

UNITY OF SELF COUNSELLING SERVICE

Are you depressed, confused or just
would like someone to talk to?

I am a qualified counsellor and supervisor offering a confidential service to adults, children and families.

CALL ME TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT ON

020 8244 0512 or 07956 351 511

Email:wendy.blenman@ntlworld.com

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

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

SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

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

ANERLEY CENTRE ECHO



LATE SUMMER 2009

The Newsletter of

ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH

USEFUL CONTACTS (as at 021.07.08) 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	Marian Young	8402 6618
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

METHODIST INSURANCE Crystal clear insurance

Protect your home and contents with us and raise money for your church or charity



Insure your home and contents with Methodist Insurance and we'll give **20% of the first year's premium (or minimum £20, whichever is the greater amount) to your church or your chosen charity.**

We make **generous grants** out of profits to the **Methodist Church** to help sustain its work and witness. In fact, over the last 130 years we have been able to provide grants totalling over **£10 million.**

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 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 12.15pm & 1pm to 4pm

Government funding for 3 & 4 year olds

Vacancies

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2009

Volume 41 Number 2

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends,

I've just had a couple of days away in Rye, East Sussex. What a beautiful place. A place of beauty, character, history and a place with a warm welcome, a place to savour. It is a place to relax, to unwind, to forget all that clogs the mind and wallow in the quietness (apart from the seagulls) of a jewel in our land.

However, the point of this word isn't Rye, although in another context it could be, the point is having time away. Time to refresh oneself; to get things into perspective; to while away the hours in an art gallery; at Bodiam Castle or another National Trust establishment; to read a book; to wait on God and be.

What happens next? You become tired. You become tired because you are tired but caught up in the maelstrom of life you forget your tiredness and work on.

What does this tell us? Allow yourself to be. Allow yourself that time to recharge your batteries so that when you need to have full power you will have it.

Didn't Jesus take time out? Didn't He need time alone, time to relax, time to recharge, time to commune with His father. So why is it so difficult for us to do the same.

This summer enjoy your 'time out'. Luxuriate in your time away. If financial pressures preclude such a break, take a walk in the beauty of our countryside, take time for yourself. Purge yourself of all that is a burden within you; take time to commune with your God.

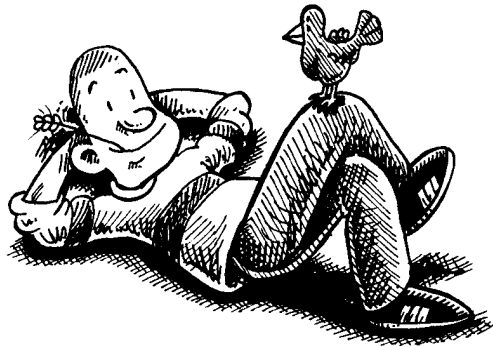
Refresh your mental, physical and spiritual entities. Bring them back to the wholeness God wants them to be.

There is a time for every purpose under heaven Ecclesiastes tells us, so give yourself some time.

As you do so may God be with you.

Enjoy.

Graham



Be careful how you live

You may be the only Bible

Some people may ever read

NOAH'S ARK

Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark :

Don't miss the boat.

Remember that we are all in the same boat.

Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark

Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

Build your future on high ground.

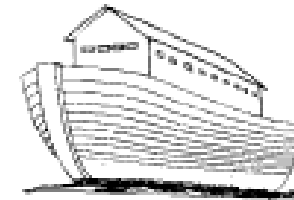
For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

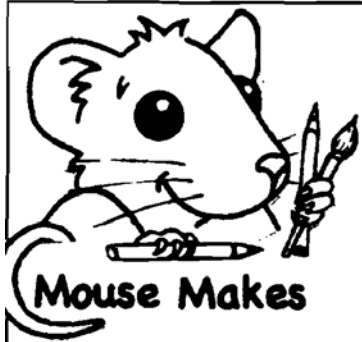
Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

When you're stressed, float away.

Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.





When **Nehemiah** heard that the walls of Jerusalem were in ruins he sat down and wept. For days he fasted and prayed before God. Finally the opportunity came for him to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls, but it wasn't going to be easy....

Read Nehemiah's story in the **Old Testament** book of 'Nehemiah', chapters 1 to 7.

Here is Nehemiah's list of all the things that need to be done to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Fill in the missing gaps on the tower to help rebuild the wall.

- | | |
|---------|-----------|
| PRAY | GATE |
| RUBBLE | BEAM |
| REPAIR | BOLT |
| RESTORE | BAR |
| BUILD | STEP |
| WORK | TOWER |
| STONE | HOUSE |
| TIMBER | POOL |
| WALLS | FINISH |
| FLOOR | DEDICATE |
| ROOF | CELEBRATE |
| DOOR | |

How many gates were repaired? Who rebuilt them?

How long did it take to finish the walls?

ROUND THE FAMILY

Our Minister Graham had to cut short his holiday in Scotland to visit Moorfields Eye Hospital with an eye problem. Please remember him in your prayers as he is still experiencing visual disturbance in his eye.

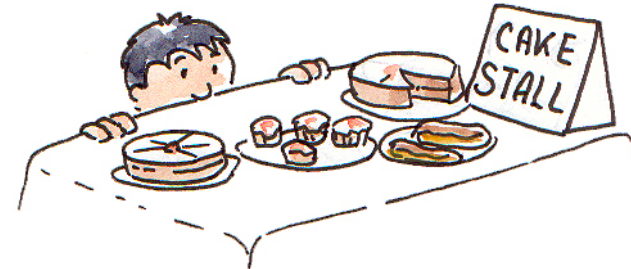
We send our congratulations to Josie Oppong, who has now graduated with an MA from Warwick University.

Our thoughts are with our friends at Forest Hill Methodist Church following the sudden death of their organist, Susan Rackley, on Sunday 12th July. Please remember Susan's family in your prayers at this time.

Marian

CIRCUIT MISSIONS GARDEN PARTY

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to this event. With some money still to come in the final amount will be in the region of £1000, enabling a substantial donation to be sent to the Methodist Women's Network Project for training the Jui women of Sierra Leone in acquiring technical skills with computers etc.



INTROIT for the next four months.

May our worship be acceptable
in your sight O Lord;

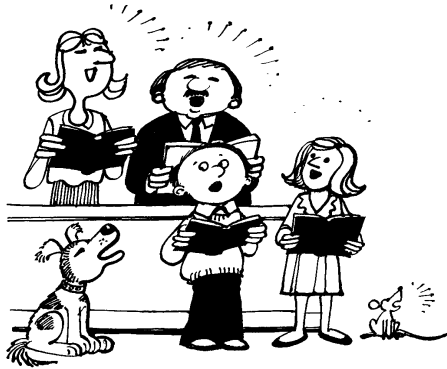
May our worship be acceptable
in your sight O Lord;

May the words of my mouth be pure,
and the meditation of my heart;

May our worship be acceptable
in your sight O Lord

Graham Kendrick
©1988 Make Way Music

Mission Praise no 461
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On the other side of the world in Papua New Guinea, rough mountainous terrain makes travelling even short distances extremely challenging. Medical care is limited and any complications in childbirth can put the lives of mother and child at risk. A phone call to pilot Michael Duncalfe one Sunday lunchtime led to an urgent medical flight for a young woman from Koinambe, who had been in labour for over 24 hours. Michael arrived an hour later, saving an eight-hour trip by bus and foot over sometimes impassable roads. Barely able to walk to the plane, the pregnant woman Peggy was supported by her mother and a local health centre worker. Even sitting in the plane was a struggle due to the pain. Within 30 minutes Peggy was helped into a vehicle from the Anglican church and taken to Mount Hagan Hospital where she delivered a healthy baby girl.

MAF is involved in the heart of reaching vulnerable people, whether they are in spiritual or physical need.

If you wish to know more about MAF they can be contacted by telephone: 0845 850 9505 or see their website: www.maf-uk.org.



NEWS FROM THE MISSION AVIATION FELLOWSHIP – responding to medical emergency needs,

Bringing spiritual hope and physical care, Mission Aviation Fellowship uses light aircraft in developing countries so that people in remote areas can receive the help they need.

In the UK we often take our health system for granted, but in many parts of the world healthcare is limited and patients often die because they are unable to get to hospital. In times of emergency, MAF flights bring medical help, enabling patients to get to hospital quickly and often saving lives.

Six year old Timothy is one patient whose life was saved. He had been receiving treatment in a small hospital in Matany in the east of Uganda, but became unconscious for five hours and urgently needed to reach the larger international hospital in the capital Kampala. Our team arranged for a doctor and nurse to meet us at our Kajansi base and flew them to Matany. It took the doctor some time to stabilise Timothy sufficiently for the flight to Kampala. Without the plane it would have taken the doctor a full day to reach Matany, and Timothy would not have survived a further full day, s journey over rough roads.

Unfortunately, sometimes it can be too late to receive medical attention. Our team in Uganda reports, “A man came early into our office asking if we could collect his father who had suffered a stroke and had been unconscious in Matany Hospital for over a week. He needed to be moved urgently from there to Kampala so that he could have a scan.” Pilot Matthew Slaubaugh was already in the area and was able to divert his flight. The plane landed at Matany airstrip just 2½ hours after the request was received. The patient was brought to the plane, flown to the capital and then transferred by ambulance to hospital. Unfortunately, later that evening he collapsed and the staff were not able to revive him.

NEWS FROM OXFAM

A plastic jerry can, a kilo of soap, 100 water purification tablets, some cotton wool, and a leaflet on how to use them to protect your family from life-threatening diseases. To the people who have queued patiently to receive an Oxfam hygiene kit, these seemingly mundane, inexpensive items are worth their weight in gold.

“These kits are really important for us,” says Fungai Mbovora. “I don’t have anything at home. It’s difficult to get money just to buy a bar of soap. I really thank people for remembering us and helping us with this.”

Fungai has seen at first hand the damage that cholera can do: two of her children were among the more than 60,000 people who contracted the disease after the epidemic hit Zimbabwe in August 2008. Fungai’s children survived, but almost 4,000 people - many of them already weakened by hunger - did not.

Oxfam staff have been working 24/7 to prevent the spread of the cholera epidemic. Oxfam-trained volunteers have been running an intensive health-promotion campaign: distributing hygiene kits and spreading vital messages about how to treat and prevent cholera. Oxfam is helping to install clean water and safe sanitation facilities in schools, clinics and cholera treatment centres in some of the worst-affected areas: trucking water and rehabilitating boreholes and hand-pumps. In urban areas, Oxfam teams have been organizing clear-up campaigns to remove piles of waste and clear drains. Plans have also been approved to install 20 new boreholes in the capital, Harare, giving hundreds of thousands of people a safe, clean water supply.

Oxfam’s response in Zimbabwe has helped over one million of the most vulnerable people to survive the crisis.

FROM THE LONDON DISTRICT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

Special anniversaries can be both significant and slightly dangerous. Marking the Big-O's in our lives and the lives of our churches is important and inescapable; they can be times of celebration and remembering, and even opportunities for taking stock and making new commitments.

The risk is that they become ends in themselves: church members may need a year to recover from centenary celebrations that took two years to plan, and in the meantime there is little energy for the continuing mission. Or, again, it is possible to highlight certain features of the past and be oblivious to other things that have taken place that might have been of greater significance in kingdom terms.

In 2010 the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and Americas (MCCA) will celebrate 250 years of Methodist work in that region. In 1758 Nathaniel Gilbert, a plantation owner from Antigua, arrived with two slaves at a house in Wandsworth which was owned by his brother Francis. While he was there, an itinerant preacher, the Revd. John Wesley, visited on a number of occasions.

It was not only the Gilberts who were impressed by Mr. Wesley's message. Nathaniel's slaves also responded and were baptised by Mr. Wesley. In June 1759 Nathaniel Gilbert and his slaves left Wandsworth to return to Antigua, and it was from their preaching and teaching that the Methodist work developed.

This anniversary is worth noting because there are several fascinating connections with the present London District, which have been brought to light by the work of Phyllis Plummer and the Revd. Kavula John:

The house of Francis Gilbert was on a street now called Fairfield Street and in 1772 the first Methodist Chapel in the area was built just round the corner in what is now Wandsworth High Street. The St. John's Church in the Wandle Valley Circuit traces its origins back to that Chapel.

In his Journal, John Wesley refers to one of the slaves he baptised in November 1758 as "the first African Christian I have known." We can be fairly sure that she was originally of West African origin. The present Superintendent of the Wandle Valley Circuit, the Revd. Emmanuel Aggrey-Ogoe, is from Ghana.

On his return to Antigua, Nathaniel Gilbert built a Chapel in one of the rooms of his home and also preached to his slaves from the steps of his house. Two pieces of those stone steps are to be found in the London District: one serves as the Baptismal Font at Methodist Church House and the other fulfils the same purpose at Wesley's Chapel, City Road.

Nathaniel Gilbert travelled from Antigua to Wandsworth to hear Mr. Wesley and returned to Antigua to spread his message. The Revd. Ermal Kirby, one of the District Chairs, was born in Antigua, came to England as a child and was called to faith through the preaching of the descendants of those early Methodists.

Anniversaries are significant; and perhaps one way of avoiding some of their risk is by making sure that the focus of our celebration is always on the amazing grace of God that can be traced in so many unexpected ways.

THE DISTRICT CHAIRS

The Revd. Ermal Kirby, the Revd. Jenny Impy and the Rev. Dr. Stuart Jordon

(Taken from the London District website
www.methodistlondon.org.uk)