explore also some of these resources before Homelessness Sunday:

**Coming Home (2021)** is the report of the Archbishops’ Commission on Housing, Church and Community which re-imagines housing policy and practice, providing a Christian vision for ‘good’ housing, based around five core values

**More than Bricks and Mortar?** (2019) is a resource from the Joint Public Issues Team which gives key information, suggests action, and provides questions for reflection

**A Place to Call Home (2017)** is a series of six bible studies for group discussion around a range of housing issues

If you want to explore some practical responses, in advance of Homelessness Sunday, the Methodist Homelessness and Housing Gathering will take place on Zoom on Thursday 5 October 2023, 11.30am – 1pm. This will include updates on increasing the Methodist Church’s involvement in affordable housing schemes, and presentations from Housing Justice and Agile Homes, as well as reflection and prayer. For more information, email the Revd Ian Rutherford on [ianr7@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ianr7@hotmail.co.uk).

**REDBRIDGE—Call us on 0208 708 4002 if you are homeless now and have nowhere to stay tonight.**



## A hymn reflecting homelessness

If we claim to love our neighbour  
while the hungry queue for food,  
are we prey to self deception?  
Is perception quite so crude?  
If we sit beside our neighbours,  
begging for the things they need,  
we might share their own injustice  
in a world that thrives on greed.

If we punish those with nothing,  
blaming them for where they stand,  
is this love of friend or neighbour,  
do we still not understand?  
Love of neighbour is not easy,  
cuts us till we feel the pain,  
sharing hurt that they are feeling  
till they find new life again.

Love of neighbour sets us squarely  
in the place where they now sit,  
till the richness God has given  
builds a pearl around the grit;  
till each person shares the comfort  
of the love of which we preach,  
till we live as fact the Gospel:  
none can be beyond love's reach.



Words: Andrew Pratt (born 1948)

*Sing to the tune Scarlett Ribbon*

Andrew Pratt described his text, written prior to the UK General Election of 2015, as an “election hymn”. Consider using it to stimulate a discussion, perhaps in a small group or following a church service.

**Black History Month** is an annual observance that celebrates the achievements and contributions of people of African descent in various countries around the world.

Black History Month is a time of celebration, recognition and sombre reflection. Black people from African and Caribbean communities have been an integral part of British history and society long before 1948. Despite the epidemic of racism and unfairness affecting black people, they continue to break barriers and use their creativity and innovation to influence lives today.

The theme for Black History Month 2023 in the UK is 'Celebrating our Sisters', which pays homage to black women who have had their contributions ignored, ideas appropriated, and voices silenced. are:

The event also recognises the role of black women veterans, activists, authors, artists, and more. Here are some examples of more recent notable black women from the UK

**Malorie Blackman OBE (1962-today)** is a British writer who was the first black woman to hold the position of Children's Laureate from 2013 to 2015. Primarily, she writes for children and young people and has used science fiction to explore social and ethical issues. Her critically and popularly acclaimed *Noughts and Crosses* series uses the setting of a fictional dystopia to explore racism.

**Wangari Maathai (1940-2011)** was the first Black African woman to receive a Nobel Peace Prize for her efforts in environmental conservation. In the 1970s, she founded the Green Belt Movement, an environmental non-governmental organization focused on environmental conservation and women's rights. She was also an elected member of Parliament and served as assistant minister for Environment and Natural Resources between 2003 and 2005.

**Kamala Harris (1964-present)** is the current and 49th vice president of the United States. She stands as the first female vice president in American history, the highest-ranking female official in US history — and is the first Black and Asian American to hold the position.

**Michelle Obama (1964-present)** was not only the first African American woman to serve as the first lady of the United States, but she also continues to be a source of inspiration through her efforts to promote health and wellness for children in America. Her story in her best-selling books "Becoming" and "The Light We Carry" encourage generations of women to dream big and never give up.

**Sislin Fay Allen** was Britain's first black policewoman. She worked in Britain until 1972 when she returned to Jamaica to continue her policing. She was given a lifetime achievement award at an event to celebrate black, Asian and minority ethnic female officers.

**Rose Josephine Hudson-Wilkin** CD MBE KHC (1961– present), is a British Anglican who serves as Suffragan Bishop of Dover in the diocese of Canterbury - deputising for the Archbishop - since 2019: she is the first black woman to become a Church of England bishop. She was previously Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons from 2010 to 2019, having trained with the Church Army before entering parish ministry.

# REDBRIDGE HEALTH WATCH COMMUNITY NETWORK HEALTH AND WELLBEING FAIR 2023

10th October 10.30am-12.30pm

Redbridge Institute Gaysham Avenue Gants Hill  
IG2 6TD

This will be a marketplace event with stalls run by local community organisations where members of the public can access support and information. As it's World Mental Health Day we are also planning to run some wellbeing activities (to be confirmed).

) Do you have questions about health issues?

) Would you like to try some wellbeing activities?

) Would you like to find out about local health and care services?

) Do you need some advice, information or support?  
Then our Healthwatch is for you.

This is a FREE event, open to everyone and no booking is necessary.

For more information

email: [info@healthwatchredbridge.co.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchredbridge.co.uk)

or ring 020 8553 1236.

## YOUR HELP NEEDED

What would you like to see more of/  
less of in your church newsletter?

Would you like to adopt a page for your  
activity or particular interest?

Could you offer a prayer each month?

Could you provide a quiz or puzzle  
page?

Could you redesign the cover?

If you have any views or would like to take on any of  
these ideas...give me a call. Lorraine

## **REDBRIDGE FOODBANK**

### **Need help?**

In order to provide the most appropriate help for the circumstances of your situation we work with local agencies. If they feel you are struggling to put food on the table, they will issue you with a foodbank voucher. The local agency can also provide long term support if needed to help address some of the issues behind the reasons for your crisis. Agencies we work with include: Citizens Advice, housing support officers, children's centres, health visitors, social services and some local charities.

### **Give Help**

We want to make sure that no one in our local community has to go hungry, but we need your help to make this happen. Your gift of financial support, time, business partnership and food can make a real difference.

### **Donate Food,      Donate Money,      Volunteer**

**As a Food bank centre volunteer**, you will play a vital role in giving direct support to people who use food banks, meeting and greeting people coming into the food bank, making them feel comfortable and providing further signposting support where appropriate. You will also help process food donations, sort items, ensure they are in date, minimise wastage and pack food ready for distribution to clients or other local organisations.

## **WHAT'S IN A FOOD PARCEL?**

Our foodbank provides a three-day supply of nutritionally balanced and non-perishable food.

The Trussell Trust has worked with nutritionists to ensure food parcels contains sufficient nutrition for at least three-days worth of healthy, balanced meals for individuals and families.

### **A TYPICAL FOOD PARCEL INCLUDES:**

Breakfast cereals

Soup

Pasta

Rice

Pasta sauce

Tinned beans

Tinned meat

Tinned vegetables

Tinned fruit

Tea or coffee

Sugar

Biscuits

Snacks

## **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**

**AL-ANON Helpline: 020 7403 0888 (10am-10pm)** For families affected by alcohol abuse

**Famanon** Helpline 0207 4984 680

Email [office@famanon.org.uk](mailto:office@famanon.org.uk)



**Samaritans.** To talk about anything that is upsetting you, you can contact Samaritans 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. You can 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 **SANeline on 0300 304 7000** (4.30pm–10.30pm every day).

### **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**

### **The Mix**

The Mix's Crisis Messenger text service 24/7 and open to anyone aged 25 or under living in the UK. If you're in crisis and need to talk, text **THEMIX to 85258**.

Webchat and Helpline service for free and confidential information and help on a wide range of issues for 13 to 25 year olds. All issues.

## **A Harvest Prayer**

Eternal God,

You crown the year with your goodness and  
you give us the fruits of the earth in their  
season:

grant that we may use them to your glory,  
for the relief of those in need and for our  
own well-being:

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity  
of the Holy Spirit,

One God, now and forever,

Amen.

## **CHURCH DIARY FOR OCTOBER 2023**



**Sunday 1st** 11.15am Harvest Festival , Sunday Worship – led by Rev. Mmasape Zihle inc. HC

**Sunday 8th** 11.15am Homeless Sunday and Prisons Sunday. Worship led by Florence Amoah

**Saturday 14th** Afternoon Tea 3pm in the Parlour

**Sunday 15th** 11.15am Sunday Worship - led by Dr. Anthony Russell

**Friday 20th** 11.00am Bible Study Group

**Sunday 22nd** 11.15am Sunday Worship led by Foluso Famoyin Egbo

**Sunday 29th** 11.15am Sunday Worship - led by The Drive Youth

## **Services every Sunday at 11.15am**

Communion Services as announced

**Senior Church Stewards:** Michelle Garner, Diane Foster  
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

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