

ANERLEY CENTRE
ECHO



CHRISTMAS 2017

**The Newsletter of
ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

Oakfield Road
Anerley
London SE20 8QA

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS (as at 01.09.14 All prefix 020

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Minister	Rev. IAbe Konadu-Yiadom	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 Treasurer	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
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**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE
SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN YOUNG BY
SUNDAY 14TH JANUARY 2018**

Church website: www.anerleymethodist.org

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FROM THE MINISTER

Friends, I greet you with the grace and peace poured into our lives by God our Father and our Master, Jesus Christ. And what a blessing indeed is the One whose coming we await.

Advent simply means 'coming'. And friends, God is coming! Our LORD Jesus is coming; Christmas is coming! Over the next four weeks in Advent, Old Testament prophets, and some reflections from excerpts of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's prison dairies, helps us to look forward the fulfilment of God's purposes for His chosen people. A time when the greatest, most profound, tenderest thing in the world will be fulfilled.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was the German theologian and pastor, who was imprisoned and later killed by the Nazis. From prison, he writes, "celebrating Advent means being able to wait. Waiting is an art that our impatient world or age has forgotten." He writes further that "whoever does not know the austere blessedness of waiting, will never experience the full blessing of fulfilment. Those who do not know how it feels to wait patiently, to look forward with anticipation until the truth is revealed, cannot even dream of the splendour of the moment in which clarity is illustrated for them. For the greatest, most profound, tenderest thing in the world, we must wait, and it happens according to the divine laws of sprouting, growing and becoming! But not everyone can wait", says Bonhoeffer. "The people who cannot wait are those who carry restlessness around with them and look to the greatness of this world. Thus", he says, "Advent can be celebrated **only** by those who know that they are poor and incomplete, and who sense something of the greatness that is to come; the Holy One Himself. God in the child in the manger!"

He adds, "*we can, and should also celebrate Christmas despite the ruins around us*", to his family.

For us, and for millions of Christians, the birth of Christ brings a new way, not just of understanding life but of living it. And so, in midst of all the ruins of our unjust world, let us look forward to rejoicing in coming of our LORD Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, and the One who reveals the face of God to us, and who is the Word of God for us!

Finally, a note of thanks your forbearance in my first few months or quarter. I am very much aware that change is not an easy process at the best of times, and would encourage us all to continue pray for guidance, both as you adjust to a new minister and also in our discernment for a vision for our Church.

To this end, and on behalf of Matthew, I'd like to wish you patience in your waiting this Advent, a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Advent, Christmas and New Year blessings
Revd Abe Konadu-Yiadam

Looking ahead....

December 1st – World Aids Day

We pray for all who are affected by HIV/AIDS. We especially remember the estimated 13 million children around the world orphaned by AIDS, and those who care for them, in our Gift Service on Sunday 3rd December.

Covenant Service: 14th January 2018

This idea of Covenant was basic to John Wesley's understanding of Christian discipleship. He saw the relationship with God in Covenant as being like a marriage between human beings (both as a community and as individuals) on the one side and God in Christ on the other (cf. Ephesians 5.21-33).

His original Covenant Prayer involved taking Christ as "my Head and Husband, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, for all times and conditions, to love, honour and obey thee before all others, and this to the death". Wesley recognised that people needed not just to accept but also to grow in relationship with God. He therefore emphasised that God's grace and love constantly prompts and seeks to transform us, and so we should continually seek and pray to grow in holiness and love.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2018

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from 18th to 25th January. Introduction to this year's theme and background has been produced in the Caribbean. There are 1.4 Million Christians living in the Caribbean region, across a vast geographical spread of island and mainland territories. They represent a rich and diverse tapestry of ethnic,

linguistic and religious traditions, with a complex variety of governmental and constitutional arrangements.

The Holocaust Memorial Day – 27th January 018

The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT) is the charity that promotes and supports Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD). 27 January is the day for everyone to remember the six million Jews murdered in the Holocaust, and the millions of people killed in Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur. 27 January marks the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi death camp. HMD we can honour the survivors of these regimes of hatred and challenge ourselves to use the lessons of their experience to inform our lives today.

ROUND THE FAMILY

Please remember Selina Williams, who is not in the best of health and who is at present visiting her family in Nigeria. Joan Loring has been in hospital following a fall, and by the time you read this it is hoped she will be having rehabilitation to get her back on her feet.

We send our congratulations to Tim and Abbey Young on the birth of Matilda Florence on 27th September, a sister for Ruby, and my second grandchild!

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 will be available in the Entrance Hall from Sunday 26th November. The **final posting dates** are as follows:

Country Box – 6.30pm Sunday 10th December

Local Box – 6.30pm Sunday 17th December

Cards in the Local Box will be distributed at the close of the Carol Service.

Please ensure that **only** items for the people listed below are placed in the **Country Box**:

Rose Bateman	Andrew & Helen Maguire
Pam & Tony Clewes	Imran & Sarah Malik
Sandra Clifton	Len & Brenda Maskell
Graham Cocking	Stephen & Angela Maunder
Dave & Pat Dent	Deirdre Metcalfe
Abraham Doku	Brenda Pooley
Andrew Goodhead	Patricia Sakyi
Gerald Hardy	Judy & Alan Turner-Smith
Philip & Laurel Luscombe	

Tips for items going into the **Local Box**:

Check that your cards are for members or people who attend Church services/activities regularly (if you don't see them at Church neither does the postman!).

Help the postman by writing the recipients' Christian names **and** surnames on the envelopes (e.g. we have two Roses and two Hilarys)

Bundling your cards with an elastic band and sorted alphabetically (by surname) is very helpful.

There are always some cards which need to be delivered to people's houses. If you can assist with distribution please have a word with me.

We do invite donations to St. Christopher's Hospice. These can be placed in the plate beside the boxes or handed directly to me. Please be as generous as you can.

Andrew T.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 3rd December Gift Service 11am
Gifts of craft items will be welcomed
for Demelza Children's Hospice

Sunday 17th December Carol Service 6.30pm.

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve Communion
9.15pm

Monday 25th December Christmas Day All Age Worship
9.15am

JMA AWARDS

On 22nd October we held our JMA Service when our JMA collectors were awarded their certificates for their collections for 2016-17. Dinah Anaman, our JMA secretary, reported that during the year a total of £618.57 had been collected for JMA, an increase of £26 from the year before. Congratulations to all our collectors for their efforts over the year. If you would like to help us raise our totals again next year by giving to any of the children on a regular basis, please speak to Dinah.

THE ORIGINS OF HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING

*The 1739 version of "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing" as printed in
Hymns and Sacred Poems, entitled "Hymn for Christmas-Day"*

Hark, how all the welkin rings,
"Glory to the King of Kings;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
universal nature say,
"Christ the Lord is born today!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord:
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the virgin's womb!

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
hail the incarnate Deity!
pleased as man with men to appear,
Jesus, our Emmanuel here!

Hail, the heavenly Prince of peace,
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by,
born that man no more may die;
born to raise the sons of earth;
born to give them second birth.

Come, Desire of nations, come,
 fix in us thy humble home;
 rise, the woman's conquering Seed,
 bruise in us the serpent's head.

Now display thy saving power,
 ruined nature now restore;
 now in mystic union join
 thine to ours, and ours to thine.

Adam's likeness, Lord, efface
 Stamp thy image in its place.
 Second Adam from above,
 Reinststate us in thy love.

Let us thee, though lost, regain,
 Thee, the life, the inner man;
 O, to all thyself impart,
 Formed in each believing heart.

Charles Wesley requested and received slow, solemn music for his words, far from the joyful tune we know today. He wanted the same tune as the Easter hymn "Christ the Lord is risen today,"

According to early records the Wesleys footed the bill to have this hymn printed at Christmas 1743.

The original hymn consisted of 10 4-line verses.

George Whitefield thought the word "welkin" (vault of heaven) was too esoteric and amended the first two lines to what we are now familiar with – "Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the new born King." Whitefield did this without reference to Charles Wesley, who was **not amused**. Charles resented the unbiblical picture of angels singing.

The Wesley brothers were not altogether happy about the changes

made to any of their hymns, including “Hymn for Christmas-Day”. Here’s what John wrote in the preface to the 1779 edition of *A collection of Hymns for the use of the people called Methodists*:

“ Many gentlemen have done my brother and me (though without naming us) the honour to reprint many of our Hymns. Now they are perfectly welcome to do so, provided they print them just as they are. But I desire they would not attempt to mend them; for they really are not able. None of them is able to mend either the sense or the verse.

“Therefore I must beg of them one of these two favours; either let them stand just as they are, to take them for better for worse; or to add the true reading in the margin, or at the bottom of the page; that we may no longer be accountable either for the nonsense or the doggerel of other men.”

Then there is the question of the tune and the addition of the refrain and the creation of eight line verses, which came about for musical reasons. Almost 100 years after the hymn’s composition, Mendelssohn composed a Cantata – *Festgesang* – celebrating the 400th anniversary of Gutenberg’s invention of moveable type. A chorus from the cantata was adapted and paired with Wesley’s text by an English musician, Cummings. (Mendelssohn was adamant that his music was not to be used for religious purposes!)

The final four stanzas of Wesley’s original are usually omitted as they are theologically and biblically dense with allusion.

Rev. Jennifer Potter,
Wesley’s Chapel, London.
Used with permission

OXFAM 75

Those of you who have seen the current Newsletter from OXFAM will have seen that it is OXFAM's 75th Anniversary year.

The pledged giving leaflet tells us that in 1942 OXFAM began by giving aid to starving families in Greece.

In 1979 OXFAM was in Cambodia providing vital aid to people after the fall of the Khmer Rouge.

1984 saw them in Ethiopia giving relief from massive famine. The situation in 1994 in Rwanda saw OXFAM providing clean, life-saving water to people facing the genocide in that country.

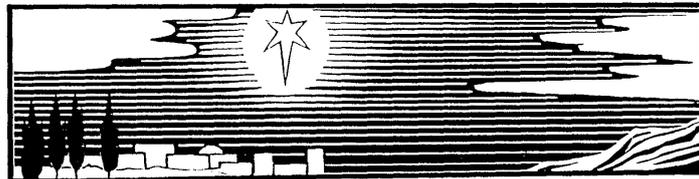
Just four examples of the aid given by OXFAM over the past 75 years.

OXFAM is still active in these countries as well as many others world wide.

If you would like to help OXFAM during 2018 by becoming a pledged giver, please speak with me.

Thank you in anticipation.

Valerie



COOKERY CORNER

Yorkshire Parkin

Ingredients

125gr (4 oz) butter
 150ml (¼ pint) milk
 175gr. (6 oz) self-raising flour
 125 gr. (4 oz) dark muscovado sugar
 2 level teaspoons ground ginger
 175gr. (6 oz) black treacle
 175gr. (6 oz) medium oatmeal
 1 medium egg, beaten
 18cm (7 in.) tin, lined with greaseproof paper

Method

1. Pre-heat oven to gas mark 2, 160°C, 320°F,
2. Place the butter, treacle and milk into a pan, heat gently until butter has melted.
3. Add the flour, oatmeal, sugar and ginger, then beat in the egg.
4. Pour mixture into the lined tin and bake in the centre of the oven for 1 hour, or until the centre of the cake is firm to touch.
5. Remove cake from the oven and leave to cool in the tin for 15—20 minutes, then transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.
6. When cold, wrap in clean greaseproof paper, then foil, and keep in a cool place for 3 to 4 days before eating.

Ann Vickery

Happy Christmas everyone, God bless you all.

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

See if you can find all the words in this Christmas word search. Words go from side to side, up and down and also diagonally.

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

GOLD

FRANKINCENSE

MYRRH

WISE

MEN

FOLLOW

STAR

HEROD

DREAM

WORSHIP





Penge Community Pre-School

Leader: Sarah Batchelor

Anerley Methodist Church

Deputy Leader: Sue Charlesworth

Oakfield Road

SENCO: Dawn McConochie

Anerley SE20 8QA

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REGULAR CHURCH USERS

- Amaze Penge** Tuesday 10am-12 noon term time Tel.07882 760 828
- Campbell School of Dance** Tel. 020 8777 7529
Friday 4pm to 7pm
- Community of Faith** (Brazilian Church) Tel: 07429 263407 .
Saturday 6—10pm
- Dog Training** Monday 7pm - 9pm Tel. 07939 023 135
- Jumoke After School Club & Jazzy Juniors** Tel. 020 8656 8684
School Holidays Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm;Term Time 4.pm-6pm
Breakfast Club: Term Time Monday to Friday 7.30am—8.30am
- LINGK Fellowship** Sunday 1pm—4pm Tel. 07939 367 333
- Only Believe Assembly** Tues 7.30pm to 10.30pm Tel.020 8778 0863
- Penge Community Pre-School** Tel. 020 8289 6771
Monday to Friday 9.15am to 4pm
- Salvation & Deliverance Ministry** Tel. 020 8683 3094
Sunday 2pm to 4.30pm; Tues 7pm to 9pm
- Tai Chi** - Thursday 8pm - 10pm Tel. 01424 420050

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351511**

Email:wendy.blenman@ntlworld.com

**WENDY BLENMAN (Dip. Couns., MSc in therapeutic counsel-
ling)**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

- Sun 3rd Gift Service 11am led by Rev. Abe Konadu-Yiadom
- Mon 4th Christian Action Group 8pm at 5 Percy Road.
Poems and Readings on an Advent theme
- Wed 6th Wednesday Club 8pm: Christmas Music
- Wed 13th Wednesday Club 8pm: Christmas Readings
- Sun 17th Carol Service 6.30pm led by Rev. Abe Konadu-Yiadom
- Wed 20th Wednesday Club 8pm: Christmas Flowers
- Sun 24th Morning Service 11am. Preacher: Lilian Barth
Christmas Eve Communion 9.15pm
- Mon 25th Christmas Day All Age Worship 9.15 am
- Wed 27th Wednesday Club 8pm Social Evening at 32 Lloyds Way,
- Sun 31st Watchnight Services 11.15pm at Forest Hill Methodist Church; 11.15pm at Lewisham Methodist Church

JANUARY

- Wed 3rd Wednesday Club 8pm: New Year Social at 32 Lloyds Way
- Wed 10th Wednesday Club 8pm: Beetle Drive
- Sun 14th Covenant Service 11am
- Sun 14th ALL MAGAZINE ARTICLES TO MARIAN **TODAY**

- Tue 16th Christian Action Group 8pm at 15 Rosetta Court, 112 Church Road, SE19 – Business Meeting
- Wed 17th Wednesday Club 8pm: Quiz of the Year
- Wed 24th Wednesday Club 8pm: Logo Game
- Sun 28th All Age Worship 11am. Preacher: Chris Watkins
- Wed 31st Wednesday Club 8pm: Programme Planning/Card Game

FEBRUARY

- Wed 7th Wednesday Club 8pm Dominoes
- Tue 6th Circuit Meeting 7.45pm at Hither Green Methodist Church
- Mon 12th Christian Action Group 8pm at 163 Clock House-Road. Speaker: Major Sue Robinson, Penge Salvation Army Corps.
- Tue 20th Pastoral Committee 7.45pm at the Manse
- Tue 27th Church Council 8pm in the Side Hall

Morning Services are held every Sunday at 11am. During December Holy Communion will be celebrated on the 17th, and All Age Worship will take place on 3rd (Gift Service). In addition, Christmas Day will be All Age Worship (9.15am). In January Holy Communion will be celebrated on 14th (Covenant Service) and All Age Worship is on 28th.

Evening Services are usually held at the church on the 2nd (HC) and 4th Sundays of each month at 6.30pm. During December the evening services will be on 10th (HC) and 17th (Carol Service) and in addition Holy Communion will be celebrated on Christmas Eve (9.15pm). During January evening services will be on 14th and 28th (HC).