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

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MAGAZINE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN
YOUNG BY

SUNDAY 12TH JULY

Anerley Methodist Church, Oakfield Road, Anerley,
London SE20 8QA
Web site:www.anerleymethodist.org

**ANERLEY CENTRE
ECHO**



SUMMER 2009

**The Newsletter of
ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

USEFUL CONTACTS (as at 21.07.08) All prefix 020

Church (Minister is not available on this number)		8289 6771
Minister	Rev. Graham Cocking	8653 4902
Church Council Secretary	Emmanuel Anaman	7274 6294
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		
Penge Community Pre-School (Church)		8289 6771
Jumoke Holiday Club	Audrey Bobb	8656 8684

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m.young23@ntlworld.com



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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
 Deputy Leader: Sue Charlesworth
 SENCO: Teresa Ford

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 Orerley
 SE20 8QA

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Government funding for 3 & 4 year olds

Vacancies

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JUNE/JULY 2009

Volume 41 Number 1

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

What turbulent times we are living in!

The conflicts in Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iraq;

The resurrection, hopefully a one off, of sectarianism in Northern Ireland;

The financial difficulties resulting in a reassessment of world markets and consequent recession and unemployment;

And now Parliamentarians' expenses; what does all this say to us?

To many it may be to thank God the conflicts are not near us, the financial consequences are not hitting us as individuals quite yet. To others it may be, help - I'm a starving Tamil, a policeman in Iraq, an unemployed woman or man with children to support.

It says all these things to me but what also stands out is living within or outside of societal rules and moral values and the choices we make.

In all of the above, the rules and values that the people live with and the choices they make are pivotal in what has happened and what may happen in the future. People chose whether to go to war or not; whether to look for solutions in peaceful or violent ways; whether to attack and kill someone of a different denominational persuasion; whether to take high risks or low risks financially; whether to follow the rules

and make what you can or morally see the rules, recognise the intention and claim responsibly. People chose.

What then are we saying here?

Has following Christ anything to tell us?

Do we want to sit on his right or left hand or be prepared to be where he wants us to be and to do what he wants us to do?

What would Christ be and do in the situations commented on?

Are we here to bring hatred or peace; to spread anger and hostility or love and harmony; to look after our own well-being rather than the needs of our country and global economy; to be greedy or mindful of the privileges bestowed upon us?

Do I hear: 'Love your enemy, do good to those who hate you?'

'Love your neighbour as yourself'

Do the Gospels portray Jesus as a gold digger, after all he can financially accrue to himself, or one who lives the simple life mindful of the power he has but knowledgeable enough to use it wisely and for the good of others?

We all have choices to make in our lives. God leaves choice to us. To follow Christ and His ways or the world and its ways. What will your choice be?

Let our choice be one in the wisdom and manner of Christ.

God bless us all.

Graham

METHODIST CONFERENCE 2009

This year the Methodist Conference, the governing body of the Church, will meet in Wolverhampton from 2nd to 9th July. The Ordination of probationer Ministers and Deacons will take place on Sunday 5th July at various churches throughout the West Midlands area.

Please remember in your prayers Patrick Kandeh, who is at present a Probationer Minister in the Bromley Circuit, with oversight of Beckenham and Clock House Methodist Churches, and who will be ordained at one of these services. Patrick served in our circuit for a while as part of his training and will be known to many of you, and 5th July will be a very special day for him.



ANSWERS TO BIBLE QUIZ

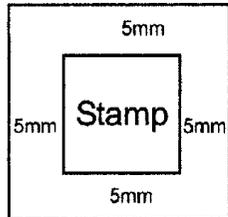
PLAGUES Blood, frogs, gnats, flies, livestock, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, firstborn.

SEVEN CHURCHES Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, Laodicea

Used Postage Stamps

Yes, we do still collect them, and would be very grateful to receive them.

Commemoratives, Foreign and Definitive (ordinary ones) are all acceptable.



If you are able to trim them yourself please leave 5mm of single thickness border around the edge.

Should you be unable to trim them round yourself please tear round leaving a large enough margin to be trimmed.

Who are they for?

We give them to **The Leprosy Mission** who, whenever possible, sell direct to collectors, but failing this the stamps are sold at auction or to the trade. **The Leprosy Mission** also hold their own fairs at Clanfield, Peterborough, Maldon (Essex) and Maidstone in Kent.

Phil and Eileen Jarman who are responsible for this aspect of the work of **The Leprosy Mission** have been collecting for the past 25 years. Last year (2008) they raised £66,518 through the sale of the stamps and other collectables. During the 25 years they have made over £700,000

With no real effort on our part we contribute to this amazing amount of money to help those suffering from leprosy world wide.

The Leprosy Mission have a web site should you wish to see the work they do for yourself. It is www.leprosymission.org.uk

We hope to have a good response from you this year and to that end we are again putting a box in the church.

Finally, a big "thank you" to Hetty (Mum) who quietly and conscientiously spends a lot of time trimming the stamps.

Valerie

ROUND THE FAMILY

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Jean Pogose's mother at the end of April following an operation. Please remember Jean, Dennis and their family in your prayers as they come to terms with their loss.

Our Easter services this year were again a time for reflection on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, followed by the joy of Easter Sunday. The Maundy Thursday meal was at Anerley this year and included a Holy Week meditation in words, music and pictures. The Church also received Easter greetings from Forest Hill Church, Kathleen Seale, and Dawn and Sarah (who keep our premises clean).

Our Church Anniversary Service this year was led by a previous Minister of our Church, the Rev. Judy Turner-Smith, who was accompanied by her husband Alan. It was good to see them both again and to exchange all our news.

Marian

A fair exchange

The vicar of a small village received an invitation to dine one evening with the Squire. As the village was sparsely lit, the vicar took a lantern to light him through the dark lanes. He had a very enjoyable time indeed and returned home safe and sound.

Next morning, he received a note from the Squire: "Dear Vicar, if you will kindly return the parrot in its cage, you can have your lantern back."

FROM THE EDITOR

With this edition the magazine commences its 41st year of production, for the last 17 of which I have been editor. Mike started the magazine as a couple of duplicated foolscap sheets in June 1969 and we are still going strong 40 years later!

Once again I would like to thank Valerie and Andrew Tredinnick, who collate and staple the magazine, Dave Hynes, who maintains the mailing list, and the Pastoral Visitors who help to distribute the magazines, without whose help I would find it much harder to produce the magazine.

Thanks also to all those people who give me articles, news and suggestions—without you there would be no magazine. I am always on the look out for more articles and ideas so if you have any news or an idea for an article, or even feel moved to write the occasional article yourself, please have a word with me. If you need inspiration, over the years we have had a recipe section, book reviews and record reviews, amongst other things.

If you want to write an article yourself and have access to a computer, you can send it by e-mail or save it to a disc (which I can supply). The page size is A5 and preferred font size is 12, in either Arial or Times New Roman font (though I can play around with whatever you send me, so that it fits my template). Otherwise I am happy to type up whatever you give me. I would rather have something handwritten than nothing at all!

Marian

cause I used to be in a choir, I always like to see what people are singing. So I sat there flicking through the hymnbook and there it was... 'Take my life and let it be'.

I was thinking, 'Ok. You're really shouting at me this time. What is it? What do you want? You've got to be more specific than this!'

At the end of the training session, our national director told us about a couple of job vacancies within the organisation: a development officer and a communications director. So I took the advert, read it, and thought, 'So that's it then. Communications director'. I've never seen a job spec that so closely mirrored what I think my skills are. It was like it was written for me. So I applied, had the interview, and that was that.

But at the time this was happening my mum was taken poorly, and on the New Year's Eve of 2004 she was diagnosed with lung cancer. I mainly work from home, but I go down to the office in Didcot for two days during the week. So at that time, for the night in-between, I'd stay at my mum's. Before then, we only used to see each other once every couple of months, so all of a sudden I'd got this wonderful job that I loved to bits and I was seeing my mother every single week. That carried on through the whole of 2005 until she died in the November.

It was just so God planned. One, that I'd got a great job and two, that I could be with my mum at a time when she really needed me.

(Taken from 'Stories of Faith@ on the Methodist Church Website www.methodist.org.uk)

GOD AND THE GIRLS' BRIGADE



Sharon Brocksom is Assistant National Director of The Girls' Brigade in England and Wales

I've always been a volunteer leader in the Girls' Brigade and I've been a member since I was five. Before I started working there as a paid member of staff I worked for the British Standards Institution. I've never been quiet about my faith - everybody knew I was in Girls'

Brigade, everybody knew I was involved with Church and everybody knew that my faith was very important to me. You take a bit of ribbing from work colleagues but you get used to it.

I was at church one Sunday morning in October 2004 when we sang the hymn 'Take my life and let it be'. Then in the evening service, we sang the same hymn again, but with a different minister. I happen to like that hymn so there was no problem.

At a mid-week meeting the same hymn was used again, so I started thinking, 'Take my life? Now which bit of it have you not got God? You've got all that Girls' Brigade time, all my Church time - you've got everything about me. What haven't I given you?' The only bit that wasn't Christ-centred was my work environment. That was the only thing I could think of.

So I mulled on it for a while.

The following weekend there was a Girls' Brigade training course at a church in Birmingham. Up on the wall were the hymn numbers for the previous Sunday's service and be-

EASTER OFFERING SERVICE

Once again the Easter Offering Service was held at our Church on the evening of Sunday 17th May. We were pleased to have as our speaker Evelyn de Graaf, who is now the President of Women's Network for our sector of the Methodist London District. Evelyn is no stranger to Anerley or the circuit, as she has previously taken preaching appointments in the circuit when we were short of local preachers.

Each year the Circuit JMA (Junior Mission for All) shield is presented to the Church in the Circuit which has increased its JMA collections over the last year by the largest percentage (**not** the church which has collected the most) and this year Anerley won the shield for the third year running. The shield was presented to Dinah Anaman, our JMA Secretary, at the Easter Offering Service. It is again hanging on the wall towards the front of the Church if you would like to have another look at it. We again congratulate our small band of regular collectors who can usually be found collecting their money after morning services. If you would like to give regularly to any of our collectors, please have a word with Dinah.

BIBLE QUIZ

We are all familiar with the plagues that God brought upon Egypt in order to persuade Pharaoh to let the Israelites leave Israel. There were ten plagues—can you name them all?

In the book of Revelation, messages are sent to seven churches. Can you name the Churches? (No peeping!)

(Answers on page 13)

MOLDOVA NOT FORGOTTEN

“Moldova not Forgotten” is a Roman Catholic charity that supports caring projects that benefit the ordinary people of Moldova regardless of their creed, race, gender etc.

Moldova is situated between Romania and Ukraine and is the poorest area in Europe, with the needs of its people continuing to escalate.

The Charity’s Director is Peter Coates, a former Minister of this church between 1973 –1979, and he has sent a copy of the charity’s newsletter. An outline of some of the projects supported by the charity is given below.

Following an emergency appeal the charity has helped to provide funding for another year for the Liminia project, which works with handicapped children, which was in danger of closing.

The charity also supports St. Stephen’s House, a home for the elderly. Most of the residents are destitute and there is increasing stress on the charity’s resources, both human and financial. An extra member of staff is needed and it is essential to find the right person for the post. In addition there are no funds for salaries.

The charity was also instrumental in setting up a Cantina (canteen) in Stăuceni which now provides 120 meals a day to children who come to the two kindergartens, destitute adults and the housebound. However, they have had to cut provision to 5 days a week for financial reasons.

If you would like to find out more about the projects mentioned above, a copy of the newsletter, which contains photographs of their work, is on the small notice board in the entrance hall of the Church.

PSALM 118:8

The shortest chapter in the Bible is Psalm 117

The longest chapter in the Bible is Psalm 119

The chapter in the centre of the Bible is Psalm 118

There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118

There are 594 chapters after Psalm 118

Add 594 and 594 and the answer is 1188

The central verse of the Bible is Psalm 118:8: *“It is better to trust in the Lord than to trust in man.”*

(Taken from Summon’s Christian Miscellany)

