

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

NEWSLETTER

June 2018



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

www.drive-methodist.church

Church Mission Statement
of
The Drive Methodist Church

The Drive Methodist Church aims to be faithful to the commandments of Jesus, and the calling of the Methodist Church.

The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission, and to fulfil the promises detailed in the Methodist worship book.

Provide a weekly opportunity for all people to worship God in Christ, here at The Drive Methodist Church.

Enable people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care.

Be a good neighbour to the immediate and wider community. Sharing our faith with others through pastoral care, church activities and communication.

Our Minister writes:

Dear Friends

As I write this letter, the church worldwide is celebrating Pentecost and the Methodist Church is celebrating John Wesley's conversion, when his heart was strangely warmed by the Spirit of God.

Both occasions celebrate moments of grace, when God, through the Holy Spirit, intervenes in human life.

It was a moment of grace when the disciples received and accepted the Holy Spirit in their lives which allowed them to speak the Good News in ways that the whole world could understand. Acts 2 says that every nation present in Jerusalem at the time could hear them speak of God's kingdom in their own languages and they were all surprised. Out of that experience the infant church of Jesus Christ grew in quality and quantity. The kingdom of God was spread and expanded.

It was Wesley's moment of grace on that day of May that enabled him to carry on with his mission and the Methodist movement/church grew. The Methodist church grew to be a worldwide church that it is today. These moments of grace continue to be present in our daily lives even to this day. God continues to act in each of us through his spirit. Sometimes we are aware of God's presence in our daily lives and sometimes we are unable to see God intervening in our lives, but he does.

God, through his Spirit, acts in history. He acts in our private lives. He acts in space and even in the smallest particles of life in this world.

His Spirit enables human beings to have moments of grace at various levels of life, in scientific discoveries that allow for development of our societies and of humanity in general. Researchers often have a moment of grace when suddenly they stumble on a solution/conclusion they have been searching for.

The church cannot contain the Spirit of God within the walls of our buildings. God and his Spirit are at work in all the world and in all human beings and I think that it has allowed life in communities to evolve. Humanity is filled with moments of God's grace.

Take some time and try to trace your moments of grace. You know where you have been with God and what he has done or enabled you to do with your moments of grace.

Be blessed
Dino



Please continue to remember in your prayers:

Peter Mitchell who thanks everyone for their cards and good wishes. He particularly thanks Liz Amah and Dino for visiting him whilst he was in hospital. He is home now with carers coming in three times a day. He is doing well and hopes to be back in church soon.

Peter Bendon is also feeling a lot better now following his recent illness and thanks everyone for their good wishes.

We ask for God's blessing on both Peters and all those for whom we have concerns at this time.

Birthday Greetings to:

Sam Eshun who will be 15 and
Tobias who will be 8 in June.



Scout Group Plant Sale

Our annual plant sale and coffee morning was held on Saturday 12th May. Fortunately, the rain held off just long enough for it to be held outdoors. A steady flow of customers kept us busy for the whole morning, while tea, coffee, biscuits and a cake stall did a steady trade in the hall.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported it, whether by helping to set up and sell, serving refreshments, buying plants or just enjoying a chat over a cup of coffee.

As always, we are grateful to Kay Whiddon and her Pre-School helpers for selling a lot of the 'left-overs' during the following week. In total £768.70 was raised for Group funds.

Mike Seviour, Group Scout Leader

Church Prayer Meeting 28th June

This will be from 7.15 pm – 7.45 pm in the Minister's vestry. All welcome. Sheets will be at the back of the Church for those who are unable to attend but wish to pray with us.

Jan and John Pearson

Evening Prayer 28th June

Please join the Choir for a service of evening prayer on Thursday 28 June at 8.00 pm in the church, followed by refreshments. This is an annual event to mark the end of the Choir's "year" and is also a prelude to our Church Anniversary celebrations on Sunday 1st July.

Andrew Taylor

Bible Reading Group 29th June

This will be at 10.30 am at 104 Wanstead Lane. We will be discussing Genesis chapters 1-3 followed by refreshments. All welcome.

Jan and John Pearson

Come and celebrate our church's
90th anniversary 1st July



We will be holding our annual church BBQ at the Rodings, the Scout site just off Roding Lane South, on Sunday 1st July, after the anniversary service. We hope to start at around 1.30pm.

Sausages and burgers will be provided, but we also ask for other contributions of food and drink.

A list will be available at the back of the church for you to sign up for the BBQ and to let us know what food you will be bringing. Our young people will also come round with the list to make sure we don't miss anybody.

All offers of help to cook, set up and clear away will be gratefully received. If you have garden chairs, then please bring them with you and let's hope the sun shines.

Lifts can be arranged to the Rodings - please speak to Jo or Michelle.

Jo Wright

(Don't forget to let Lorraine Bendon have your church memories –Ed.)

Church Tower

If you visited the Church in May, you probably noticed that we had scaffolding erected up one side of the tower. During the wet weather earlier this year we became aware that we had a significant ingress of rainwater through the tower roof. Our initial concern was that the lead had been stolen, which would have been a very expensive repair. However, on investigation it was apparent that the lead was in good order, but had come loose from the brickwork in some areas.

Our roofing contractors have now undertaken a full overhaul of the roof by refitting the lead and repointing as necessary. The tower roof should now be good for the foreseeable future, but it has been an unwelcome and unbudgeted expense of nearly £4000.

Jeremy Foster



Aimed at engaging children in mission, the Spring edition of Rainbow magazine is out now and copies are available for all young people (not just JMA collectors) at the back of the church. So please help yourself to a copy – you will see that The Drive gets a mention on page 7!

Diane Foster

Thanks from Samaritans Purse

In 2017 you lovingly packed and sent 678,942 shoebox gifts to children in 13 countries across Eastern Europe, Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East!

With last Christmas becoming a distant memory, we thought it was time to take a moment and remember the ongoing impact of your generosity. Here are just a couple of examples of what the many children, who have received a shoebox, have said:

Kirill is 12 years old and dreamed of having a black sports hat and gloves. Winter came and still he did not have them. When he received his shoebox he opened it and inside was a hat, gloves, and a scarf! He immediately put them on and did not take them off for some time. His mother looked at him and wept. (Central Asia)

Anna is 9 years old and says "In my life miracles just do not happen always. I live with my mum, and I don't have a dad. My mum has to work a lot, though it's hard to find a job in the place where we live. To sell fish in the marketplace is the only option. Very often my mum is not at home. Once there were some men and women who came to me to bring me a gift. I was very surprised. My first thought was that it's not for me, but they confirmed that it was mine. So, thank you everybody – I don't know who you are and how you happen to know me that you've brought me a gift. I am very glad, and I tell everyone – just believe – the miracles come true!" (Ukraine)

Thank you again for partnering with us to share God's love with children in need around the world and make life-changing moments like these possible.

'...let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.' 1 John 3:18



Advanced notices:



New Essex Choir - Summer Medley 14th July

A summer concert and buffet supper given by the New Essex Choir on Saturday 14th July 2018 at 7.30 pm in the church.

Many favourites including: Bridge Over Troubled Water, Yesterday, Scarborough Fair, The 59th Street Bridge Song.

Tickets £12 from Brian Taylor or on the door

Redbridge Faith Forum Quiz Evening



Wednesday 18th July at 7 pm
The Drive Methodist Church Hall
Entrance fee: £5

Please bring your own non-alcoholic drinks and food/nibbles

Places must be booked in advance by contacting:
Karen/Saira
email: faith.forum@redbridge.gov.uk

Janet's Sky Dive –
letter received from University College Hospital

We are delighted that Janet Wragg recently approached the UCH Cancer Fund with plans to sky dive in support of the Hospital's cancer services. Janet is 70 years old and a Cancer Survivor who is being treated here at UCLH.

With your support and donations, Janet looks to raise as much money as she can in order to support the services that have helped her and are continuing to do so whilst being treated for Cancer. Weather permitting, Janet plans to jump in July.

The Cancer services at UCLH treats patients from all ages; from new born babies, young children, teenagers on our specialist Teenage Cancer Unit, adults and the elderly. We also support patients not only from London but all over the UK. Your generosity will help us to invest in projects which will enhance our patients' and carers' experiences. Your donations are hugely important in enabling UCLH to build on its success as it strives for continued excellence and remain one of the leading cancer specialist hospitals.

There are many ways to help Janet raise as much as she can. You can directly donate in cash by filling in the sponsorship form. Or you can donate via Janet's JustGiving page, <https://www.iustgiving.com/fundraising/ianetsbigjump>.

If eligible, please don't forget to Gift Aid your donation which will help the Cancer Fund claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give (applicable to UK tax payers only), which will help Janet's cause that little further.

I think you will agree that it is absolutely inspiring that Janet has chosen to raise money for the UCH Cancer Fund by fearlessly jumping out of a plane and we hope that you can support her through her fundraising.

Laura Dowling, Head of Fundraising
UCLH, Cancer Division

R.T.N. REDBRIDGE TALKING NEWSPAPER

Keeping the blind in touch each week with local news and articles

Our studio is in rented space on the balcony of The Drive Methodist Church. We are a registered charity that, each Thursday evening, records local news and magazine features on USB memory sticks and distributes them for free to the blind and visually impaired in Redbridge.

We seek volunteers to join our team. No previous experience is necessary as training will be provided.

Secretary

To take notes at our bi-monthly committee meetings held in our studio and distribute them to committee members.

Readers

Initially to join our list of reserve readers who fill in for one of the regular readers when they are not available. Later on to join a reading team that attends every 6 weeks.

Editors

On a rota basis to prepare the local news edited from the local papers during the day on a Thursday, at home, and brought to the studio in readiness for the reading team that is on duty to record in the evening.

Presenters

Each of the 6 reading teams is led by a Presenter who prepares, at home, the magazine section during the previous 5 weeks.

Recording engineers

To operate the recording equipment and guide the reading teams on a rota basis on a Thursday evening.

Copying

To join a rota on Friday mornings to duplicate the USB memory sticks and package them ready for collection by Royal Mail.

For further information on any of these roles please contact:

Paul Campbell, Studio Manager or
Tony Wright, Chairman



Holy God of the morning: still our minds.

Holy God of Creation: create through us new life and vitality today.

Holy God of whispering gentle breeze: come to us in sighs too deep for words.

Holy God of crashing thunder: break into our lives and into our complacency.

Holy God of sun and warmth: encourage us to reach out with love.

Holy God of the evening: fill the fading light of this day with your awesome presence that we might worship you, honour you, glorify you, bless you, praise and adore you as we take our rest. Amen.

Loraine Mellor, President, British Methodist Conference
2017/2018

Diary

June

Sun	3 rd	11.15 am	Morning Service led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate
Tues	5 th	7.30 pm	Circuit Meeting at The Drive
Sun	10 th	11.15 am	Morning Service led by Mr Allan Ramsden
Fri	15 th	10.30 am	Coffee in the park Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion
Sun	17 th	11.15 am	Morning Service with Communion led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate
Sun	24 th	11.15 am	Morning Service led by Mrs Tabitha Jumbe
Thur	28 th	7.15 pm	Church Prayer Meeting in the Minister's vestry see page 4
Thur	28 th	8.00 pm	Evening Prayers in the church led by the Choir see page 4
Fri	29 th	10.30 am	Bible Reading Group at 104 Wanstead Lane see page 5

July

Sun	1 st	11.15 am	Church 90 th Anniversary Service led by The Revd Stephen G Normanton followed by BBQ at The Rodings see page 5
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(Don't forget the next newsletter is a double issue for
July and August. Last date for items:
Sunday 24th June)