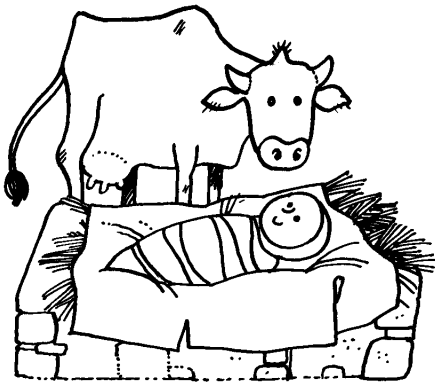


**ANERLEY CENTRE
ECHO
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS**



CHRISTMAS 2018

**The Newsletter of
ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

Oakfield Road
Anerley
London SE20 8QA

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS (as at 01.09.17 All prefix 020

Church (Minister is not available on this number)		8289 6771
Minister	Rev. Abe 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
Junior Missionary Association	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 14TH JANUARY 2018**

Church website: www.anerleymethodist.org

DECEMBER 2018/JANUARY 2019

Volume 50 Number 4

FROM THE MINISTER

Brothers and Sister in Christ,

I greet you in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, Amen!

I write mindful that Sunday, 25th November, traditionally known as Christ the King, will be the last Sunday of the Christian year (2017-18). Then we start all over again with Advent on 2nd December!

The readings in Advent have the theme of waiting. In the Old Testament, **'waiting'** gives us time to find out about ourselves – and what we find may not always be attractive. I am ashamed sometimes of how impatient I have become. However, waiting also gives us space to pray and time to work out what really matters in our lives. Waiting helps us discover whether we really do trust God and whether we will step outside our busy, noisy lives and listen to God. Thinking about it, there is a lot of waiting in our faith. The Old Testament people waited for generations for the Promised One to come. We find the four weeks of Advent, are quite long enough and our anticipation and expectation as we get closer to Christmas can be very hard to bear indeed. In our waiting for a baby, we also join the disciples who also had to wait to see what lay ahead for their country and their church amidst a future outside of Europe. Whatever the future holds, we still wait for Jesus to come back and pray, "Maranatha, come Lord, come." In the meantime, we pray, "Your will be done."

Psalms 40:1 celebrates waiting patiently for the Lord and the prophet Isaiah promises that "those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:31). Waiting on God is a regular refrain in the life of faith. It is an expression of the healthy heart's desire: "O Lord, we wait for you; your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul" (Isaiah 26:8). And it is an echo of the unparalleled power and grace of God, "who acts for those who wait for him" (Isaiah

64:4).

Sometimes we forget that patience is one of the fruits of the Spirit (Gal 5) and that love itself is patient (1 Corinthians:13). To accept the importance of waiting is to be countercultural. Yet it is in these waiting times that God can often do deep work in our souls, or in the life of our congregation, community or world, such as during times of uncertainty. Being hasty can often make us superficial. Having to wait often sorts out what really matters in our lives. It is a time to renew faith and hope. It is a time to deepen our prayer life. It is a time also to remember the extraordinary patience of God.

Advent also offers an opportunity to think about generosity. There's nothing more generous than God sending his son into the world for us. Everyone knows Christmas time as the season of giving, but what does that really mean for Christians?

Many of us will spend December rushing around getting ready for Christmas, but would we be so busy that we've forgotten what Advent really is about – remembering the birth of our Saviour and readying our hearts for his return?

I know that this time of year can very quickly get very superficial, as well as being fraught with a lot of different emotions for people.

It is my hope and prayer that this Advent will help you to reflect on God's great generosity to us and how we can show it to those around us. May we be encouraged to think of those who might be struggling with loneliness in Advent and Christmas and above all, become a gift of encouragement to one another.

Finally, in this Advent journey, may we learn the discipline and blessing of waiting.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

As we worship with joy this season and celebrate the coming of the promised Saviour, may we all know something of the love that will come down at Christmas, bringing hope where hope is gone.

And so, we await you, Jesus, child of God, gift of joyfulness in a world of bleakness; gift of peace in a violent world, gift of hope in a despairing world; gift of wisdom in a foolish world, gift of forgiveness in a guilty world; gift of love and justice in a world of unfairness.

In Your good time, O Lord, reveal to all the world the light that no darkness can extinguish. **Amen.**

Post Script:

Autumn Bible Studies

A very big thank you to all who have religiously attended the Bible Studies over the past eight weeks. I have been deeply enriched by the fellowship and learning. As the literature states, 'all Christians are learners – that is one meaning of the word 'disciple' (or being a follower of Jesus)'. We never stop learning how to apply our understanding of God to the challenges of each new day. Therefore, I feel that I have been blessed by the group meetings and fellowship, conversations together, being interactive, and reflecting on lived experiences.

I hope you have also been enriched, above all that it has helped you explore a little of what it might mean to glimpse God, to meet Jesus and be transformed, learning different ways to pray, engage with Scripture, be sustained by the Holy Spirit as well as how we can live in the way of Jesus with our own unique personalities.

Finally, my thanks also to all the leaders for your insights into how God is working in your lives; to Andrew and Valerie for tables and chairs, tea, coffee and biscuits, readily set up!

With every blessing,

Revd Abe

Christmas Post Boxes

The two Post Boxes will be available in the Entrance Hall from Sunday 25th November.

The **final collection** from the **Country Box** will be on **Sunday 9th December**.

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

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

The **last posting date** for the **Local Box** is **Sunday 16th December**.

Here are some tips:

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!).

To avoid confusion please write the recipients' Christian names **and** surnames on the envelopes – NB. we have two Roses & two Hilarys.

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

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 2nd December Gift Service 11am
 Gifts of craft items will be welcomed
 for St. Christopher's Hospice
 Candle Project
- Sunday 16th December Carol Service 6.30pm.
- Monday 24th December Christmas Eve Communion
 9.15pm
- Tuesday 25th December Christmas Day All Age Worship
 9.15am



JMA AWARDS

On 14th October we held our JMA Service when our JMA collectors were awarded their certificates for their collections for 2017-18. Dinah Anaman, our JMA secretary, reported that during the year a total of £349.74 had been collected for JMA. For various reasons this was much less than the year before, when the total collected was £618.67. 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.

REV. GEORGE LOVELL

We were sorry to hear of the death in October at the age of 89 of the Rev. George Lovell, a past Minister of our Church between 1962-66. It was during his time with us that major renovations were made to our buildings, including the construction of the top hall as a Community Centre for youth and community work. Following his time in our Circuit, Mr. Lovell moved to Parchmore Road Methodist Church in Thornton Heath, where he again established youth and community work. He later became the founder and director of AVEC, a church and development agency. We were privileged to have Mr. Lovell as a preacher when he returned to take one of our special services in 2015, when we celebrated our 150th Anniversary.

PRAYER SATURDAY

19TH January 2019

10am-3pm

A simple Prayer Saturday with a wide variety of Prayer Stations, comfortable seats, incidental music and a slide show on the screen. There will be brief meditations at the beginning and end of each hour. Light refreshments will be available all day including lunch time. People can come for all or part of the day, and there will be time to chat as we share refreshments in the Side Hall.

Book the date now!

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

This was written in the 16th Century as one of the “catechism songs” to help young Catholics learn the tenets of their faith. The “true love” mentioned in the song refers to God. The “me” who receives the presents refers to every baptised person. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The other symbols mean the following:-

Two turtle doves—the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens— faith, hope and charity, the theological virtues.

Four calling birds— the four Gospels and/or the four evangelists.

Five gold rings— the first five books of the Old Testament, the Pentateuch.

Six geese a-laying—the six days of creation

Seven swans a-swimming—the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments.

Eight maids a-milking— the eight Beatitudes

Nine ladies dancing—the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit

Ten lords a-leaping—the ten commandments

Eleven pipers piping—the eleven faithful apostles.

Twelve drummers drumming—the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles' Creed.

Summon's Christian Miscellany

COOKERY CORNER

West Country Pudding

Serves 5 - 6. Cooking time 1 hour.

Oven temperature 375°F/ 190°C/ Gas mark 5

Ingredients

Pastry

175gr (6 oz) self-raising flour 75gr (3oz) suet

Water to mix

Topping

40gr.(1½ oz.) margarine 75gr (3oz) soft brown sugar

Filling

675gr (1½ lb) cooking apples, cored and sliced.

50gr (2 oz) sugar

Method

1. Mix together dry pastry ingredients with sufficient water to make a firm but pliable dough.
2. Cream together topping ingredients and spread on the bottom of a well-greased 900ml (1½ pint) pie dish.
3. Roll out $\frac{2}{3}$ of the pastry and use to line the dish.
4. Fill the dish with sliced apples, sprinkle with sugar, finishing with a layer of apples.
5. Roll out the remaining pastry to cover the apples and seal the edges firmly.

6. Bake in the centre of the pre-heated oven, on a baking tray, for about an hour or until golden.
7. Turn out the pudding on a large dish, the sauce will run out and cover the dish.
8. Serve hot with custard or cream. Enjoy!

Ann Vickery

ROUND THE FAMILY

We were sorry to hear of the sudden death of Sarah Batchelor, the leader of the Pre-School, on 13th November. Sarah had been associated with the Pre-School for over 25 years, and was also one of our church cleaners, and was well-known to many of us. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband Andy, her family, the Pre-School staff, children and parents at this sad time.

Please also remember in your prayers Dennis and Jean Pogose as Dennis continues with his treatment.

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

Marian

“CHRISTMAS IS COMING” CRUNCH

The latest of our Special Saturdays was held on 17th November, and was a very enjoyable occasion.

In the first part of the morning we sang well-known and new Christmas hymns, carols and songs, some on You Tube. After a break for tea and coffee, we had an hour of activities which included colouring and making Christmas decorations and cards (and a lot of chatting!).

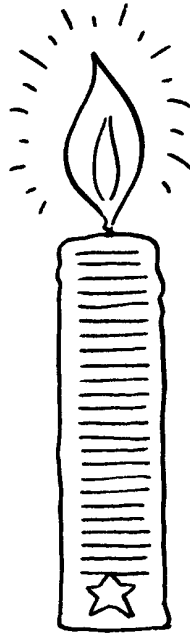
This was followed by a bring-and-share lunch, which was enjoyed by everyone, and gave a further chance for a chat.

In the afternoon we gathered in the Church again, to sing more Christmas hymns and songs, some of which we had learned in the morning. Interspersed with this we watched You Tube videos of the Nativity Story, and of lively Christmas music. We finished by hanging up some of the decorations made earlier, remembering as we did so those people who had helped us in our Christian journey.

I have heard several comments from people who attended, saying how much they enjoyed it. Once again our thanks go to Margaret and Peter for organising the day, and for all the work that they put into getting everything ready. Thanks also to those who helped provide the activities and the food.

The next Special Saturday will be on January 19th and will be a Prayer Saturday (more details on page 8 of the Magazine).

Marian

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS**MAKE A CANDLE
ADVENT CALENDAR**

Mark off 24 notches
and at the last one
stick a gold star.
Burn the candle down
a notch each day.

Or just mark 4 notches
and burn the candle each
Sunday of Advent.

Make sure that your candle is standing on a large saucer or in a dish, to catch all the drips, and ask an adult to help you with lighting it.



Penge Community Pre-School

Leader: 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** Friday 4pm-7pm Tel. 020 8777 7529
- Community of Faith** (Brazilian Church) Tel: 07429 263407 .
Saturday 6—10pm
- Harlequins Theatre School** Monday 4.30-6.30pm Tel. 07773 066 645
- Hill Dance Academy** Tel; 07772 199 103
Tues. 4.30 –8.30pm; Sat 11am-3pm
- 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
- Yoga** Wednesday 7.45pm –9.15pm Tel. 07940 509 910

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351511**

Email:wendy.blenman@ntlworld.com

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

Sun 2nd	Gift Service 11am led by Valerie Tredinnick
Wed 5 th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Darts
Mon 10th	Christian Action Group 8pm at 32 Lloyds Way. Speaker: Rev. Richard Grocott
Wed 12th	Pre-School Nativity Service 10am at the Church
Wed 12 th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Christmas Music and Readings
Sun 16th	Carol Service 6.30pm
Wed 19th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Christmas Allsorts
Sun 23 rd	All Age Worship 11am. Preacher: Rev. Abe Konadu-Yidaom
Mon 24th	Christmas Eve Communion 9.15pm
Tue 25 th	Christmas Day All Age Worship 9.15 am
Wed 26th	Boxing Day. No Wednesday Club
Mon 31st	Watchnight Services 11.15pm at Forest Hill Methodist Church; 11.15pm at Lewisham Methodist Church

JANUARY

Wed 2nd	Wednesday Club 7.30pm: New Year Social at 32 Lloyds Way
Wed 9 th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Quiz of the Year
Sun 13 th	ALL MAGAZINE ARTICLES TO MARIAN TODAY

Mon 14 th	Christian Action Group 8pm at 103 Birchanger Road, SE25, Speakers: Margaret and Peter Boreham
Wed 16 th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Slides of the Thames Path Finale
Sat 19th	Prayer Saturday 10am-3pm
Sun 20th	Covenant Service 11am. Preacher : Rev. Abe Konadu-Yiadom
Wed 23 rd	Wednesday Club 8pm: Dominoes
Sun 27th	All Age Worship 11am. Preacher: Valerie Tredinnick
Wed 30th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Surprise Evening

FEBRUARY

Mon 4 th	Christian Action Group 8pm at 163 Clock House Road. Speaker: Elaine Paul, LINGK.
Tue 5th	Circuit Meeting 7.45pm at Wesley Hall
Wed 6 th	Wednesday Club 8pm Musical Evening
Tue 19th	Church Council 8pm in the Side Hall

Morning Services are held every Sunday at 11am. During December Holy Communion will be celebrated on the 16th, and All Age Worship will take place on 2nd (Gift Service) and 23rd. In addition, Christmas Day will be All Age Worship (9.15am). In January Holy Communion will be celebrated on 20th (Covenant Service) and All Age Worship is on 27th.

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 service will be on 16th (Carol Service) and in addition Holy Communion will be celebrated on Christmas Eve (9.15pm). During January evening services will be on 13th and 27th (HC).