

ANERLEY CENTRE ECHO



LATE SUMMER 2020

The Newsletter of

ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Oakfield Road
Anerley
London SE20 8QA

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Property Steward	David Hynes	8289 3524
Property Bookings	David Hynes	8289 3524
Baptismal/Cradle Roll	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
Junior Church Secretary		
Christian Action Group	Valerie & Andrew Tredinnick	8658 2347
Wednesday Club	Marian Young	8402 6618
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**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE
SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN YOUNG BY
SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER**

Church website: www.anerleymethodist.org

August/September 2020

Volume 52 Number 2

FROM THE MINISTER

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. Psalm 105:1-2

Friends,

It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord for all his goodness to us. We will give thanks now with each other in the community of Christ Jesus for: Gifts of healing and compassion. Gifts of the power of love and the love of God: when life seemed to have turned on us and we have dreaded the hours of each day, and the longer hours of the night. For the ability to survive; patience in the healing process; joy in prayers being listened to. We direct our thanks to you, our God, the source of all things, the God who has given us life, the Son who has shown us love, the Spirit renewing us each day. Glory to the **Three in One**, that our dear brother in Christ, Andrew, is now safely home.

It is also my prayer that this edition will find you well, in what seems to be journeying towards a light at the end of the tunnel. During the lockdown, I have found reflections from Emma Pavey, of the Susanna Wesley Foundation, very helpful and have shared many of them in my pastoral letters with you, in particular her 'fruit of the lockdown'. In the wake of the easing of the lockdown, with associated confusions and anxiety, she reflects on this time of pandemic uncertainty and what we might learn for ourselves.

She writes that when the pandemic lockdown began, it felt like a temporary time of 'anti-structure' when practices and routines were disrupted, and an unpredictable virus wandered our streets along with other animals. Workers often neglected were recognised as vital, and we all took gulps of fresher air together. We knew everything would be turned upside down for **three months**, but then, when it was over, we would go back to normal life. We would be

left with the tragedy of death and the immense challenge for those on the front lines, but also with the lockdown bucket list of things we did during this liminal time that were unlike us, whether shaving our head, actually talking to our neighbours, bunny hopping around the living room with Joe Wicks, or simply working in our pyjamas all day. How many of these activities were our attempt to turn chaotic anti-structure into something we controlled, asks Emma?

In the upheaval of the mix messages of the easing of the lockdown, Emma continues that what we face now is that this period of time-bound 'anti-structure' is bleeding into structure. The ending of what was supposed to be a temporary measure is not clear cut and we have had enough, preferring a return to 'normal', but uncertain about every step of what comes next. We are being asked to re-think almost every aspect of our lives on a long-term basis, to make new structure, a new order from chaos.

So how can we possibly talk about flourishing (*as disciples*) when we are focused on surviving and getting through the *pandemic*?

Uncertainty, she writes, is a feature both of our faith and our life at all times – whether in terms of not knowing what the future will bring, or in terms of the beliefs and practices we usually hold dear. So, a part of flourishing, especially now, is what we do with the uncertainty we face. Christian religious tradition, she notes, has often tried to wrangle uncertainty to the ground, boxing it into dogma and control. Some theologies declare – with certainty – that God has a predetermined sovereign plan, which means that uncertainty is simply our unfamiliarity or inability to commit to said dogma.

Uncertainty, she concludes, sits hand in hand with patience and trust and serves as the balance to control, as the counterweight to faith.

So, as we look towards some semblance of returning to reopening our church buildings with some uncertainty, Emma asks “could we try placing all worries about uncertainty into a scapegoat sunflower seed, plant it and watch it grow?” This is the question.

In the meantime, lest we:

**Be not lax in celebrating.
Be not lazy in the festive service of God.
Be ablaze with enthusiasm.
Let us be an alive, burning offering before the altar of God.
(Hildegard of Bingen)**

**Above all, trust in the slow work of God.
We are quite naturally impatient in everything
to reach the end without delay.
We should like to skip the intermediate stages.
We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown,
something new.
And yet it is the law of all progress, that it is made by passing
through some stages of instability – and that it may take a
very long time... Give
Our Lord the benefit of believing that His hand is leading us,
and accept the anxiety of feeling ourselves in suspense and
incomplete. (Pierre Teilhard de Chardin)**

May the real peace of Christ continue to bless and keep you.

Abe, your minister!

The Earth is the Lord's

This is the title of the Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2020/21.

If you would like to order a copy please let Valerie have your order by the end of August.

Prices are: £4.15 whether you have regular or large print.

Valerie

ROUND THE FAMILY

Andrew and Valerie Tredinnick would like to thank everyone for all their prayers and good wishes over the last 5 months. Andrew is now home and making slow progress.

We were sorry to hear of the death of the Rev. Peter Coates at the end of June. Peter was the Minister at Anerley between 1973 and 1979, and many of our older readers will remember his time at Anerley. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family at this time.

We were also sorry to hear of the death of Len Maskell at the beginning of July after a long illness. Len was a member at Anerley for many years before moving to Wesley Hall, Sydenham. Please remember his wife Brenda and all the family in your prayers.

As we go to press, we have heard that Tim and Crystal Yusuf had a baby girl on 23rd July, a sister for Alaina, Congratulations!

Marian

BACK NUMBERS

I have several boxes of spare back numbers of the Magazine, going back many years. I am gradually clearing out lots of clutter (in case I decide to downsize one day!) and intend to recycle these back numbers. Please get in touch with me if you would like any of them before I dispose of them. I also separately keep a master copy of every magazine that has been produced, which I do not intend to dispose of, so there will always be a permanent record.

Marian

Kintsugi

Kintsugi: a strange word - It is a Japanese method for repairing broken ceramics/pots with a lacquer mixed with gold, silver or platinum. It treats the breakage as part of the history of the object - making it more beautiful, more unique than it was prior to being broken. In other words it make a feature of the scars.

The stresses and strains of the current situation may have taken a toll on our mental health and well being. Leaving us to feel broken like these broken pots. But take heart from the Kintsugi philosophy way of thinking - It can be applied to our lifestyle in different ways: Jan Vormann used Lego bricks to patch holes in crumbling walls: Flavia Deutscher repaired a simple white ceramic bowl in the Kintsugi style.

If you have something broken in your home (you may have put off mending it and/or considered throwing it away) Why not try and apply the Kintsugi method. It won't just be a repair, it will be a celebration of the history of the object and YOU will have added your own amazing chapter to its story.

Just remember "it's perfectly okay not to be perfect"

I took my inspiration for this article from the West Wickham Baptist Church and a St Christopher publication

Audrey Bobb-Sayers

Note that as all Church and Circuit activities are suspended at the moment, there is no Dates for your Diary accompanying this edition of the magazine. We are hoping to gradually return to worshipping together in September and more information on this will be available shortly.

Prayer Meeting

Prayer Meeting has been continuing online since the Church closed.

On a Thursday morning I send an email to the people who usually come to the Meeting with:

Reasons for thanks –

sometimes general,

often people send me particular thanks for prayers answered

or something good that has happened

Suggested topics for prayer

sometimes from things that have happened in the world

sometimes for our country

the Methodist Church and Leaders

sometimes topics relevant to our fellowship

Asking prayers

praying for our Ministers

Praying for the people in our own Churches

Praying specifically for people we have been asked to pray for and for their particular situations or difficulties.

Sometimes I include a short meditation.

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On Wednesday I send an email to a wider group of Anerley people. It started back in March with a few thoughts, suggestions for prayer and meditations with some suggestions of songs.

Moving forward I included URLs of You Tubes of songs which people might like

Then I created my own YouTube channel and began creating Playlists – that was in the beginning of June.

I now create a Playlist each week of songs, often from YouTube and occasional YouTube connections with good people speaking. I have introduced it myself on video and have for the first time persuaded someone else to join in. If you would like to include a video message to send to everyone else, please let me know.

I send this out 'Blind Copy' so your email will not be shared with anyone else. If you want to receive this, get a message to me. Dave Hynes will pass on messages if you don't know my email. I don't have the LINC 'list' so I only have your email address if I have a legitimate reason for having it or if you send it to me.

Margaret Boreham

HELP NEEDED!

We are in urgent need of a Church Treasurer following Andrew Tredinnick's decision to step down from the position after many years in the post, due to ill-health. If you, or anyone you know, would be willing to take on this post, please speak to David Hynes, Rev. Abe or one of the Church Stewards (Dinah Anaman, Evelyn Richards, Sandra Hynes or Audrey Bobb-Sayers) in the first instance.

Is there anyone with a background in, or a familiarity with, accounts who could help us out?
Please!

ZOOM JUNIOR CHURCH

Members of the Junior Church have met twice on Zoom during the lockdown. In the first session, the children and young people shared pictures that they had drawn and models that they had made - we even had a Lego model of our Church. We all talked about our experiences in lockdown - home schooling, on-line dance classes, daily walks. One of the Junior Church leaders told us about her birthday in lockdown. We joined together in praising God with joyful songs - "This little light of mine" and "Allelu, Allelu, Praise Ye the Lord." Our prayer time was led by the children reading prayers prepared by Rev Abe.

In our second session, we were asked to prepare beforehand a picture or model of something or someone we would like to thank God for. We had wonderful pictures of beaches, our Church, people, prayer posters and we even had a pet snail join us! We thanked God for food, water, friends, technology, walks in the park, nature, creation, "me" time, families and for being able to say thank you. We joined together singing "Our God is a great big God" and joined in the actions. We listened and watched our Bible story and heard how Jesus fed the 5000 people with one boy's lunch of 5 loaves and 2 fish. We talked together about how the kindness of the boy sharing his lunch made such a difference. Jesus used the boy's gift to feed the crowd. With Jesus' help, we can be kind and helpful and make a difference to the people around us. For our final song, Margaret and Peter had kindly recorded "God loves you and I love you, and that's the way it should be" and we sang along with them.

We thank God for new ways of worship and fellowship.

Here is a Lego model of our Church, made by Ivanna-Rose.



'Special Saturdays'

Our 'Praise Be' themed Special Saturday at Anerley - held on Saturday March 14th 2020 - took place just a few days before the national Covid 19 pandemic 'lockdown'. Nobody who attended could possibly have foreseen that this would be our last Saturday gathering prior to the closure of the church premises. 18 people from four of our Circuit churches participated in this lively and engaging event.

This was certainly a Special Saturday to remember. Prior to the event on the day, time was spent thoroughly cleaning everything that was going to be used and touched. Extra precautionary hygiene measures were also implemented around the serving and eating of food at lunchtime.

All those who attended had a blessed time singing some very lively hymns and songs and 'raising the roof' with some memorable worship songs. Singing was interspersed with craft activities – making large colourful posters on a praise and worship theme. The posters were displayed all around the church as an accompaniment to the afternoon worship session. The Sunday morning congregation was also encouraged to view the posters.

A really good time of fellowship was had by all as we enjoyed a 'bring and share' lunch. Thanks are due to all who assisted with the praise and craft sessions and those who provided food at lunchtime.

It may be some while before we can gather together again on a Saturday, but at March's 'Praise Be', God definitely put a new song in our hearts and mouths that has helped carry us all through difficult times.

Margaret Boreham

COOKERY CORNER

Baked Alaska

Cooking time 3 mins; oven temp. 450°F/230C/Mark 8/ 200°C Fan

Ingredients

18cm (7 inch) Sponge flan (can be bought)
Soft fruit (mandarins, oranges, raspberries etc)
3-4 egg whites
Large block of ice-cream
400 grams (4 tablespoons) caster sugar
cherries, angelica to decorate

Method

1. Stand sponge flan on a heatproof plate or dish, and fill flan with fruit..
2. Whisk the egg whites until stiff, then gradually beat in the sugar.
3. Place the block of ice-cream on the sponge flan and completely enclose with meringue. No part of the ice-cream should be visible or the ice-cream will melt.
4. Place in the hot oven for 3 minutes in order to crisp and brown the meringue.
5. Decorate with cherries and angelica and serve immediately.

God bless you all

Ann Vickery



Penge Community Pre-School

Leader: Chloe Edgington

Anerley Methodist Church

Deputy Leader: Sue Charlesworth

Oakfield Road

SENCO: Dawn McConochie

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REGULAR CHURCH USERS

- Amaze Penge** Tuesday 10—12 noon. Term time Tel; 07882 760 828
- British Theatre Academy** Thursday 5pm to 8pm Tel. 07805 222 303
- Campbell School of Dance** Friday 4—7pm Tel. 020 8777 7529
- Assembly of God Mission in London
(Brazilian Church)** Saturday 6pm-10pm ; Tel. 07429 263 407
- Harlequins Theatre School** Monday 4.00-6.30pm Tel: 07773 066 645
- Hill Dance Academy** Tel: 07772 199 103
Tues. 4,30-8.30pm; Sat 11am-3pm
- Jumoke Holiday Club & Jazzy Juniors** Tel. 020 8656 8684
School Holidays Monday to Friday 8am - 6pm ;
- Love2Dance** Monday 6pm to 7pm Tel. 07940 233 882
- Only Believe Christian Assembly** Tel.020 8778 0863
Tues 7.30pm to 10.30pm
- 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 5.30pm;
- Tai Chi** - Thursday 8pm - 10pm Tel. 01424 420 050

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Email:wendy.blenman@ntlworld.com

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