

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

NEWSLETTER

July / August 2016



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

<http://www.the-drive-methodist-ilford.org.uk>

A Summer message
From Revd. Bernardino Mandlate

Friends

I am writing this letter at a crucial time in the history of this country, as the results of the referendum to quit the EU sink in. A decision, which I understand to be advisory, has been made to quit the EU. I pray that as ponder upon the decision made by our votes, we are able to begin to adjust?! and reflect on the implications that may come out of it. We've seen already the reaction of the markets, the knock on the value of the Pound against other currencies, the likely hood of the petrol rise and subsequent increase on the prices of goods. Let's hope for the best even in this time of uncertainty.

Immigration is a big issue which whether we stay in or we quit the EU, will not go away. The world has become a global village for any country to be insulated 'against' immigration. What is needed in the world today is a proper sharing of the world's resources, a proper distribution of wealth which will enable countries to deal with poverty and reduce the need for migration and not insulation of one country or the other. We are one humanity and we belong together.

Friends, we are being asked to think about our future as a church congregation. We had a brief conversation during one of services which by no means exhausted possibilities. What do we think/expect in next three to five years and what resources would we have to succeed in reaching that vision/goals?! I am asking each one of you to have a further think and write us a line or two with your views. The church belongs to all of us, your views matters to us. Please give yourself time to contribute with your views and thoughts.

Summer is here. School holidays are here in a few weeks more. Many of us will be busy entertaining children and trying to entertain ourselves too. As you do so, spare some time for God. He gives us all the joys and the pains that come along with joy. God wants us happy. God expects worship. We shouldn't take a holiday from God as well. He loves us so much that He gave us His Only Son to come into the world and be one like us and die for us. He deserves our time however busy we may think we are. Give God your time.

Have a blessed summer.

May the good Lord keep you blessed. Bernardino

From the Editor

This edition is a two-month edition, which is normal during these mid-Summer months.

I have been getting a little concerned lately at the shortage of material I have been receiving. It has made me wonder if the newsletter is of any value. I together with some of the other senior members do our best to make it informative and meaningful, but we really do need to have items which reflect the broad age range we have the privilege to have attending our Sunday services.

I have no intention of discontinuing the newsletter, but really would appreciate help from you all.

Roy Brunnen.

My Thanks

I wish to thank everyone for their prayers, messages, cards and visits after my recent surgery.

I enjoyed my convalescence and am now feeling fine.

Susan Ruckes.

Raysin Hope tea in the garden.

Many thanks to everyone who supported our fundraising on the 11th June. I'm delighted to report that a final total of £615 was raised for our funds. Considering the torrents of rain that fell, everyone found some shelter and it became tea in the front room, the back room, the kitchen and the hall. It was a lively afternoon and the children had a great time as the sandpit and rain made the patio nice and sludgy, although we did have one tricky moment as one of the children came sliding into the kitchen. All safe and sound and comments were "what a great afternoon". Yes it was although a little wet! My thanks to everyone.

Anne Dellow.

Church BBQ Sunday 3rd July

The annual church BBQ is taking place, at the Rodings, after the Church anniversary service on 3rd July. Any offers of help to set up tables and chairs will be much appreciated. If you have your own fold up chairs then please bring them along.

Please sign the list at the back of the church to let us know if you are coming and what food you will be bringing. Lifts to the Rodings can be arranged.

Thank you
Jo and Michelle

Action for children Sunday 10th July

Action for children Sunday is designated by the Methodist church as one of its special Sundays. It is a time to reflect on and celebrate the work of its children's charity.

We are very pleased that during the service we will have a speaker from Action for children to tell us about the work that they do.

The Chorale will be singing and members of the Junior church team will be taking part too.

Jo

Action for Children cream tea afternoon Saturday 20th August 2.30 – 4.30pm

You are all invited to enjoy a cream tea in aid of the charity Action for Children.

This will take place in the parlour. Hope to see you there.
Jo Wright

Dates for Junior church during the summer

Over the summer there are some dates when we won't be able to use the hall building. These are 31st July and the 7th and 14th August. Obviously all young people will be welcome in the services, but on the 7th and 14th August we will be having a "chill out" session for them in the parlour. Come along to find out what we will be doing!

Jo

Restarting the Harvest lunch

Hello everyone,

I was a little disappointed at the stoppage of the Harvest lunch and so with the help of others I would like to start it back up again. The Harvest lunch was after the Harvest service and church meeting.

The Harvest Festival is a celebration of the food grown on the land. Thanksgiving ceremonies and celebrations for a successful harvest are both worldwide and very ancient. The Harvest lunch was a nice time for everyone to be together.

It used to be in the hall across from the church where there would be tables already set up and waiting for your arrival. There would be some prayers from the reverend before we dug into the yummy food provided by everyone together.

I really enjoyed the Harvest lunches and that's how I remembered them, fun and a good time with everyone. Please help me to make the Harvest lunch a reality again. I can't do this on my own so I will need quite a few people to help organize and plan for it to work. Please speak to me if you can help, I will usually be with my mum when Junior Church has finished.

Thank you
Thea Garner

'A Summer Romance'

Bright as a rose when first it's new,
But love grows old, and sometimes cold,
and fades away like the morning dew.

A summer concert and buffet supper
given by the New Essex Choir
Saturday 9th July 2016 at 7.30 pm in the church.

Sunrise, sunset, the green leaves of summer, edelweiss,
bright tulips, nights of stars and nights of love –
summertime.

Songs by Quilter, Rogers and Hammerstein, Offenbach,
Roberton, Rutter and others.

Tickets £12 from Brian Taylor or on the door

Church Gardens

We are proud that the grounds around the church provide an area of greenness and tranquility in our urban and sometimes untidy landscape. The grass is mown regularly and the litter removed but there is always more to be done. The periodic work mornings are used for the bigger tasks but more volunteers are needed to keep the weeds at bay and the shrubs pruned.

Could you help? It might be pulling up a few weeds as you pass, or an hour clipping overgrown bushes, or tending a particular area as needed. Please talk to me (Brian Taylor) if you are able to help in any way.

Annual General Meetings

The Scout Group had its AGM recently and we were pleased that 50% of the Cub parents attended. Copies of the Annual Report and Accounts are available for anyone who would like them – just ask.

We were very sorry to have to say goodbye to our Treasurer, Julie Nagle, who is moving out of the area. Julie took over from Peter Foster just two years ago but has managed our accounts to the satisfaction of our auditor (Nick Foster – to whom many thanks). We appealed for someone to take over at the meeting without much conviction but were delighted when one of the Cub parents, Rob Mohammed, agreed to take over.

The rest of the management team remains the same with Mike Seviour as Group Scout Leader, myself as Chairman, Andrew Marriott as our excellent Secretary, Jerry Foster as Quartermaster and Manji Gami, Tony Holton, Maggie Smith and Colin Runeckles (Gift Aid Secretary) making up the rest of the Executive.

2015 was not a good year for the Scout Group as sadly, we had to close both the Beaver Colony and the Scout Troop. In both cases, this was due to attendance dropping to a level which made the sections no longer viable and also due to a lack of leaders.

We remain hopeful that both sections can be reformed, but this is entirely dependent on us finding new leaders. We have had some success in this respect and are pleased to welcome Akhil Kumar to the Group as an Assistant Leader. Akhil was a Cub and a Scout in our Group and it's good to see him returning as a leader.

The Cub section continues to flourish under Reenit Shah's leadership and we are pleased that Akhil has agreed to join the Pack as Assistant Leader until there are enough older Cubs to enable the Troop to be restarted. This, however, is dependent on finding new leaders as Akhil will not be able to run a Scout section on his own. We have had a couple of enquiries from parents of boys of Beaver age so this is next area we shall need to address. We may have some good news in this respect as well – just look out in future editions of the Newsletter. Any support you can give us in finding new leaders will be greatly appreciated.

This, of course, is the season for AGMs. Audrey and I have been to five. In March the Church Annual Meeting (an AGM by any other name) and in May the Redbridge Social Centre's meeting. In June was the turn of the Scouts – first the District of which I was Chairman, then the County where all we had to do was eat the refreshments and listen and finally the Group's meeting.

You will not be surprised to learn that we are now AGM'd OUT
John Taylor

Peertalk Update - Submitted by Corinne Smith.

Stephen and Philippa Normanton have now returned from their 3 Month sabbatical during which they have been writing material for the new Peertalk website which is now available on www.peertalk.org.uk.

They are also working towards making Peertalk a charitable organization and are seeking suitable trustees.

The first two awareness days at Preston and Huddersfield had plenty of spaces available. It is hoped that more people will attend the final two days in the Autumn at Newcastle and Cumbria districts.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Liz.

Peertalk administrator

CHURCH DIARY

July

Sun	3 rd	11.15am	Church anniversary led by Mr. Tony Miller. Followed by our annual BBQ At The Rodings scout base in Roding Lane South, Redbridge.
Sun	10 th	11.15am	Action for Children Sunday Led by Jo Wright and the Junior Church. With a speaker from Action for Children.
Fri	15 th	10.30am	Coffee Morning at the Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion, Emerson Road, Gants Hill.
Sun	17 th	11.15am	Morning Service With Holy Communion led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Sun	24 th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Mr. Collins Frimpong-Manso.
Sun	31 st	11.15am	Morning Service led by Ms Foluso Egbo.

August

Sun	7 th	11.15am	Morning Service with Holy Communion led by Revd. Bernardino Mandlate
Sun	14 th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Revd. Angela Potheary
Fri	19 th	10.30am	Coffee Morning. Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion Emerson Road, Gantshill.
Sun	21 st	11.15am	Morning Service led by Mrs. Tabitha Jumbe
Sun	28 th	11.15am	Morning Service led by Revd. Jan Atkins

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, 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.

March 2013.