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Email:wendy.blenman@ntlworld.com

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

# ANERLEY CENTRE ECHO



# CHRISTMAS 2014

The Newsletter of

**ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH** 

## DECEMBER 2014/JANUARY 2015

Volume 46 Number 4

#### FROM THE MINISTER

When Marian asked me write the Minister's letter for Christmas edition of the Church Magazine, my head was still full with the Remembrance Sunday Service, Poppies and all the conversation about remembering the war and the poppy exhibition on the tower of London. Those who went to see it, described their experience as unique and from the pictures it looks amazing.

So to write something Christmassy in the letter I turned to the internet for inspiration and started exploring a few themes. Then I came across the Sainsbury's Christmas Advert, produced in partnership with Royal British Legion, recreating a scene along the western front of the First World War of Christmas 1914.

Through the week leading up to Christmas, German and British soldiers began to exchange seasonal greetings and sang carols between their trenches; reducing the tension to the point that individuals changed gifts. On Christmas Eve and Christmas day many of them ventured into no man's land to exchange gifts and even played friendly football. Unfortunately, according to historians, the following years of war saw less and less of this.

In the Sainsbury's advert the British soldier secretly slips gifts into the pocket of a German soldier, who found a chocolate bar when he returns to his side of

| USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS (as at 01.09.14 All prefix Church (Minister is not available on this number) |                           |                             | x 020<br>8289 6771 |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
|   | Minister                  | Rev. Imran Malik            | 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          |
|   | Junior Missionary Associa | tion Dinah Anaman           | 7274 6294          |
|   | NCH Action for Children   | Valerie Tredinnick          | 8658 2347          |
|   | Christian Aid             | Julie Taylor                | 8778 5881          |
|   | Oxfam                     | Valerie Tredinnick          | 8658 2347          |
|   | Penge Forum               | Marian Young                | 8402 6618          |
|   |                           |                             |                    |

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

# ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN YOUNG BY SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY 2015

Church website: www.anerleymethodist.org

the battlefield. Despite the supermarket using WWI as a promotional tool, the profit from the sale of the chocolate bar featured in the advert will go to the Royal British legion. The advert ends with the message "Christmas is for sharing".

Sharing is fundamental to our development, relationship and civilizations. From a very early age we teach children to share. Sharing can be understood as mutual enjoyment when doing something together or experiences such as meals, love, happiness, special occasions etc.

Sharing is equally important to God. At our creation God shared His image with us and at Jesus' birth God shares our human nature. God in Christ having shared human nature, understands our celebrations, family gatherings, expressions of love, loneliness, sorrow and our pain.

Whatever this Christmas brings to you, share it; share it with God and others because "Christmas is for sharing". Those who watch TV will be seeing Sainsbury's Christmas Advert regularly, when you see this remember that sharing is important to God. There is not a day when He does not share every happy or sad moment and experiences of our lives. Let us share all we can!



### ROUND THE FAMILY

Please remember in your prayers Emmanuel Anaman, who has returned to Ghana following the death of his older brother at the beginning of October.

Please also remember Sandra Hynes, who at the time of writing has been diagnosed with pneumonia. We send Sandra our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

We send our congratulations to Tim Yusuf and Crystal Rodriguez, who were married at the end of August (just missing last month's magazine deadline!) Congratulations also to Wendy Blenman on her engagement to Calvin in September, and to Rose and Kwame Acheampong, who became grand-parents at the beginning of October, following the birth of Ivana Rose to daughter Barbara. Congratulations also Ronnnie Butler who has gained a certificate for passing Functional Skills in English at Lambeth College.

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

Marian

## JMA AWARDS

On 26th October we held our JMA Service when our JMA collectors were awarded their certificates for their collections for 2013-14. Dinah Anaman, our JMA secretary, reported that during the year a total of £704.10 had been collected for JMA, an increase of £59 from last year. 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**

And now for the good news! Those of you who are pledged gift donors will read in the current Newsletter that Zambia's economy is growing at a record pace. But wait for it, many families are still falling into poverty. However, one group of banana farmers are prospering against the odds thanks to your support. This includes Irene Nuzukira.

Irene is proud that her children can go to school – an opportunity she never had. She struggled for many years to support her family. Working for a tiny amount of money on a large commercial farm, she was only able to feed her children one meal a day. "We would go to sleep hungry," she said. But today Irene is earning enough to give her children plenty to eat and to pay for their education. She is one of a group of 20 farmers in her village who received support and training from OXFAM.

We provided water pumps and fences to protect the crops from animals, and trained growers how to manage their fields and store the fruit correctly to prevent disease. They now grow bananas so good they have won awards.

But while awards cause "much jumping and jubilation," for Irene the real prize is being able to give her children a better chance in life.

"For women this project can bring about change," says Irene, who now hopes to save enough money to buy a house for her family. "We can also invest in our children's education. So my children are like me; they are joyful."

"Those who have been to school have access to so many

things – including employment. If people don't have access to education, they will remain poor."

If you would like to help people like Irene then please become a pledged giver. See me and I will add you to the list of those who already donate regularly once a month anything from 50p to £5 – or more!

Valerie

## INTROIT FOR THE NEXT 4 MONTHS

Holy. holy, holy.
With joy my heart adores you!
My heart cries out to worship you:
holy are you, Lord!

Argentinian liturgical text, translated by Maggie Hamilton

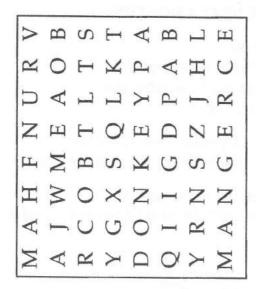
Songs of Fellowship no. 779 © 1990 WRGR, Iona Community, CCLI 327359



## FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

See if you can find all the words hidden in the grid.

## ANGEL MANGER MARY JOSEPH DONKEY STAR INN



## CHRISTMAS SALE

There will be a sale of handicrafts and bric-a-brac after the Gift Service on Sunday 7th December, in aid of charities supported by the Christian Action Group

## **Christmas Post Boxes**

The two Post Boxes will be available in the Entrance Hall from Sunday 30th November. The **final posting date** for **both** boxes is **Sunday 14**<sup>th</sup> **December**, and distribution of cards in the **Local Box** will take place immediately following the **6.30pm Carol Service** that evening. Please note that because of the way Christmas falls this year there will only be **three Sundays** on which to post your cards.

Tips for items going into the Local Box:

- Check that all your cards are for people who are members or who attend Church services.
- Help the sorter by writing the recipients' Christian names and surnames on the envelopes.
- Putting your bundle of cards into alphabetical order (surnames) is very helpful.

Offers to assist with the distribution, especially to people not at the Carol Service, will be much appreciated.

The **Country Box** must only be used for the people listed below:

Rose Bateman; Eddie Jackson; Pam & Tony Clewes; Philip & Laurel Luscombe; Andrew & Helen Maguire; Graham & Jenny Cocking; Len & Brenda Maskell: Dave & Pat Dent; Stephen & Angela Maunder; Abraham Doku; Chris & Deirdre Metcalfe; Muriel French; Sandra Clifton; Brenda Pooley; Andrew Goodhead; Patricia Sakyi, Gerald Hardy; Judy & Alan Turner-Smith

We do invite donations to St. Christopher's Hospice. These can be placed in the plate alongside or handed directly to me.

Andrew T.

## Rules for Methodists 1770: Times they have a-changed!

- Methodists must not have their hair cut on a Sunday
- You are advised not to wear gold to church or expensive clothes. You ladies should not wear large bonnets to church. Indeed, you must dress plainly. You men should not waste money on wigs, hair powder and shaving soap. It is acceptable for older preachers to wear a long wig when preaching.
- Men and women should not sit together in church, They should sit apart and take separate parts in the singing. Singing will normally be without musical accompaniment.
- Hymns must be read out by the preacher, two lines at a time, prior to singing. Any preacher who has more than two hymns in any service is liable to be dismissed.
- Local preachers will be paid £12 a year for 'necessaries'. They will not be allowed to partake of snuff.
- Mr. Wesley recommends that preachers should observe some kind of fasting during the week. It is known that Mr. Wesley eats only vegetables on a Friday, and takes only toast and water in the mornings. Preachers should not partake of spirituous liquors on any pretence.
- Laughter in Church is the work of the Devil; it should not be tolerated.
- Cards, dancing and the theatre are of course forbidden to Methodists. Wear nothing that is of a glaring colour.

Mr. Wesley does not advise women to wear rings, earrings or necklaces.

Be serious, serve God and be cheerful.

(Thanks to Peter Boreham for this article)

## Thank You from John & Julie Taylor

We would like to thank the members of Anerley Methodist Church for the very warm welcome we have been given since coming to the church from January 2014. John retired from the Ministry of Penge Congregational Church at the end of 2014 after serving in Penge for 15 years and previously at Newport Congregational Church on the Isle of Wight for 6 years. John was also a Director/Trustee of Churches Together in England for 10 years. We are now helping out some of the churches in the Blackheath & Crystal Palace Circuit, where John is preaching and leading worship.

Like Marian Young John has an interest in church history and is a volunteer at Dr Williams's Library in Gordon Square (near Euston Station) and is working in the library cataloguing collections. The Library is one of the leading dissenting libraries in the UK with material from Congregational and United Reformed and Baptist and Unitarian Churches (known as Old Dissent). However there are some Methodist books and letters there as well. Ministers and their families often give their letters and essays and sermons to the Library and we have five floors of archives and history.

Julie loves being at the church and we have made many good friends there and we are really happy where God has led us to be.

#### HYMN SURVEY

After a break of a few years I have again started keeping a record of the hymns sung at our Sunday services, together with those sung at other services such as Good Friday and Christmas Day.

I started recording the hymn numbers again when we started using the new hymn book, Singing the Faith, in June 2012. If other hymn books were used during this time (e.g Songs of Fellowship), I only recorded the hymns which could also be found in Singing the Faith.

During the past (Methodist) year, ended on 31st August 2014 the following hymns were the most popular:

Sung 8 times: O Lord my God (StF no. 82)

Sung 7 times: O for a thousand tongues to sing (StF no.364)

Sung 6 times: Tell out my soul (StF no. 186)

Love divine, all loves excelling (StF no. 503)

Since we started using Singing the Faith in June 2012, the following hymns have been sung the most (up to the end of August 2014):

16 times: Love Divine, all loves excelling (StF no. 503)

14 times: O Lord my God (StF no 82)

13 times: Be still, for the presence of the Lord (StF 20) - sung 5 times in 2013/14

Give me joy in my heart (StF 76) - sung 5 times in 2013/14.

Looking at the records, it is noticeable that some preachers have favourite hymns that they use more than others, and this sometimes bumps up the figures!

If you would like to know more, or to find out how many times your favourite hymn was sung, please get in touch with me.

### Marian



When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart

Howard Truman (Fellowship of Reconciliation) (Another 500 Quotes and Anecdotes, compiled by John Beasley)

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday 7th December Gift Service 11am
Gifts of craft items will be welcomed for Demelza Children's Hospice

Sunday 14th December Carol Service 6.00pm. Starting with mince pies, tea or coffee, this will be a traditional candle-lit service of carols and readings

Wednesday 24th December Christmas Eve Communion 9.15pm

Thursday 25th December Christmas Day All Age Worship 9.15am

## FIREWORK PARTY

Once again a group of adults and children gathered at the home of Valerie and Andrew for the annual firework party. It was good to see so many people there, including our Minister Imran, Sarah, Rohan and Roshan. Also joining us were Stella and Barry Taylor from Swanley, and Valerie and Andrew's neighbour Barbara. 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

## **Quiz Night for Living Hope**

Our thanks to everyone who supported the Quiz at Anerley which raised funds for the school built in Imran's home village in Pakistan. Our mystery Quizmaster was Valerie's brother, Barry, up from Portsmouth, who kept the eight competing teams in order. Peter Boreham provided musical entertainment at the interval (keyboard & violin) while the participants munched their way through jacket potatoes, hotdogs and slices of quiche. Ticket money donations came to £353.

The two stalls organised by Marian Young & Margaret Boreham, together with Imran's informative slideshow and display about the project, added more interest, and brought in a further £62.20, which, added to further donations of £22.50 made to Imran , made a total of £437.70 for the event.

Andrew & Valerie Tredinnick

## METHODIST TALENTS FESTIVAL 2015

The Methodist Festival takes place on Saturday 7th March 2015 at Shirley Methodist Church and our Church has entered a singing group in the Worship Group class, The set song is "Purify my heart". It is an act of faith as, at the time of writing, we have possibly 4 - 5 singers and an instrumentalist! If you would like to join the group please speak to John Taylor as soon as possible. All ages welcome!

After the Festival we may take part in other services. It has been suggested that a group could sing at the 150th Church Anniversary in May, when the President of Conference will be preaching.

### COOKERY CORNER

## Sugarless Low Fat Pineapple Cake

Suitable for Diabetics. Makes 6—8 portions You will need a 20cm (8in) greased cake tin

## Ingredients

425g (15oz) can of pineapple in natural juice

450g (1ib) dried mixed fruit

1 teaspn. Mixed spice

2 medium eggs

2 tablespns. Corn oil

225 g (8oz) self-raising flour

## Method

- 1. Crush the pineapple in its natural juice
- 2. Place the pineapple, mixed fruit, mixed spice and corn oil in a saucepan
- 3. Bring slowly to the boil for 3 minutes and leave until cold, preferably overnight
- 4. Beat the eggs and flour into the fruity mixture in the saucepan.
- 5. Place the mixture in the greased cake tin.
- 6.Bake at gas mark 3/ 325° F/ 170° C (150° for fan oven) for about 1¼ hours, covering if necessary with greaseproof paper.
- 7. Test if done with a skewer
- 8. When cold, store in the refrigerator...

Ann Vickery





## **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 in 1975

Learning through play for children from 2 to 5 years

£9 per Morning or Afternoon 9.15am to 12.15pm & 1pm to 4pm Lunch bridge-over available

Government funding for 3 & 4 year olds 2 year-old funding for families on low income

Vacancies

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| DECEMBER<br>Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> | Christian Action Group 8pm at 28 Chesham Road.<br>Speakers: Peter and Margaret Boreham            |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>             | Wednesday Club 8pm Seasonal Music   |
| Sun 7th                         | Gift Service 11am led by Rev. Imran Malik   |
| Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>            | Wednesday Club 8pm Seasonal Readings  |
| Sun 14th                        | Carol Service 6.00pm led by David Hynes, starting with mince pies, tea and coffee                 |
| Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>            | Wednesday Club 8pm Christmas Crackers   |
| Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>            | Christmas Eve Communion 9.15pm<br>No Wednesday Club   |
| Thur 25 <sup>th</sup>           | Christmas Day All Age Worship 9.15 am   |
| Sun 28th                        | All Age Worship 11am. Preacher: Lilian Barth  |
| Wed 31st                        | New Year's Eve—No Wednesday Club<br>Watchnight Service 11.15pm at Forest Hill Methodist<br>Church |
| JANUARY<br>Sun 4th              | Covenant Service 11am   |
| Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>             | Wednesday Club 8pm Social Evening at 32 Lloyds<br>Way   |
| Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>            | ALL MAGAZINE ARTICLES TO MARIAN TODAY   |
| Mon 12 <sup>th</sup>            | Christian Action Group 8pm at 163 Clock House<br>Road – Business Meeting                          |

| Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>  | Wednesday Club 8pm Quiz of the Year                                  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Thur 15th   | Finance Committee Meeting 8pm at 5 Percy Road                        |  |
| Sun 18th  | All Festival handicrafts to be given to Marian TODAY                 |  |
| Wed 21 <sup>st</sup>  | Wednesday Club 8pm .Optical Illusions                                |  |
| Sun 25th  | All Age Worship 11am. Preacher: Rev. Imran Malik                     |  |
| Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>  | Wednesday Club 8pm Darts   |  |
| FEBRUARY Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Club 8pm Slides of Austria |  |  |
| Thur 5 <sup>sth</sup>   | Church Council 8pm at the Church                                     |  |
| Tue 10 <sup>th</sup>  | Christian Action Group 8pm at 5 Percy Road Speaker: Rev. Imran malik |  |
| Thur 12th   | Circuit Meeting 7.45pm at Burnt Ash Methodist<br>Church              |  |
| Tue 17th  | Stewards' Meeting 8pm 19 Felmingham Road                             |  |
| Thur 19th   | Pastoral Sub-Committee meeting 8pm at the Church                     |  |
|   |  |  |

Morning Services are held every Sunday at 11am. During December Holy Communion will be celebrated on the 21st, and All Age Worship will take place on 7th (Gift Service) and 28th. In addition, Christmas Day will be All Age Worship (9.15am). In January Holy Communion will be celebrated on 4th (Covenant Service) and All Age Worship is on 25th.

Evening Services are usually held at the church on the 2nd (HC) and 4th Sundays of each month at 6.30pm. However, during December the evening service will be on 14th (Carol Service). Holy Communion will also be celebrated on Christmas Eve (9.15pm). During January evening services will be on 11th (H.C.) and 25th.