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

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

SUNDAY 10TH JANUARY

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

**ANERLEY CENTRE
ECHO**



CHRISTMAS 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

EDITOR: Marian Young phone: 020 8402 6618 E-mail
m.young23@ntlworld.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 2009/JANUARY 2010

Volume 41 Number 4

FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,



Tick the box

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Christmas is coming! | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bought the cards | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Got the presents | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Ordered the Turkey | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Got the stamps | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sent the cards | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Got the mince pies | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Been to school nativity | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Done the carol singing | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Been to carol service | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Money to the homeless | Tick the box | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Seen baby Jesus | Where's the box? | |

I can't find the box. I can't see the box. No the box can't be found or seen because there is no box. Jesus is not just a box to tick, Jesus is to be felt, to be experienced, to be enjoyed.

In the frantic box ticking of Christmas there is a central figure, one who is outside all boxes, who cannot be encapsulated. He came as a little babe, was of the world and in the world and became the light of the world, even though at one time the world knew Him not.

Can you box up light? Neither can you box up Jesus.

This Christmas think outside the box with Him. Go where He wants you to be – assisting at Crisis, organising a Christmas lunch for those who would be on their own, packing gifts into shoeboxes to be sent to other countries, calling in on your neighbours, inviting someone to share your family's Christmas meal and if you're unable to do any of this think of something else, pray about those who are able enough to act. Don't tick the box, think outside it and bring a little life and light to someone in need.

Have a meaningful Christmas.

May God richly bless you.

Graham



FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

Can you find all the words hidden in the Christmas word-search below? The words can be found horizontally, vertically and diagonally.

CHRISTMAS WORD SEARCH

ANGELS

BETHLEHEM

INN

JESUS

JOSEPH

KINGS

MARY

SHEPHERDS

STABLE

STAR

A	T	U	Q	V	X	Y	R	U	O
J	E	S	U	S	T	H	R	E	J
S	F	H	S	B	P	P	D	A	N
P	B	E	T	H	L	E	H	E	M
K	D	P	G	O	C	S	N	I	S
Q	L	H	E	M	T	O	H	L	V
F	R	E	L	A	W	J	E	I	Z
K	C	R	R	W	S	G	N	I	K
M	X	D	B	I	N	N	Y	A	Y
G	B	S	T	A	B	L	E	H	J



OXFAM

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

“Dear Miss Loring

“Thank you very much for your Pledged Giving to Oxfam of £83.80....“This October we have run a month-long community fund-raising activity where we encouraged supporter to fundraise towards our climate change campaign. The theme of this fundraising drive is change. We asked supporters to do one of three things - change what they wear, change what they do, or collect loose change.

“Across the country individuals, schools, workplaces and groups got involved with all sorts of activities ranging from denim days and cake sales to wig wearing and giant collection buckets.

“All the money raised this October will support our work with people being affected by climate change. This could be from raising family homes above floodwater levels. Or it could be to provide flood-resistant seed to farmers.

“As examples of how people’s fundraising is making a difference, £10 can buy 10 x 20 litre seed storage containers, £78 can pay to lift a home above flood level, and £1,650 can equip a communal centre to receive and help evacuated people.

“If you would like more information about community fundraising or have any questions about your Pledged Giving donation please ...call me on 0300 200 1300....

“With best wishes

“Sarah Taylor, Supporter Relations.”

ROUND THE FAMILY

Our Minister, Graham, has suffered a worsening of his eye condition. He is awaiting an eye operation, but at present is unable to drive. Please remember him and Jenny in your prayers at this worrying time.

We send our congratulations to Sylvester and Louise Oppong on the birth of their daughter Imogen Rose on 4th November. Grandparents Comfort and Joe, and aunties Josie, Hilary and Emma are all thrilled to bits!

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

Marian

FIREWORK PARTY

On a damp but mild November evening a group of 21 adults and children gathered at the home of Valerie and Andrew for the annual firework party. Among the group were Emma Oppong on a flying visit from the University of Warwick and Stella and Barry Taylor from Swanley.

As usual Andrew had amassed a very good selection of fireworks and these went off with a bang. We then repaired inside where a veritable feast awaited us, which included old favourites such as hot dogs, jacket potatoes and a large selection of other goodies. An evening of fun and fellowship much enjoyed by all.

Thanks, Valerie and Andrew.

Joan Loring

INTROIT for the next 4 months

We gather to praise You and worship Your name,
Help us to focus on You.

We stand here before You, in wonder and awe,
Bless us and fill us again.

We hand You those things that cause worry and stress,
Grant us the peace that we seek,
Bring comfort, assurance, and Your healing power,
Bless us and grant us Your rest

Words: Peter Boreham 2009

Music: Ralph Carmichael (The Saviour is Waiting),
Spiritquest, USA 1958

Thank you to Peter, a member of our Church, for writing our
introit for us.

METHODIST TALENTS FESTIVAL

I have placed a copy of the syllabus for the Festival on the
notice board in the entrance hall. If you want to enter any
classes, please let me know by Sunday 3rd January at the
latest. This Festival is not just for the children! Anyone can
enter – so have a look through the syllabus and see what you
would like to do. There is the return of Cookery classes this
year as an experiment, as these classes were very popular in
the past..

Marian

Snowflakes”

Come and join us for

an evening of Winter Delights

(Music, monologues, fun and fare)

Saturday 9th January 2010

Anerley Methodist Church Community Centre

Oakfield Road, Penge

7.00pm to 9.30pm

In aid of

Action for Children

(previously National Children's Home NCH)

Admission by Ticket

From Valerie or Andrew

**(A donation on the night in the region of £6 per adult and £3 per
child or concession would be welcome)**

1. Roll up like a swiss roll.
2. Cut into 2cm slices, arrange side by side in the buttered dish.
3. Brush with warm syrup mixed with a tablespoon of water
4. Bake for 30-35 minutes
5. Accompany with cream or custard

Note: Blackberries, blackcurrants or other soft fruit mixed with the apple make an appetizing variation.

JMA AWARDS

On 1st November we held our JMA Service when our JMA collectors were awarded their certificates for their collections for 2008-9. Dinah Anaman, our JMA secretary, reported that during the year they had collected a total of £494.08, £9.94 less than the previous year's total of £504.02, but this was still a good total for our small band of collectors. Congratulations to Daji, Christopher, Grace, Olivia, Reisha, Ayo, Emma and Vanessa

@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@@

Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparent' house, the week before Christmas. At bedtime, as the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers, the younger one began praying at the top of his lungs: "I pray for a new bicycle! I pray for a new Nintendo! I pray for a new DVD player! " His older brother leaned over and said, "Why are you shouting your prayers? God isn't deaf." To which the little boy replied, "No, but Grandma is!"

Christmas Post Boxes

These will be available in the entrance hall from Sunday 29th November. The **LOCAL BOX** is for cards being sent to members and friends who **attend** Sunday services and who **live locally**. Where possible please write the surname as well as the Christian name on the envelope. It really does help the sorters.

Cards for the LOCAL BOX need to be posted by 11am on Sunday 20th December (our Carols and Gift Service) and will be distributed following the service. Do make sure you have received yours before going home.

Items for the under mentioned people can be placed in the **COUNTRY BOX:**

Rose Bateman	Sandra Clifton
Dave & Pat Dent	Abraham Doku
Muriel French	Andrew Goodhead
Gerald Hardy	Anne & Eddie Jackson
Philip & Laurel Luscombe	Andrew & Helen Maguire
Chris & Deirdre Metcalfe	Brenda Pooley
Shirley Quintrell	Judy & Alan Turner-Smith

The final collection from the COUNTRY BOX will be made after the evening service on Sunday 13th December.

If you use the post boxes please do place a suitable donation in the plate alongside. As in previous years all monies received will be passed to St. Christopher's Hospice. Last Christmas the donations received totalled £64.75, which the Christian Action Group made up to £75

Andrew

Carol Singing at Christmas

We shall be carolling for **Action for Children** (formerly NCH) on Wednesday 16th and Monday 21st December. Meet at the Church at 7.20pm in order to leave at 7.30pm sharp.

You don't need to have a chorister's voice to take part—if you sing the hymns at Sunday worship then you are more than qualified to sing carols! And if you insist you can't sing, you can still participate by assisting with the collecting tins.

Please indicate that you are coming by signing the list on the table at the back of the church. Remember to wrap up well as we sing whatever the weather.

We finish the evening with seasonal refreshments. If you are able to offer hospitality to the carollers on one of the evenings please let me know.

Andrew

Christian Aid Week May 2010

Because as a Church we no longer participate in the annual street collection, we need to think how we can continue to play a part in the local Penge & Anerley effort. The £75 we contributed last May was considerably down on the sums we used to raise door- to-door collecting.

At the last Church Council it was suggested that members give some thought as to what we can do either as individuals or corporately to raise money, and to bring these ideas to February Church Council. So put your thinking caps on!

If you are not on the Church Council, then please give your suggestions to one of the Church Stewards.

Andrew

(See also the article on p. 12)

COOKERY CORNER

The following recipe has been sent by Ann Vickery (née Weir) who was a Youth Club member from 1955 to 1962, when she married Mike. They now live in Brixham. Ann says that this recipe is one of their family favourites!

APPLE DAPPY

(A Devon recipe from Topsham by Heather Knee)

Ingredients

Butter to grease dish

300g (10oz) self raising flour

120g (5oz) margarine

60ml (4 tablespoons) milk (approx)

400 g (14oz) peeled, cored and diced cooking apples

100g (4oz) Demerara sugar

1 teaspoon mixed spice

2 tablespoons golden syrup

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 160°C, 325° F, gas mark 3.
2. Butter an ovenproof dish (roughly 25cm x 20cm)
3. Crumb the flour and fat, add the milk and knead lightly to form a smooth dough.
4. Roll out to form a rectangle
5. Sprinkle apple over the top, add the sugar and spice.

“The other day the raining weather and winds destroyed the bridge that we made. The Sisters with the lepers and the children are isolated in the mountain, and they can only communicate by telephone. So we have to repair the bridge urgently.

Be assured that you are always present in my Masses and prayers. May our Lord bless you and your dear ones with a few days of good rest in His company, refreshing yourselves to continue to love and serve Him in His poor.

Yours sincerely in Christ,
Father Luis Ruiz, S.J.”

CHRISTIAN AID—Penge and Anerley

Christian Aid Week 2009

The amounts collected by the churches were as follows:-

Anerley Methodist	Church Collection	75.00	75.00
Avenue Baptist	House-to-house	329.29	
	Church Collection	60.00	389.29
Holy Trinity	House-to-house	1389.59	1389.59
Penge Congregational	House-to-house	660.02	
	Lunch & Sale of Work	91.00	<u>751.02</u>
	2009 CAW Total		2604.90
... ..	Plus Tax reclaimable from Gift Aid		<u>333.26</u>
	GRAND TOTAL		2938.16

Chris Doran, Area Organiser

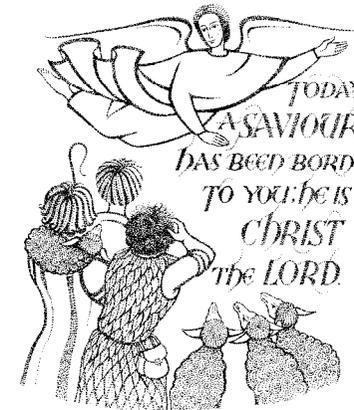
CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 20th December Family Carol and Gift Service 11am

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

Thursday 24th December Christmas Eve Communion
9.15pm

Friday 25th December Christmas Day All Age Worship
9.15am



“No life can ever be lived again on earth as though Jesus had never lived. Bethlehem has altered everything. The solid foundations of Christianity lie there immovable, a fact of history which none can deny.”

Leslie D. Weatherhead

From 500 Quotes and Anecdotes, compiled by John. D. Beasley

Retiring Collections following Holy Communion

For one month each quarter these collections are for a named charity. The amount received can fluctuate significantly, and in part is determined by who is in the congregation on the particular Sundays. Since the beginning of 2009, however, it has been our policy to make up the gift we send to a minimum of £30. Of course, if more than this sum is raised, the higher amount is sent.

During the last Connexional year (2008/9), the following amounts were received:-

Nov. (Local) St. Christopher's Hospice	£26.15
Feb. (National) Parkinson's Disease Society	£24.65(£30sent)
Jun. (International) Bible Lands Society	£32.53
Aug. (Methodist) Galloway's Society for the Blind	£46.41

In the current Connexional Year (2009/10), we will be supporting the following good causes:-

Local - **5000 Project** (based at Bromley URC), which provides fortnightly meals, food parcels, small welfare grants, advice and guidance and a cold weather shelter to people in housing need in the borough of Bromley.

National - **The Camphill Family**, which, through eleven communities, extends a reassuring hand to 500 of the most vulnerable people in Britain.

International -**The Starfish Asia Fund**, which supports Christian communities in Pakistan

Methodist –Charity still to be decided.

Andrew Tredinnick (Church Treasurer)

CASA RICCI SOCIAL SERVICES

Below are extracts from a recent letter from Father Ruiz, whose work we support via "Joan's Tin".

"The 21st of September is my birthday, only 97 years young and our Lord is keeping me very well. So I can do everything I need and move with a wheelchair. In a few days I will go to China to see and console my lepers and my children.

"I just received a letter from the Director of the lepers in China, asking for 3-4 Sisters each for the 7 Leper Hospitals. The problem is where to find 25 Sisters to serve in 7 leprosariums. So I have to knock many doors, slowly, God will provide.

"The other day I received a letter from Dr. Shen, inspector of leprosariums. This is the doctor who discovered the unknown leprosarium of Lufeng. After a long time in Lufeng, I never heard of that. He sent to me the information on the horrible conditions of the place, no roads, no water, no electricity, collapsed houses... Thank God, now everything is new.

"The inspector sent me the information on another leprosarium, also in very bad condition, as there is not a road to reach the place. To repair the road will cost 426,000 RMB (58,504), but the government does not have the money to repair and myself cannot help so much.

"The work of the mobile clinic is going on, giving back the vision to the cataract victims. Somebody is asking me if we can do the same for the eyes and the ears.

"Fr. Azpiroz is back already. His work is specialized in Aids victims. They look after the children with Aids and look for the Sisters who want to take care of them. Many mothers who are very sick and weak, and they help them with milk.