

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



NEWSLETTER

September 2026



Minister: Revd Jacqueline Jones
Email: rev.jacquelinejones@outlook.com

[http:// 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.

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear all,

Well, I'm back after a VERY enjoyable and relaxing sabbatical! (I know, you probably never even missed me)?!



I have quite often written about the need to stop, relax and have some personal time to refresh our batteries. This is both a physical and spiritual exercise, and can be quite a challenge in our busy, 24/7 world. Over the last three months I've had the wonderful privilege of being able to do just that – and it's been magnificent_! (I think I'll have another one next year!!)

🎉 Seriously, a big 'thank you' to everyone who has 'held the fort' while I've been on sabbatical. (N.B. – Not on holiday)!!

A few 'highlights' from my sabbatical have enabled me to reflect on life, ministry and everything else in between.

Returning to Okehampton to lead worship (which I'd promised to do many months ago) was a delight and a chance to reflect on the formative years I spent in Okehampton Methodist Church (as it was then: Later Methodist & URC). It offered me a chance to, yet again, look back and acknowledge all the influences different people had on my life and how it helped to equip me for ministry. So much of our past is an equipping for whatever the future holds.

The highlight of my sabbatical was a ten-day guided pilgrimage of Ireland. Lynn had seen it online and it was organised by a group from America, who were a great bunch. It was marvellous with everything included: not having to worry about accommodation, driving, parking, where to eat

or what to visit was very special. Much of the pilgrimage was visiting ancient monastic sites, a lot of which originated back

to the time of St Patrick and the other Saints who contributed to the foundation of the Christian Church in Ireland. We were reminded that at the time of Patrick (around 400AD) there was neither Protestant nor Roman Catholic denominations.

The testimonies of how God worked through ordinary people to bring the Christian Church to Ireland are quite incredible. On a lighter side we also visited the Giants Causeway, Galway Bay & Aran Island, Johnny Fox's pub for a traditional Irish 'Hooley' and a tour of the Guinness Storehouse. It was interesting to learn that the Guinness family built several tenement blocks with scores of small flats to house the poor and destitute of Dublin.

Elsewhere during my sabbatical, I/we were able to visit friends, watch the T20 cricket final (from the Chairmen's lounge!), spend time birdwatching, exploring new areas and, most importantly, spending time with my mum who celebrated her 90th Birthday in June and celebrating our own 40th Wedding Anniversary in July.

Much reflection has taken place around various subjects including realising just how tired I was and how much I needed my sabbatical. It brought to mind how little time I/we spend with friends, along with my on-going response to God's call to find that lonely spot and take time to pray and listen.

Many places we visited in Ireland were described as a 'thin place' where the distance between heaven and earth (God and us) is extremely narrow. Strangely, the 'thin place' where God spoke to me about stationing was in the Ken Barret bird hide at RSPB Rainham Marshes. Was I surprised? Yes, a bit –

but when we're ready to listen, God is more than ready to speak to us – regardless of where we are. Many times God

and His creation touched my heart on the occasions I basked in the beauty and wonder of nature.

I guess the question for us all to consider is, 'Where is my thin place where I can get away, be with God and listen to what He has to say'?

Maybe it's time to discover your 'thin place' or 'lonely spot'; a place where you can discover the nearness of God and all the blessings that He has to offer.

May God open all our sense to enable us to experience his closeness and his blessings.

By the time you read this we will be into August and bracing ourselves for the 1st September and another Methodist year. (Where does the time go?).

2026-27 will be very different in many ways. Just to start, this letter is to cover August and September until the Revd Chris settles in and we think a bit more about the future, including minister's letters, meetings, etc.

We have said our very fond farewell to Rev Mmasape and gave thanks for all her devotion and commitment to the BDI Circuit over the last seven years. We had an amazing circuit farewell service and I don't think I'll ever forget the volume, harmony and passion in the singing of the last hymn, 'Guide me, O thou great Jehovah' !! If you missed it, you missed something totally awesome! Our very grateful thanks go to everyone involved and the team at The Drive.

On **Sunday 30th August, 4.00pm at Barking Methodist Church** we will welcome our new Superintendent, The Revd

Chris Sandy. Please put the date in your diary and join us so we can give the Rev Chris an equally rousing welcome.

So, as we enter a new connexional year, I leave you with these words:

I Do Not Know What Lies Ahead,
The Way I Cannot See;
Yet One Stands Near to Be My Guide,
He'll Show The Way To Me:

*I Know Who Holds the Future,
And He'll Guide Me With His Hand;
With God Things Don't Just Happen,
Everything By Him Is Planned.
So as I Face Tomorrow,
With Its Problems Large And Small,
I'll Trust The God Of Miracles,
Give To Him My All.*

I Do Not Know How Many Days
Of Life Are Mine to Spend;
But One Who Knows And Cares For Me
Will Keep Me To The End:

Chorus

I Do Not Know the Course Ahead,
What Joys And Grief's Are There;
But One Is Near Who Fully Knows,
I'll Trust His Loving Care:

Chorus

Alfred B. Smith

God bless you all,

Andy 🙏

EDITOR'S NOTE

Hello again everyone and welcome to our September Newsletter. I do hope you've had a good summer and are well rested.

I'm not even going to mention the World Cup except to share the general disappointment of not making the final. As our son Matthew said "it was an opportunity missed, the manager got it all wrong - we should have been on the attack and not defence when we were 1-0 up in the semi-final.....". But we did finish in 3rd place – so perhaps next time!

Anyway let's forget about football as there is a lot to look forward to over the next few months.

In September, our church lunch is on the 12th – see page 17, Audrey's MacMillan Coffee Morning at the Redbridge Social Centre is on the 25th – see page 18. In October, our Harvest Festival service and lunch is on the 4th - see page 19, on the 10th is the Autumn Fayre, a Centenary Fundraising event – see page 21 and on the 25th our morning worship will be led by the new Circuit Superintendent, Revd Chris Sandy. In November the Fundraising events continue on the 14th with Sing Hallelujah led by Andrew - see page 23. So a busy few months and all before Christmas!

Have you noticed something different about the hall roof? See Jeremy's Centenary update starting on page 12.

As we enter autumn, which, as it says in the dictionary '*is the time between summer and winter, when fruits and crops are ready to be picked*', we pray for our farmers and the challenges they have faced during the heatwaves and drought. May they still have a fruitful harvest.

Have a good month,



WE ASK FOR GOD'S BLESSING AND PRAY for those known to us who are in need of our prayers at this time.

WE PRAY for all those unwell, in body and mind. For those in hospital, for those awaiting operations and for those receiving treatment for ongoing illnesses.

WE PRAY for all those going through difficult times because of financial worries, family problems or health anxieties.

WE PRAY for all those who mourn the loss of loved ones, both recently and in the past.

WE PRAY for all our young people as they start new schools, college or university and for all those attending job interviews.

ALL THE NAMES of these people are in our hearts Lord and you know who they are. May they all be comforted knowing you are with them all the time.

AND WE PRAY FOR OURSELVES, Lord, for those times when we are in need of your healing touch.

*Jesus heals and makes us whole,
Jesus heals, Jesus heals;
Heals the body and the soul,
Jesus heals, Jesus heals.
Yes, He heals the sick and sore,
And our suff'ring days are o'er,
Praise His name forevermore,
Jesus heals, Jesus heals.*

John E. Roberts (1897)

A PRAYER FOR SEPTEMBER

September, Lord, a time of new beginnings.

Children starting school or moving to a new class.
Ministers meeting new congregations
and struggling to remember names.

A new beginning is a lovely thing Lord.
We remember our joy and enthusiasm when we first met
you.

But that can grow a bit dim as the years
and life get in the way.

Lord we thank you that you give us a new beginning
not just on 1st September or the 1st January but everyday.
The slate wiped clean from yesterday and a new start.

Lord as we come to you worship you now,
Fill us with joy in our worship.
May that joy be so great that we cannot contain it.
May it overflow from us to all we shall meet.

Amen.

Hilary Stephens



HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:



Graham on the 2nd

Thea on the 7th

Liz on the 12th

Anne on the 28th

Sanjay on the 30th



**and Birthday wishes to everyone
celebrating a birthday this month.
Have a lovely day!**

*(If you would like yours or somebody else's birthday
mentioned then please let me know! – Ed.)*

CONGRATULATIONS to...



Revd Jacqui on the birth of her grandson, born on 16th July
- *Lovely news Jacqui, wishing God's blessing and every
happiness to the proud parents, Rebekah and Chris, and all
the family – Ed.*

Feyi for graduating with a 2-1 degree in law from
Birmingham City University – *Excellent achievement Feyi,
well done – Ed.*

Tunrayo for passing her driving test – *well done Tunrayo! –
Ed.*

A few Wedding Anniversary Celebrations –

**Chris & Daphne – 11TH ;Jo & Andy - 37th; and Deacon
Andy & Lynn - 40th! -**

Hope you all enjoyed your special days – Ed.

Matthew & Emily on (finally!) moving into their new home –
Really pleased for you both and looking forward to visiting! –
Ed.

LISTEN, DREAM, ACT

Over the coming months, The Drive Methodist Church will journey together through *Listen, Dream, Act* — a preaching series shaped by Faith Rooted Community Organising and Our Church's Future Story.

Each month will invite us to listen more deeply to God and our community, dream with hope about the future God is calling us into, and take faithful steps of action in worship, service, mission, and everyday discipleship.

The theme for September is 'Listen' with the preaching focus – 'Creating space to hear God, one another, and the needs of the community'.

'Look out for each month's theme in the newsletter as we reflect, pray, and respond together.

Rev'd Jacqui Jones

CENTENARY MISSION DEVELOPMENT PROJECT UPDATE

I'm pleased to report that the preparatory works, planning and fundraising for our development project are progressing well.

The preparatory works have included the rewiring of the hall, upgrading the electrical distribution boards and installation of the solar energy panels which will shortly come on stream.

We have had a number of meetings with the architect who is now working on the detailed plans ready to go to tender. In September I will convene a meeting with the catering team and some of the community user groups to discuss equipment and layout of the new kitchens.

Once all of the above is finalised we will be ready to submit a tender document to obtain competitive quotes from potential main contractors to enable the works to be completed during 2027.

In terms of fundraising, we have recently had confirmation from the Methodist Churches in the Historic County of Essex Fund giving approval to a grant of £15,000. This is great news and our development fund total now stands at £564,959 (inclusive of the cost of preparatory works now completed) against a target of £600,000.

We will now be submitting applications to the Benefact Trust, Garfield Weston Trust and Rank Foundation to hopefully close some of the funding gap.

Within the target of £600,000 we have a local church target of £50,000. The response from the church family and past members has been amazing with £37,448 donated or pledged to date, inclusive of Gift Aid and fundraising. But there is still some way to go and our church appeal remains very much ongoing. Please see the thermometer displays at the back of the church which show our progress.

Your support for the Autumn Fayre and Sing Hallelujah will therefore be greatly appreciated. See further details of these events in this newsletter.

Finally, if anyone still wishes to make a financial donation or make a pledge please speak to John, Joel or myself.

Jeremy Foster



CHURCH ANNIVERSARY LUNCH AT THE RODINGS 5th JULY

It seems quite some time since our annual church anniversary bring and share lunch at the Rodings in July. Time seems to go so quickly!

We had wonderful weather and delicious food. It was great for young and (slightly) older members of The Drive to meet and enjoy each other's company. Audrey Taylor and Brian Grinham both cut the delicious celebratory cake that Oli provided.

Thank you to everyone who supplied the wonderful food to share, helped set up and cleared away at the end.

Here's to next year!

TDY

We wish all our young people well as they embark on a new academic year. Some will be going off to university or college; others are moving to secondary school or to a new year group. Many of our TDY members are now working, too. Good luck to all and may God bless you in all that you do. Work hard and have fun!



A NEW BEGINNING

We wish Michelle and Lola God's blessings as they move forward with TDY. Please remember them, our other TDY leaders and all our young people in your prayers. Thank you.

Jo Wright

FAREWELL SERVICE FOR REVD MMASAPE – 26TH JULY

Joyous, happy, musical, uplifting....just a few words used to describe the atmosphere on 26th July when The Drive hosted the Circuit farewell service for Mmasape. It was a full church with around 250 people worshipping together, celebrating and relating fond memories of Mmasape's seven years of ministry within our circuit. A collection raised a splendid £602.43 for St. Francis Hospice.

It was good to see Revd Kido Baek, former minister in the circuit, who led the sermon. Kido reflected on how he came to know Mmasape and his time working with her. Prayers were led by circuit members and Mmasape's family. The service was followed by refreshments in the hall with tables laden with delicious food organised and arranged by members of The Drive. Thank you to everyone involved in setting up, serving and clearing up afterwards.

In Andy's letter he says if you missed it, you missed something 'totally awesome'. Well don't worry if you missed it because you can still watch the service via our YouTube channel.

We were sad to say goodbye to Mmasape, but we wish her every happiness as she continues her ministerial journey in Devon.

We look forward to welcoming her back to The Drive for our Centenary celebrations in 2028.

Diane Foster



MESSAGE FROM



The world was shocked to see the images coming out of Colombia after a powerful earthquake killed hundreds and damaged or destroyed more than 1,600 homes.

Samaritan's Purse has airlifted £100,000 of desperately needed relief, including shelter supplies, solar lights, and hygiene kits, to assist hard-hit communities in western Colombia. Many grieving families have lost their homes, and people are sleeping on the streets in fear because of the strong aftershocks. Rescue teams continue searching through the rubble for survivors.

Samaritan's Purse has worked in Colombia for many years and has three field offices in different areas there. I encourage you to pray for the people of this country.

This 7.4 magnitude tremor follows just weeks after major quakes devastated neighbouring Venezuela, where Samaritan's Purse continues to provide water, shelter, and medical care.

Please lift up our responses in both of these countries and pray especially for those who are mourning the loss of their loved ones.

Thank you and may God bless you.

Franklin Graham,
President, Samaritan's Purse

**VISIT TO HINDE STREET METHODIST CHURCH &
PILGRIMAGE TO THE GRAVE OF CHARLES WESLEY
FRIDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER**

The London Methodist Lunch Club invite you to join them for an organ recital, church history talk at Hinde Street Methodist Church, 19 Hinde St, London W1U 2QJ, and pilgrims' walk to the grave of Charles Wesley on Friday 11th September from 1.00pm – 4.00pm. There will be singing, mingling and a chance to whet your whistle with non-alcoholic refreshments.

To find out more details about the afternoon's programme and to book your ticket visit:

<https://11sept26hindestreet.eventbrite.co.uk/> or contact Carole at cdmerriman@btinternet.com or Mike, phone 0208 399 8596.

SATURDAY LUNCH 12th SEPTEMBER CHURCH PARLOUR

We will be serving a variety of homemade soups with a cheese toasty and chutney. Tea/Coffee and biscuits.

Cost will be £5.

We look forward to welcoming you. Please add your name to the list at the back of the church or message Lorraine, Ruth or Anne.



**AUDREY'S MARVELLOUS
MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

**FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER
10.30am — 1pm.**

**It's time for the
Macmillan Coffee Morning**

Supporting
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT

**Please come and join me in the conservatory
at Redbridge Social Centre Beehive Lane.**

Audrey Taylor





**HARVEST
at
THE DRIVE**

**on
SUNDAY
4TH October
11.15am**

**led by
Revd Jacqui
Jones

LUNCH at 1pm

Come and join the service on this joyful celebration which will be followed by a delicious lunch in the Church Hall at 1pm.

ALL ARE MOST WELCOME

If you would like to contribute, gifts of food for Harvest can be brought to the church on Saturday morning or to the Sunday service.

Please see the notice from The Foodbank regarding suitable and necessary food on the next page..

If you prefer, there will also be a monetary collection at the service. All donations of food/ money will be distributed to local charities.

If you plan to join the lunch, please add your name to the list at the back of the church.

There is no cost.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOODBANK

What follows is a desperate message from our local foodbank. Please remember to bring just one item to donate when you came to church on Sunday. If everyone brought just one item, we would fill our box each week.

We're very worried. We have never seen our warehouse so empty, and now, for the first time ever, we're out of crucial items, such as long-life milk, biscuits and fruit tins that make up our three-day emergency food parcels.

Every week, in Redbridge, our dedicated volunteers run 7 food bank sessions across the borough, where people in crisis can get the support they so desperately need.

Please, can you help? There are lots of ways to get food to us:

Online via Give today -Your donations are delivered straight to our warehouse. <https://givetoday.co.uk/redbridgefoodbank/>

In person - you can drop off food at a Redbridge Foodbank collection point that we have at a number of supermarkets. <https://redbridge.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

Bring the food to us at Jubilee Church, which is open Tue 11am – 12.30pm, Wed: 2pm – 3.30pm, Sat: 10am – 12.30pm. Here are the items we so desperately need:

Tinned fish

Tinned meat

Tinned tomatoes

Rice pudding/Custard

Vegetarian items i.e. pulses, vegetarian stews/curries

Jams/spreads

Washing powder

Shampoo bar



AUTUMN FAYRE



**AT THE DRIVE METHODIST CHURCH
SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2026 10am-3pm**

We are holding an Autumn Fayre to fundraise for our Centenary Mission Development Project.



Is this the time to have a clear-out?

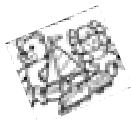


If so we need your unwanted items for Anne's bric-a-brac stall: CDs, DVDs, books, jigsaws, ornaments, crockery, jewellery, toys, ready to sell clothes -in fact almost anything!



We are able to store items at the church so if you have anything please let Jeremy know:

bookings@drive-methodist.church



We would also be very grateful for items for Howard's Tombola Stall, cakes for Priya's Cake Stall and Christmas decorations - see Lorraine's request on next page. Thank you!

ANOTHER REQUEST FOR THE FAYRE!

My apologies for using the `Christmas` word while we are still in August, but needs must when I am trying to plan ahead.

Like many, each year, I can't resist buying one or two extra Christmassy things to add to my already vast collection, much of which goes back into storage after I've rummaged through for the bits and pieces I want to use as December comes around.

Having a recent `sort out`, I was shocked at the size of my Christmas Department but instead of taking unwanted items along to the charity shops, I decided that I would have a Preloved Christmas Decoration stall at our forthcoming Church Autumn Fayre, taking place on 10th October.

I am assuming that there are others out there who, like me, have accumulated more than enough Christmas items. So will you join me in donating any decorations that you no longer need. I will make them presentable and sell them on to benefit this very good cause.

Lights, baubles, Christmas trees, ornaments
If you need help in accessing your Christmas Decs. I'm happy to lend a hand or collect them from you.



LET'S DO THIS

HO! HO! HO!



Lorraine Bendon



SING HALLELUJAH



at

THE DRIVE METHODIST CHURCH

SATURDAY 14th NOVEMBER 2026

A chance to sing Handel's Hallelujah Chorus and other pieces from our choir cupboard.

All singers welcome whether you've been a choral singer all your life or just want to have a go - there will be parts for everyone.



Arrive:1.00pm

Rehearse:1.30pm

Informal performance:4.00pm

Finish by 4.30pm

Cost to take part:£10

in support of

The Drive Centenary Mission Development Project

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW



ESSEX MEN'S TENNIS



Some of you may know that my son, David, is a tennis player and coach. He plays in the Essex men's county cup team and has done so for many years. He also played in the Essex junior county team and was Essex County junior champion on many occasions. He has also coached the Essex disability tennis team and is captain of the under 8's development squad and Essex County team. He is head coach at a club in Wanstead too. He is tennis mad!

Andy and I have always loved to watch David play tennis, even though it can sometimes be quite stressful!

At the end of July I went to Hunstanton, in Norfolk, with David and his family to watch the Essex men's County team play against various other counties in the same league.

I enjoy watching doubles as the onus to win is not all on one player. At 33 years old, David was the oldest player in the Essex team but won the most matches with his partners!

It was one of the hottest weeks in July and the courts were in the middle of an open area of grassland with limited shade. Add to the mix a 22-month-old and a 3-month-old. The week was busy to say the least. I had forgotten how fast a toddler can run!

It was so good to see such passionate matches and team spirit. Sport is such a good way to learn new skills, discipline, and the feeling of belonging. There was good rivalry too. I thoroughly enjoyed my week in Norfolk, and I look forward to next year.

Jo Wright

MADEIRA

We have been coming to this beautiful island for many years and have made friends with folk that come at the same time as us. As I have a big birthday coming up in October I decided to have an early celebration with them and our family who are with us. The hotel provided the most amazing buffet and drinks and we were entertained by a Madeiran folklore band who were at the hotel that evening. I feel truly blessed to have been able to celebrate with everyone on this beautiful island.

Maggie Smith

HENRY 'FATHER' WILLIS

In July Jeremy and I attended a concert and flower festival at St Mary's Church in Horsham, West Sussex, where Matthew and Emily sing in the choir. The event was to support the fundraising appeal for the specialist restoration of the organ.

Henry "Father" Willis was the most celebrated English organ builder of the Victorian era, renowned for the tonal beauty and reliability of his instruments. His workshop supplied major churches and concert halls across Britain, including St Paul's Cathedral and the Royal Albert Hall and his name became a byword for quality.

The organ at St Mary's, Horsham, was built by Willis in 1865, at a time when the town was expanding rapidly with the arrival of the railway. Although being adapted over time, the core Willis pipework and musical character remain remarkably intact, giving the instrument its distinctive range of sounds, from gentle flutes, to warm choruses, to fiery trumpets. It is still recognised as a fine Willis instrument, making it an important survivor in the national story of English organ building.

Diane Foster

THE TOWER OF BABEL

On a recent visit to Tate Modern, we came across a piece of artwork called '*Babel* 2001' . It is by the Brazilian artist, Cildo Meireles.



Babel 2001 is a large-scale sculptural installation that takes the form of a circular tower made from hundreds of second-hand analogue radios that the artist has stacked in layers.

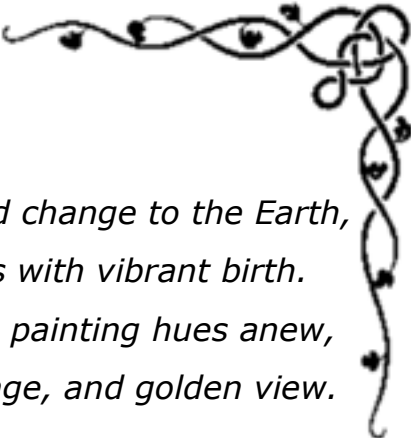
The radios are of varying ages, from large valve radios dating from the 1920s which make up the bottom layer to the smaller mass-produced electronic radios of recent years which form its summit. They are tuned to a multitude of different stations which create a cacophony of low, continuous sound, resulting in inaccessible information, voices or music.

In describing this work, Meireles refers to a 'tower of incomprehension' and relates it to the biblical story of the Tower of Babel, a tower tall enough to reach the heavens, which, offending God, caused him to make the builders speak in different languages. Their inability to communicate with one another caused them to become divided and scatter across the earth and, moreover, became the source of all of mankind's conflicts. By using radios of decreasing size Meirele enhances the sense of height which, like its biblical counterpart, might continue into the heavens.

The room in which the tower is installed is bathed in an indigo blue light that, together with the sound, gives the whole structure an eerie effect and adds to the sense of confusion.

I wonder if this is where the word 'babble' comes from?

POETRY CORNER



*September brings a splendid change to the Earth,
As nature's palette bursts with vibrant birth.
Leaves on trees transform, painting hues anew,
A kaleidoscope of red, orange, and golden view.*

*Excitement dances in the crisp autumn air,
As landscapes transform with nature's loving care.
In every rustle and whispering breeze,
September enchants, fills our hearts with ease.*



Catherine Pulsifer

HELPLINES

SAMARITANS

Available 24 hours a day provide confidential emotional support for people who are experiencing feelings of distress, despair or suicidal thoughts. www.samaritans.org 116 123 (free to call from within the UK and Ireland), 24 hours Email: jo@samaritans.org

MIND

Mind offers advice, support and information to people experiencing a mental health difficulty and their family and friends. Mon to Fri 9am to 6pm (except bank holidays). www.mind.org.uk InfoLine: 0300 123 3393 to call, or text 86463 Email info@mind.org.uk

PAPYRUS UK

Papyrus is the national charity dedicated to the prevention of young suicide. They support young people under 35 who are experiencing thoughts of suicide, as well as people concerned about someone else. Their HopelineUK service is open 9am - midnight every day of the year (including weekends and bank holidays). www.papyrusuk.org Helpline: 0800 068 4141 Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org

YOUNGMINDS

www.youngminds.org.uk Parents helpline: 0808 802 5544 (Mon-Fri from 9.30am - 4pm, excluding bank holidays)

CAMPAIGN AGAINST LIVING MISERABLY (CALM)

A helpline for people in the UK who are down or have hit a wall for any reason, who need to talk or find information and support. thecalmzone.net Helpline: 0800 58 58 58 thecalmzone.net/help/webchat/ 5pm—midnight, every day of the year.

BROOK YOUNG PEOPLES SERVICE

Information, support and signposting service for young people under 25 on sexual health. Local services available via

text message offering free contraception, pregnancy testing, counselling. brook.org.

CHILDLINE

Emotional support for children and young people on issues relating to child abuse, bullying etc. 0800 1111

FORCED MARRIAGES

Enter Forced Marriages into search bar at top of site - Service provided by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office to protect young people from forced marriages abroad. Service offers help to young people in these circumstances to help get them back to the UK. 020 7008 0151 gov.uk/stop-forced-marriage

NSPCC CHILD PROTECTION

0808 800 5000 email:help@nspcc.org.uk www.nspcc.org.uk
For anyone concerned about a child at risk of abuse.

FREEPHONE 24 HR NATIONAL DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE

0808 2000 247 www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk/
Run in partnership between Women's Aid and Refuge, this is a national service for women experiencing domestic violence, their family, friends, colleagues and others calling on their behalf.

NATIONAL LGBT DOMESTIC ABUSE HELPLINE

0800 999 5428 galop.org.uk/get-help/helplines/
Emotional, practical support for LGBT people experiencing domestic abuse.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUPS

Helpline providing support for families and friends of problem drinkers, whether the person is still drinking or not. 0800 0086 811 www.al-anonuk.org.uk

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

<https://capuk.org/> Free help getting out of debt, budgeting and making your money go further.

AGE UK ADVICE

0800 678 1602 www.ageuk.org.uk Information and advice for older people.

DIARY		
AUGUST		
Sun 30th	11.15am	Morning Worship led by Members of the Congregation
	4.00pm	Welcome Service for Revd Chris Sandy at Barking MC
SEPTEMBER		
Sun 6TH Commissioning Service	11.15am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Revd Jacqui Jones
Fri 11 th	1.00pm – 4.00pm	Visit to Hinde St MC and Pilgrimage – see page 17
Sat 12 th	1.00pm	Church Lunch Church Parlour see page 17
Sun 13th Education Sunday	11.15am	Morning Worship led by Mr Alfred Mensah
Tues 15 th	7.45pm	Choir Practice Church Parlour
Sun 20th Peace Sunday	11.15am	Morning Worship led by Revd Jacqui Jones
Tues 22 nd	7.45pm	Choir Practice Church Parlour
Fri 25 th	10.30am – 1.00pm	Audrey's Macmillan Coffee Morning at Redbridge Social Centre – see page 18
Sun 27th	11.15am	Morning Worship led by Mrs Sharon Grundy
Tues 29 th	7.45pm	Choir Practice Church Parlour
OCTOBER		
Sun 4th Homeless Sunday	11.15am	Harvest Festival Service led by Revd Jacqui Jones
	1.00pm	Harvest Lunch in the Church Hall – see page 19

DIARY Contd		
OCTOBER		
Tues 7 th	7.45pm	Choir Practice Church Parlour
Sat 10 th	10.30am – 3.00pm	Autumn Fayre – see page 21

***DEADLINE FOR ITEMS FOR
THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER:
SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2026***

***I look forward to hearing from you
Thank you! – Ed.***



Services every Sunday at 11.15 am

Communion services as announced

Senior Church Steward: Diane Foster
stewards@drive-methodist.church

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

Church Council Secretary: Theodora Garner
secretary@drive-methodist.church

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

Pastoral Secretary: Lorraine Bendon
pastoral@drive-methodist.church

The Drive Youth: Michelle Garner, Lola Fadojutimi
junior-church@drive-methodist.church

Flower Rota Secretary: Anne Dellow
flowers@drive-methodist.church

Safeguarding@The Drive: Lorraine Bendon
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JMA Secretary: Diane Foster
jma@drive-methodist.church

Newsletter Editor: Diane Foster
newsletter@drive-methodist.church

Pre School: Kay Whiddon
Pre-school@drive-methodist.church
Term time only: Mon to Fri 9.15am-12pm; 1pm-3pm