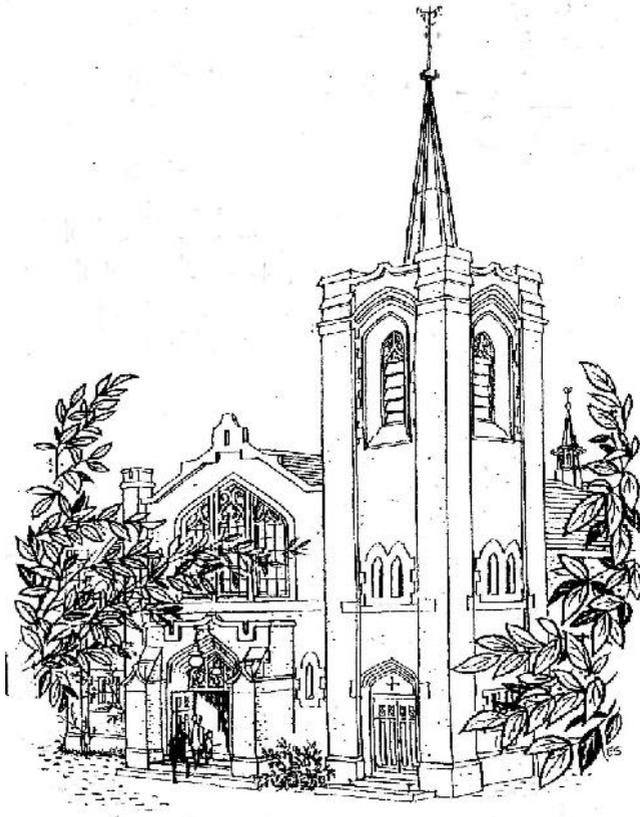


The Drive Methodist Church  
Eastern Avenue, Ilford, Essex, IG1 3PP

# NEWSLETTER

June 2019



Minister: Revd Bernardino Mandlate

[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.

## **Our Minister writes:**

Friends

I hope that God has been good to you over the last month, as you went about your daily routines. I am grateful to Him that He has always been kind to us, even in the midst of world difficulties and the violence surrounding us on a daily basis.

We've seen some of that violence around Ilford with gun crime and knife attacks and our young people in danger. We need to pray earnestly to God to help us, but also participate in community meetings that are called, sometimes by police neighbourhood teams, to inform and consult on measures being taken to prevent more crime. In the meantime try to be safe wherever you may be and whatever you may be doing. God help us.

The circuit is going through changes at the moment, with changing pastoral charges and even more to come as we prepare to look for a new presbyter for September 2020. We will all be asked to accommodate these changes which will affect us all. But in process of it, we need to still ask God for guidance as to what His mission is for us, and what our role may be in fulfilling God's mission.

As politics continue to be a bit messy, may I ask each of us to pray for this country, her politicians and our future. How do we interpret the recent European elections and its results in this country and around Europe. What are the implications for the outcome? Are we becoming insulated or can we still be part of the global village and how will that impact our lives?

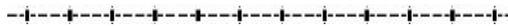
Please, let us continue to pray for the world, for peace, for the end of oppression and injustices around the world.

The conflict in Nigeria, Libya, the Middle East, Venezuela, just to mention a few places. Let us pray for the world environment, places with drought, places facing cyclones and flooding. These incidents affect people's livelihoods and create more immigration problems which in turn creates nationalism and puts us where we are in geopolitical terms.

May the Lord bless us all as we begin to enjoy some warm weather and longer summer days. Make the best of it while it lasts and praise the Lord as you do so.

Blessings

Dino



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

### **Birthday Greetings**

We wish a very Happy Birthday to:  
Tobias who will be 9 in June



### **Scout Group Plant Sale – 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Thank you to everyone who supported the plant sale and coffee morning on 11<sup>th</sup> May – to those who helped set up and sell the plants, the Beavers and their parents who made and sold cakes, the helpers in the kitchen serving refreshments and everyone who bought plants and cakes or just enjoyed a coffee and a chat! Thanks also to the Pre-School staff who sold the few remaining plants on the following Monday. The event raised the splendid total of £615.60 for Group funds.

Mike Seviour

## **Church Prayer Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> June**

The Church Prayer Meeting will be on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June in the Minister's Vestry from 7.15pm – 7.45pm.

Please come if you can, otherwise prayer sheets will be available at the back of the church so you can pray along with us at home.

## **Bible Reading Group – 28<sup>th</sup> June**

The Bible Reading Group will meet on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May from 10:30am to 11:30am at our home.

We will be discussing 1 Samuel chapters 24 to 31. Refreshments to follow. If you cannot meet at this time but would like to read and discuss these passages of the bible please speak to Roy Brunnen and he will arrange something after the service.

Jan and John Pearson

## **Work Morning – 29<sup>th</sup> June**

The Property Committee is organising a Work Morning for Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June. All the usual jobs will need doing including tidying the garden and grounds and general interior cleaning. Your help will be most welcome.

We start around 10am and finish before lunch.

Jeremy Foster

**Concert – 29<sup>th</sup> June**



**VALENTINE SINGERS**

**MAKING WAVES** – a concert of watery delights!  
featuring *Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo*  
by Flanders and Horovitz

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm**

at Seven Kings High School, 494 Ley Street, Ilford IG2 7BT  
£12 (£7 students/benefit holders)  
(buy in advance - £15/£9 on the door!)  
Free admission for under 16s!

visit: [www.valentinesingers.org](http://www.valentinesingers.org)  
or see Andrew Taylor

**Evening Prayer with the Choir – 4<sup>th</sup> July**

This will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July 8:00pm in the church.  
Everyone is welcome to this service to mark the end of the  
choir's year. It's the perfect way to start our celebration of the  
church's anniversary.

Refreshments will be served after the service.

## Thanks

Over the last few weeks I have been involved with some building work at home and it has been difficult for me to get over to the church. This has coincided with the recent breakdown of the heating system and the subsequent installation of the new boilers. Fortunately, Mike Seviour has been available and has done a great job liaising with the engineers and ensuring that they have had access to various remote parts of the premises. This has enabled the work to proceed smoothly. Thank you Mike.

Mike has added an article about the boiler replacement and some photos to the Church website. If you are interested, go to The Drive Methodist Church website and click on Archive/Articles/Boiler replacement

Jeremy Foster

## Which one would you choose?

During a recent TDY session our young people were asked whether they would have chosen to witness the parting of the Red Sea or the resurrection of Jesus.

Here are their responses:

*Ayo says "I would have rather been at Jesus' resurrection because He is an amazing saviour. Also, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity which is more talked about in the future."*

*Yetunde says "I would rather have been at Jesus' resurrection because that was the beginning on which Christianity was founded upon. Jesus being resurrected from the dead is a symbol of God's omni benevolence and shows that death can be overcome. Therefore it gives people hope as well as encourages people to live well in order to attain eternal life"*

*with the Lord. As well as this, it is the resurrection of Jesus that makes Christianity what it is. The Old Testament is literally the Torah, the beginning of Judaism. What separates them are the New Testament, the coming of Jesus, and most importantly His resurrection to forgive our sins."*

*Thea says "I would choose the parting of the Red Sea, a magical event that would have been amazing to see. You would have been able to see the power that God can give to people, and the belief He has in them. Yes, the resurrection would have been amazing, but I wouldn't have needed to see it to believe Jesus was alive. Seeing God's belief in normal people is more powerful because it shows that everyone is amazing because God believes in them."*

*Daro says "I would rather have been at the parting of the Red Sea because many people escaped Egypt and were set free after years of being there. Pharaoh was a bad person and the Israelites deserved to be set free."*

## **Advanced notices**

### **Dates for future film shows at The Drive**

These will be on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July, Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November. All showings will take place in the Church Hall starting at 2.30pm with a comfort break at a suitable place during the film with tea/coffee and biscuits.

There is no charge for attending but donations would be welcome to cover overheads.

The films are yet to be selected – more details to follow.



## **Share-a-Skill – 14<sup>th</sup> September**

Share-A-Skill is making a comeback at the Drive's Community Cafe which will be held in the Parlour on Saturday 14th September between 10am and 12pm. Tea and coffee will be served all morning by The Drive Youth. It is a great opportunity to try your hand at a variety of different crafts.

Share-A-Skill will be organised and led by Janet Wragg in conjunction with TDY.

Any contributions and donations will be extremely welcome and appreciated, with a portion of the sum raised going towards Dementia UK, TDY's chosen charity.

Please come and join us to develop a skill and have a cup of coffee or tea!

Bambo Banjo



### **Learn to use a Smartphone**

If you or family or friends would like to discover how a mobile phone could help you keep in touch easily please let Jan or John Pearson know. Lorraine Daws has experience with age UK helping people begin to use phones for texting, looking things up on the internet etc. She will give some time for free in September subject to numbers and availability.

Jan and John Pearson

## **Redbridge Faith Forum meetings**

### **Transformation of Ilford Town Centre**

On Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2018, Redbridge Faith Forum held a lunchtime meeting on the above topic. Up till now there has been no evening follow up meeting.

So what transformation is planned? It has been suggested that a purpose built covered market should be put on the Town Hall Car Park. This is to discourage people from travelling by car to Ilford. (The experts don't seem to realise that car drivers are already avoiding Ilford and going elsewhere).

Does anyone remember the Pioneer Market – the wool shop, greengrocers, fishmongers, hardware and curtain shop? Only the clock shop seems to have survived across the road. Very useful it is too. (Other clock shops are available). What happened to the Pioneer Market? The site was under the twin "white elephant" which can be seen for miles.

The new proposed market would provide cooked food for customers – as if there aren't enough people in central Ilford walking around eating. The other plans were, in my opinion, even more outlandish. So much for the experts. Meanwhile, the town centre deteriorates even more. Bus stops are being moved to dangerous places. Be careful if you change buses outside Redbridge Central Library as the new board walk is treacherous. There is nowhere to sit, no shelter, no board indicator. Is this progress?

## **Community Hubs**

This was another lunch time meeting of the Redbridge Faith Forum held on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at the Ilford Islamic Centre.

What is a "Community Hub"? It seems to me that important services have been cut because of lack of funding. Money has been granted to produce buildings for no set purpose. Seven Kings and Gants Hill are the first proposed hubs. It sounded as if Gants Hill Library might be used.

There were two speakers - Randal Smith is the London Borough of Redbridge Interim Head of Policy, Equalities and Communities. Andy Paice is an Involve Associate.

Luckily in the audience was a person who has been involved for many years with Voluntary Care. This person explained that it is no good building hubs without providing transport to get people there. Clubs for the elderly and disabled have closed down so those able to get themselves to cafes and pubs sit for hours over their cups of tea and coffees.

The two speakers expected volunteers to run things not realising that all organisations are seeking volunteers. An evening meeting is really needed to spread awareness of these plans.

Susan Ruckes

## Diary

### June

<b>Sun</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Morning Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Pentecost Sunday Morning service led by Dr Leela Knight</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday Morning Service led by The Revd Bernardino Mandlate</b>
Fri	21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Coffee in the park Gardeners Café, Valentines Mansion
<b>Sun</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Members of the congregation</b>
Thur	27 <sup>th</sup>	7.15pm	Church Prayer Meeting in the Minister's vestry, see page 4
Fri	28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Bible Reading Group 104 Wanstead Lane, see page 4
Sat	29 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am	Work Morning see page 5
Sat	29 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Valentines Singers concert See page 5
<b>Sun</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Morning Service led by Mr John Pearson</b>

### July

Thur	4 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Evening prayer with the Choir See page 5
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>11.15am</b>	<b>Church Anniversary Morning Service with Holy Communion led by The Revd Angela Potticary followed by celebratory lunch – full details to follow in weekly notices</b>

***Last date for items for the July/August double issue:  
Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June***

Lord, we pray for:

Greater love for the lost, deeper compassion for the broken, stronger faith in your saving power, bolder witness to your presence, believing that the kingdom is advancing.

Help the churches in the Barking, Dagenham and Ilford Circuit to rise up to seize the day believing that there are no "no-go" areas for you Lord. No people that cannot be reached. No chains that cannot be broken.

So Lord, send us out, longing for your presence and for your glory to fall anew, igniting us with an unquenchable flame, bringing light, hope and love wherever you send us.

In Jesus' name

Amen

*from prayer sheet available at the back of the church*