

UNITY OF SELF COUNSELLING SERVICE

Are you depressed, confused or just
would like someone to talk to?

I am a qualified counsellor and supervisor offering a confidential service to adults, children and families.

CALL ME TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT ON

020 8244 0512 or 07956 351 511

WENDY BLENMAN (Dip. Couns., MSc in therapeutic counselling)

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT
MAGAZINE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN
YOUNG BY

SUNDAY 8TH JANUARY 2012

Anerley Methodist Church, Oakfield Road, Anerley,
London SE20 8QA

**ANERLEY CENTRE
ECHO**



CHRISTMAS 2011

The Newsletter of

ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH

USEFUL CONTACTS (as at 01.07.1) All prefix 020

Church (Minister is not available on this number)		8289 6771
Minister	Rev. Graham Cocking	8653 4902
Church Council Secretary	Marian Young	8402 6618
Treasurer	Andrew Tredinnick	8658 2347
Property Steward	David Hynes	8289 3524
Property Bookings	David Hynes	8289 3524
Baptismal/Cradle Roll	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
Junior Church Secretary	Janice Friend	8659 2905
Christian Action Group	Valerie & Andrew Tredinnick	8658 2347
Wednesday Club	Marian Young	8402 6618
Church Library	Valerie Tredinnick	8658 2347
Missions Secretary	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
Junior Missionary Association	Dinah Anaman	7274 6294
NCH Action for Children	Valerie Tredinnick	8658 2347
Christian Aid		
Oxfam	Joan Loring	8659 1658
Penge Forum	Marian Young	8402 6618
Penge Community Pre-School (Church)		8289 6771
Jumoke Holiday Club	Audrey Bobb	8656 8684

EDITOR: Marian Young phone: 020 8402 6618 E-mail
m.young23@ntlworld.com

METHODIST

METHODIST INSURANCE Crystal clear insurance

Protect your home and contents with us and raise money for your church or charity



Insure your home and contents with Methodist Insurance and we'll give **20% of the first year's premium (or minimum £20, whichever is the greater amount) to your church or your chosen charity.**

We make **generous grants** out of profits to the **Methodist Church** to help sustain its work and witness. In fact, over the last 130 years we have been able to provide grants totalling over **£10 million.**

For a leaflet about the **Methodist Insurance Church and Charity Donation Scheme** call on **0845 7697531** or email us at enquiries@micmail.com









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Penge Community Pre-School

Leader: Sarah Batchelor Anerley Methodist Church

Deputy Leader: Sue Charlesworth Oakfield Road

SENCO: Dawn McConochie Anerley SE20 8QA

Ofsted Inspected

Established 30 years

Learning through play

for children 3 to 5 years

£7.50 per Morning or Afternoon

9.15am to 12.15am & 1pm to 4pm

Government funding for 3 & 4 year olds

Vacancies

Tel. 020 8289 6771 or 01959 575 441

DECEMBER 2011/JANUARY 2012

Volume 42 Number 4

FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,



What is Christmas to you?

Anxiety, family coming round, financial stress, a food mountain in the fridge, little food, what presents to buy and who for, a present you don't know what to do with, horrible traffic jams – you could go on, but look above.

Christmas for us may be tough in many ways but let us not forget that first Christmas. Imagine the anxiety of Mary and Joseph. Will they get to Bethlehem before the baby is born? Family stress, it was family that was taking them to Bethlehem, they had to register in the census there. Food, what they had they had to carry, no doubt little money to buy. A present, well one was on the way! And traffic jams, I think I'd prefer that to travelling on foot or on a donkey. And amidst all of this, questions – Could what they had been told really be true? Was this to be the Son of God? Was the conception as they had been told? Would they be shunned?

The first Christmas probably had as much anxiety, stress and family worries as today – but they had something to hold on to, somebody to share their worries with. On the journey to Bethlehem and in Bethlehem itself they had the knowledge that God was with them.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

This well-known Christmas song was written in England in the 16th Century as one of the “catechism” songs to help young Catholics learn the tenets of their faith.

The “true love” mentioned in the song refers to God. The “me” who receives the presents refers to every baptised person. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The other symbols mean the following:

Two turtle doves—the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens—faith, hope and charity, the theological virtues.

Four calling birds—the four Gospels and/or the four evangelists.

Five gold rings— the first five books of the Bible, the Pentateuch.

Six geese a-laying—the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming—the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments.

Eight maids a-milking—the eight Beatitudes

Nine ladies dancing—the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Ten lords a-leaping- the ten commandments.

Eleven pipers piping—the eleven faithful apostles.

Twelve drummers drumming—the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles’ Creed.

Summon’s Christian Miscellany

ROUND THE FAMILY

We were sorry to hear of the death of Mike Sayers’ mother at the end of October. Please remember Mike, Audrey and Reisha in your prayers. Please also remember Margaret Kasozi and Alfred Sandford in your prayers, both of whom have been unwell recently.

As some of you may already know, one of the workmen replacing the Main Hall roof at the church, Allen Smith, was badly injured when he fell from the roof. He has now been transferred to the neurological ward at Southampton General Hospital, nearer his family, and your prayers are asked for Allen and his family at this worrying time.

We send our congratulations to Sylvester and Louise Oppong following the birth of twin daughters Hannah Louella and Florence Leonora on 19th October, sisters for Imogen and further granddaughters for Comfort and Joe.

Belated congratulations to Ronnie Butler for passing City and Guilds Level 1 exams in Functional English—Speaking, Listening and Communications, and Functional English—Reading.

Everyone connected with the production of the Magazine joins me in wishing you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year

Marian

Christmas Post Boxes

The two Post Boxes are now available in the Entrance Hall. The **final collection** from the **Country Box** will take place following the **evening Carol Service** on Sunday **11th December**. Please make sure that the only cards put in this box are for the people listed.

Distribution of items from the **Local Box** will follow the **Gift Service** on **Sunday morning 18th December**. If you can help by delivering some cards to people who are absent please let me know.

It greatly helps in the sorting if you write the recipients' full names on the envelopes.

We do invite donations to St. Christopher's Hospice. These can be placed in the plate alongside or handed directly to me. Last year the receipts (i.e. after paying the postage on the Country Box items) totalled £86.19. let's see if we can increase the figure to at least £90 this year.

Andrew T.

Carol Singing in aid of Action for Children (provisional date Wednesday 21st December).

At the time of writing we are still waiting to see if at least 10 adults are willing to go caroling. Provided we have this minimum number then we will meet at the Church at 7.20pm that evening in order to leave at 7.30pm sharp.

A decision will be made by Sunday 4th December. Please check the Church Notices or speak with me.

"If you would like to know more about the campaign or have any further enquiries about our work...please not hesitate to get in touch on 0300 200 1300 - we will be happy to hear from you.

With best wishes

Sarah Bailey Supporter Relations"

If you would like to contribute regularly to Oxfam through Pledged Giving, please see Joan Loring.



JMA AWARDS

On 16th October we held our JMA Service when our JMA collectors were awarded their certificates for their collections for 2010-11. Dinah Anaman, our JMA secretary, reported that during the year the children had collected a total of £472.45, £33.10 less than the previous year's total of £505.55. Congratulations to all our collectors. If you would like to give to any of the children on a regular basis, please speak to Dinah.

OXFAM

Joan Loring, our Pledged Giving collector, has received the following letter from Oxfam:

“Thanks very much for your Pledged Giving donation of £104.50.... In June we launched Grow - a major new global campaign about food. This is because after decades of progress, the number of people without anything to eat is actually rising.

“For example, people in Armenia typically spend up to half their income on food anyway, so 2010’s 17% rise in food prices hit families such as Yasmik Josephyan’s particularly hard. “I buy rice, I buy macaroni, but the prices get higher and higher. Rice is now 800 drams (£1.30) a kilo; it was 250 drams. Sugar goes higher and higher.”

“This is just one of the billion stories like this across the world and our aim is to fix this broken food system. To do this we need to:-

“**Grow better:** Major investment is needed to ensure that small-scale farmers around the world have the land, skills, resources and support they need to grow enough good-quality food.

“**Share better:** Governments need to work together to create a food system that takes action when food prices rise beyond the means of poor families which stops food companies abusing their power.

“**Live better:** A fair, global deal on climate change is vital to prevent a devastating impact on agriculture all over the world.

WESLEY HALL THEATRE CLUB

PRESENT THEIR

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

ON SATURDAY 10TH DECEMBER

AT 7PM

**AN EVENING OF FESTIVE MUSIC WITH
FAVOURITE SONGS ETC.**

PLUS A POTTED PANTO

FORTY WINKS BEAUTY by Richard Tydeman

Tickets : Adult £6.00, Child £3.00

To book tickets please contact

Sue, tel: 0208 777 0085

Email: chris-watkins@sky.com

INTROIT

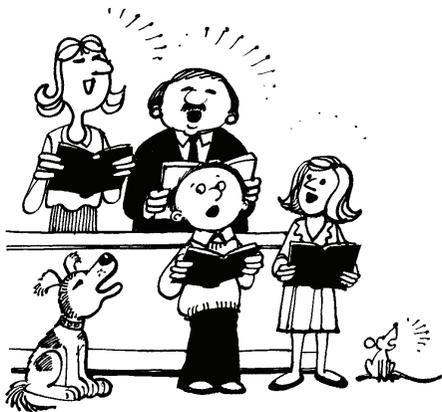
Our Introit for the next four months comes from the new Methodist hymn book, *Singing the Faith*, and is from Zimbabwe. It is very easy to sing and I am sure we shall soon learn it!

Jesus, we are here,
Jesus, we are here,
Jesus, we are here,
we are here for you.

Spirit, we are here,
Spirit, we are here,
Spirit, we are here,
we are here for you.

© Patrick Matsikinyeri CCL no. 221943

Singing the Faith no. 27



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

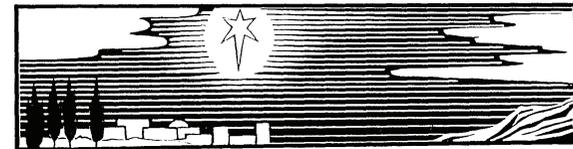
Sunday 11th December Carol Service 6.30pm

Sunday 18th December Family Carol and Gift Service 11am

Gifts will be given to Fegan's Child and Family Care.

Saturday 24th December Christmas Eve Communion
9.15pm

Sunday 25th December Christmas Day All Age Worship
9.15am



FIREWORK PARTY

On a mild November 5th a group of adults and children gathered at the home of Valerie and Andrew for the annual firework party. Among the group were Stella and Barry Taylor from Swanley, As usual Andrew had a very good selection of fireworks, including some spectacular aerial ones. The display was followed by the usual delicious food, including old favourites such as hot dogs and jacket potatoes. An evening of fun and fellowship much enjoyed by all.

Thanks to Valerie and Andrew for once again arranging a very enjoyable evening

Joan Loring