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would like someone to talk to?

I am a qualified counsellor and supervisor offering a con-  
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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 9TH SEPTEMBER

\*\*\*\*\*

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

**ANERLEY CENTRE  
ECHO**



**LATE SUMMER 2007**

**The Newsletter of**

**ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

USEFUL CONTACTS (as at 01.06.07) All prefix 020

Church		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		
Scout Group Secretary	Valerie Tredinnick	8658 2347
Group Scout Leader		
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

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## **Penge Community Pre-School**

Leader: Sarah Batchelor  
 Deputy Leader: Sue Charlesworth  
 SENCO: Teresa Ford

Anerley Methodist Church  
 Oakfield Road  
 Anerley  
 SE20 8QA

**Ofsted Inspected**

**Established 30 years**

**Learning through play  
 for children 3 to 5 years**

**£5 per Morning or Afternoon**

**9.20am to 11.50am & 12.30pm to 3pm**

**Government funding for 3 & 4 year olds**

**Vacancies**

**AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2007**

**Volume 39 Number 2**

### **FROM THE MINISTER**

Dear Friends,

Had enough of the rain? Many have. Houses have been flooded, businesses interrupted even brought to the edge of closing, education brought to a grinding halt in some places as schools and colleges were affected. Summer, 'you must be joking' is the cry of many. But it is summer and in some peoples lives the summer has shone through.

Whilst many have suffered, others have seen rays of sunshine come into their lives. Trainees, trainers, funders, trustees of Roots and Shoots, a horticultural training establishment for disadvantaged young people, met HRH Prince Charles as he opened a new eco-building on site in Kennington. To see the joy in the eyes of the very young as they waited outside of the garden, the interest and enthusiasm of the Trainees, and the commitment and warmth of Prince Charles as he toured the wildlife garden and other areas prior to the opening of the building, was a wonder to behold. All enjoyed it and the pleasure it engendered. The Prince even stayed longer than expected!

Yet again others have felt the rain as water came into their eyes and hearts as they lost love ones. Whether it be in Afghanistan, Iraq or in their own home; by their own hand or the hands of others, by accident, illness or crime, the tears are the same, the hurt tearing people apart the same, the guilt, the blame, the shame, the same.

Then there is also the joy. The joy of lost relatives found; of broken lives mended; of miracles of healing; of lovers reunited; of new lives coming into the world; of nature in its

awesome majesty. Joy, undiminished, untarnished, forever joy.

Also there is that place in the middle where grief and happiness meet, where joyful remembrance is tinged with continuing pain, as in Diana's memorial concert at Wembley.

Where are you in your life at present? Are you crying in pain or laughing with joy? Or are you somewhere in the middle with life knocking you down then picking you up? Where are you and who's with you?

Remember that wherever you are God is with you. As you celebrate - he celebrates, as you cry - he cries, as you go backward - he's there to hold you, as you go forward - he's there to encourage you, as you weaken - he's there to carry you, as you gain strength - he's there to walk with you.

'Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.'

Matthew 28 v. 20

That is the God we know, that is the God we love.

A God who takes our pain and bears it.

A God who takes our joy and shares it.

A God who is at the centre of life and on the periphery.

In the midst of your up and down human life take your God, hold onto Him and let His light shine in and through you.

God be with you.

Graham

## PUZZLE PAGE

Here is another Codeword for you to try.

### Books of the Bible Themed Codeword

22	1	7	11	6	16		22	26	26	13	15	22	17	11
13		6		10		11		13		6		12		1
4	7	16	2	13	7	16	11	16		24	7	15	11	4
7		13		6		17		17		15		7		11
11	19	15	22		26	3	15	10	6	7	26	1	11	16
6		22		9		11		25		11				17
26	10	6	20	13	11	15		16	7	6	2	11	15	
11		26		1						4		14		16
	5	11	1	1	11	4		26	10	1	1	11	26	17
21				4		11		3		5		26		15
22	12	12	15	10	22	26	3	11	4		8	13	4	11
1		11		19		1		11		23		17		6
13	6	17	7	11		22	6	16	18	11	15	7	6	2
11		11		15		15		11		11		21		17
16	17	15	11	16	16	11	4		16	12	11	11	26	3

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

Each letter is represented by a different number. Can you work out the code and complete the puzzle?

freyman who will be working overseas for a year under the auspices of VSO; and

Commission Conveners for the Vocational Development and for Congregational Development as previous office holders move to new responsibilities.

If you have names to suggest please let us know.

### **And finally**

At the Inauguration service for our new District, we recognised the need for us to be people of Prayer. The District Prayer handbook is a valuable resource and we hope that it is being used regularly by groups as well as in private prayer. We believe, however, that it is important to involve a wider circle of people in focused, intentional prayer for the District. There are opportunities for growth and new possibilities for ministry; there are changes in Circuit staffing and mission; there are places where relationships are strained, where people are in pain and there is a need for healing; there are plans for re-developing premises to make them more suitable for ministry and mission today: for all of these we need the wisdom, grace and power of God – we need prayer.

We should like to invite you to join us in prayer and in suggesting ways in which shared prayer can become a regular and more dominant feature of District life.

Remember, you do have a part to play, alongside other members of the District, in shaping the patterns and programs of District life. We trust that in the months ahead we will find new ways of drawing on your insights and using your gifts to continue our work in this exciting City.

Yours truly

District Chairs

### **ROUND THE FAMILY**

In June we were pleased to welcome back Josie Oppong from Ghana following the completion of her contract. Josie will be going to Warwick University in September to do an MA course in Public Administration.

We were very pleased to welcome Nicky Jaffray into membership of the Methodist Church, and into the family of Anerley Methodist Church, at her confirmation service on 24th June.

Marian

### **OVERSEAS GARDEN PARTY**

The Overseas Garden Party in aid of Missions Funds was held in the grounds of the new Forest Hill Methodist Church on Saturday 7th July. Following a couple of weeks of atrocious weather, the day was hot and sunny, for which we were very thankful!

Our Church managed to raise £40 on the Books and Videos stall. Thank you to everyone who donated books, videos, tapes etc. The overall total raised at the Garden Party was £700.

For those of us with long memories, the venue brought back memories of the old Garden Parties held at the old Forest Hill Church Sports Ground (which is the site of the new church), especially as part of the old sports ground now forms the garden of the Church.

**INTROIT** for the next 4 months

Jesus, stand among us

In thy risen power.

Let this time of worship

Be a hallowed hour.

Breathe the Holy Spirit

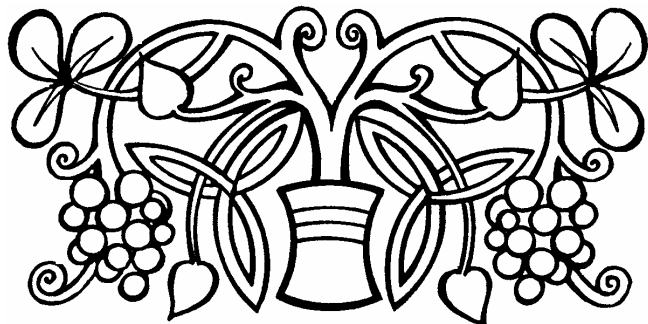
Into every Heart.

Bid the fears and sorrows

Frome each soul depart

*William Pennefather (1816-1873)*

*CCL Licence no. 221943*



Synod heard of the national programme of events to mark **Set All Free** (on the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1807 Act abolishing the Slave Trade) and indicated whole-hearted support for the **Strangers into Citizens** campaign for an earned amnesty for undocumented migrant workers. That campaign, organised by London Citizens, included a major event two weeks later when a number of Methodists attended a special Mass for migrant workers at Westminster Roman Catholic Cathedral then marched to Trafalgar Square to be addressed by Politicians, Trade Unionists and Religious Leaders, including the Rev Ermal Kirby.

There was also a presentation of the proposals coming to Conference for a revamped Connexional Team. **'Team Focus'** will have major implications, not only for individual Team members, but also for the way in which the whole Church organises its work at a connexional level. There were also **reports of national and European conferences** that members had attended, while at a local level we heard testimonies of the **church's response to community need** in the wake of the mini tornado at Kensal Rise and the stabbing of a teenager in Leytonstone.

Altogether, there was much to ponder and to hold before God in thanksgiving and intercession...

### **Your District needs you**

We are grateful to everyone who has taken some part in the leadership of the District so far: it has really felt more and more that there is a team involved and that has made the work so much more effective. There are still some roles and offices that need to be filled and some changes that will be have to be made for the next Connexional year.

In particular, we will be looking for:

A District Disability Adviser, to take over from Nick Pal-

## LONDON DISTRICT

Following are extracts from a letter received from the Chairs of the London District of the Methodist Church

Dear Friends

As we approach the end of the first year of the new London District we wonder what your summary of the main features of the year would be?

For us it has been a year of unexpected challenges mixed with occasions of great delight. Traveling around the District, we have been delighted to discover new initiatives and hidden talents. "Listening to London" in Lent – seven days of walking across different parts of the city to visit local churches, community projects and other faith communities - was especially enlightening and we are planning to repeat (and extend!) the exercise next year. Thank you for the welcome you have given us as we visited the circuits at other times to lead worship and join in various celebrations.

Here are some up-dates that we hope that you will find helpful and some indications of areas in which we would welcome your help:

### Spring Synod

As always Synod embraced a range of local stories, formal business and wider community concerns.

We were delighted to note that Ruby Beech, a member and Local Preacher in the Harrow and Hillingdon Circuit, is to be the Vice President of Conference for 2007 – 08, serving alongside the President for that year, Rev Dr Martyn Atkins; and also that at Conference in Blackpool three of our probationer ministers Revds. Lena Ali, Eleanor Jackson and Robert Mpanduki will be ordained.

## THE BEATITUDES

A Study Series by

Frank Collier

At Anerley Methodist Church 8pm- 9.30pm

### THURSDAYS

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 27th September | Self-Knowledge and the Knowledge of the Kingdom of God (ii) The Blessing of the Kingdom |
| 4th October    | In the Shadow of Grief  |
| 11th October   | Meekness - Virtue or Folly?   |

### TUESDAYS

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 20th November | The Quest for Righteousness and Justice |
| 27th November | The Quality of Mercy                    |
| 4th December  | The Transparent Christian               |

\*\*\*\*\*

The Accrington Observer reports the retirement of Joe Burns, superintendent at the local crematorium. "Joe, 60, was presented with a barbecue set."

Daily Telegraph

(Quoted in Christian Crackers (9) compiled by Phil Mason)

## Kumasi School Library Appeal

Thanks to Janice and Sandra for organising their “Afternoon Tea” for the appeal, and also to everyone who supported this event.

The Songs of Praise will take place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August, from 6.30 to 8pm at the church, followed by tea and coffee to revive parched throats. Sponsor forms are now available and need to be returned by 12<sup>th</sup> August. Three pianists will be providing the musical accompaniment but we need your voice to swell the singing, so please book the date in your diaries.

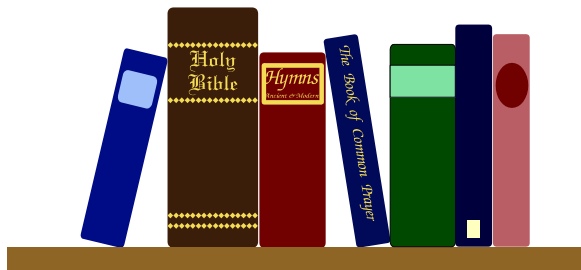
The last of the Evening Meals with Valerie and Andrew is on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October. The suggested donation is £10. Please see Valerie to book your place.

Andrew will again be looking for sponsors when he walks the Erith branch of the Green Chain Walk in October. His sponsor sheet will be available from the beginning of September.

Hilary’s recipe book is awaited with increasing anticipation.

The amount so far received for the project has just passed £1,600, but check the notice board in the entrance hall for the latest figure. Can you do something to raise funds? There is still time as the appeal does not close until the end of the year.

A. T.



## LAUGHTER CORNER

While addressing the crowd at Speaker’s Corner in Hyde Park, the distinguished Methodist Minister Lord Soper was interrupted by a heckler who kept shouting, “What about flying saucers?” Finally Lord Soper turned to him and, much to the delight of his audience, silenced him with, “I cannot deal with your domestic difficulties now.”

(Quoted in Christian Crackers (10) compiled by Phil Mason)

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A notice outside Chichester Cathedral advertising lunchtime concerts said;

SANDWICHES MAY BE EATEN

Someone had scrawled underneath:

SO IF YOU ARE A SANDWICH DON’T COME

(Quoted in Christian Crackers (3) compiled by Phil Mason)

\*\*\*\*\*

A friend used to take a deaf old lady to church. The church eventually fitted hearing apparatus into some of the pews. The two friends set off the following Sunday with considerable hope. They were a little bit late and it took them some time to find the right pew, and get the apparatus working. Meanwhile the vicar had asked for a few moments of silent prayer, with the result that in the midst of the reverent hush, there rang out, with considerable indignation: “CAN’T HEAR A THING.”  
E.A.

(Quoted in Christian Crackers (6) compiled by Phil Mason)

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