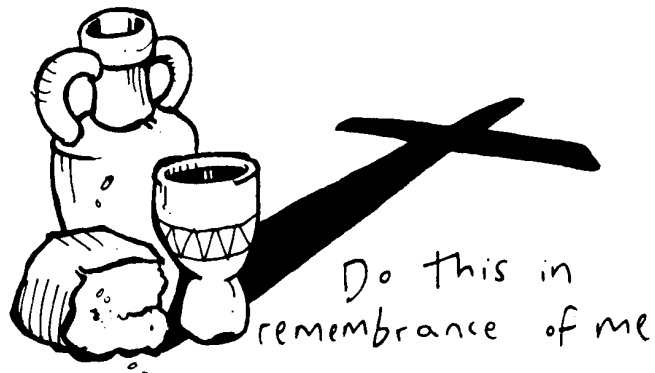


ANERLEY CENTRE ECHO



LENT 2021

The Newsletter of

ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Oakfield Road

Anerley

London SE20 8QA

USEFUL CONTACTS (as at 01.01..21) All prefix 020

Church (Minister is not available on this number)		8289 6771
Minister	Rev. Abe Konadu-Yiadam	8653 4902
Church Council Secretaries	Marian Young Julie Taylor	8402 6618 8778 5881
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		
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
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 (EASTER
EDITION) SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN YOUNG BY SUN-
DAY 14TH MARCH 2021**

Church website: www.anerleymethodist.org

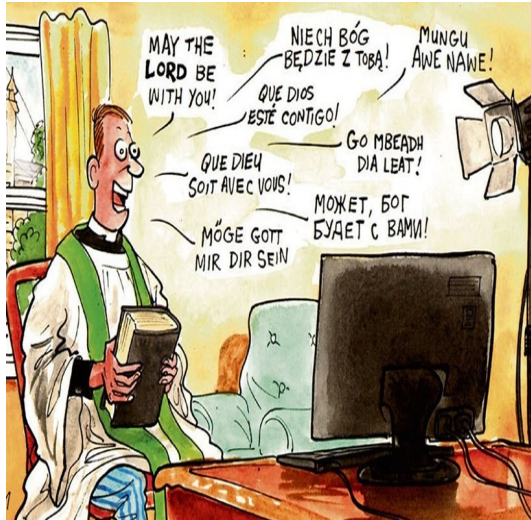
February/March 2021

Volume 52 Number 5

FROM THE MINISTER

Grace and peace in our Lord Immanuel, the Prince of Peace!
Sharing this interesting article with you.

Once the lockdown has ended, it will be necessary to find ways of combining the physical and the virtual.



WHEN the Reformers grasped the implications of the printing press for distributing Bibles, they crossed a Rubicon from which there was no return. In the same way, over the past few weeks, churches have used technology and launched themselves into the online world as never before. It is not as if churches haven't had a presence online: websites have long been a shop window for church-shopping Christians who move to a new area looking for a place to land and a community to belong. Social media have also provided a great connection for, and between, church communities.

But what has happened since the closure of church buildings (News, 27 March) is the wholesale broadcasting of content. In a desperate scramble of upskilling in Zoom, Skype, and Facebook Live, the offerings of bread and wine on kitchen tables with a cross balanced on the radiator, guitar sing-alongs, and chatting prayer requests have turned Sunday gatherings that are normally hidden in buildings into easily accessible church sample packs. Once this coronavirus pandemic is over, I suggest, there will be no going back: once online, always online. Church just got a thousand times more competitive. In a few taps of the finger, I can find myself not just in the homes of neighbouring clergy whom I know, but I can wander up the A34 into the diocese of Oxford, or visit members of Durham Cathedral's Chapter or people from Holy Trinity, Brompton.

And why stop there? Why not check into Melbourne, Seattle, or the Vatican on a Sunday morning? These online broadcasts provide a spectrum of connection and content, of relational engagement, and of familiar liturgical practice. They are an attempt at being normal — in denial, possibly, that church will never be the same again.

THE problem is that, depending on how long the lockdown lasts, tuning into church in your pyjamas becomes a changed behaviour that changes a culture. There may well be a joyous return to parish churches for the first communion in a post-social-distancing euphoric eucharist; but we need to ensure that the bounce-back lasts.

Those who have found God in digital church may want to keep God there rather than discover transforming participation in the Body of Christ. Instead of bemoaning the loss of inherited patterns, we will need to find creative new ways of combining physical gathering with the virtual. A new appreciation for the tactile, physical, and the

local might be the result. We will from now on be including in our liturgy “. . . and for those of you at home. . .”.

This crisis has changed the Church in an instant, and I suspect, for ever. The Archbishops’ lead in calling C of E priests to set an example for the nation to stay at home, protect the NHS, and save lives has emphasised a moral stance alongside our traditional understanding of Anglicanism as a Church of word, sacrament, and pastoral care.

Is it enough if the sacraments are visible in 1920 x 1080 pixels depending on bandwidth? I don’t think so. Is it enough for pastoral care to be devoid of touch, of reading those visible signs in the creases of a face which say more than a thousand words? Again, I think not. The Word, at least, remains the same. If this is a new reformation of the Church, let us hope that it is only temporary.

Who would have thought that loving your neighbour at the cost of personal liberty would become a government policy? Community support and mutual aid have created an intensity of community that a newly installed incumbent could only dream of. The shift that is happening is a gift for Renewal and Reform. Now the Church has re-imagined itself in the 21st century, and really can serve the common good by joining what God is already doing in society at large in a mass movement of volunteerism.

WHAT about discipleship? While it is flattering to see more people attending morning prayer than just you and the churchwarden, it is deflating to see the number of participants drop 30 seconds after you start preaching. Online presence gives instant feedback, and chat columns exercise no restraint when there is no direct eye contact. A prize for the doctorates that have already discovered how online presence is converted into participation and discipleship.

Meanwhile, for some, the crisis really has set God's people free: from rotas, from cleaning the brass, from washing up the coffee cups, and locking up. The House of Bishops' report *Growing Faith* has encouraged us to develop spirituality in the home. Now we are learning to be family, sometimes in non-family units, to cook and eat around a table, to pray, to talk and laugh, to care for one another, and to bear one another's burdens. Where two or three are gathered, there is Christ in the midst of them.

Canon Mark Collinson is Principal of the School of Mission in Winchester diocese and Residentiary Canon of Winchester Cathedral. (<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2020/17-april/comment/opinion/like-it-or-not-online-services-are-here-to-stay>)

'Lent Studies'. There'll be two studies; 25th January - 8th February and again from 8th - 29th March, on Zoom, details below.

The first conversations will look at six different 'Lament Psalms'. Often rooted in very specific, personal individual and national circumstances, psalms of lament are a form of addressing complaints to God and look to God for answers. Underpinning all of the Psalms is a confidence that God is a God who hears and who answers. I hope you can join us as we bring all of who we are to God, trusting that God will meet us, time and again, along the way.

**LENT CONVERSATIONS • TAKING OUR PAIN TO GOD
8- 9.30pm- Mondays, 25th January to 8th February 2021**

Ps 10: Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble

Ps 42: Why are you so downcast O my soul?

Ps 13: How long, O LORD

Ps 102: Hear my prayer, LORD.

Ps 57: Have mercy on me, O God

Ps 69: Save me, O God.

recurring ZOOM link
[https://us02web.zoom.us/
j/84248891011pwd=Um44ejhyNnAvMDhDb3pVaFBmWmdHdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84248891011pwd=Um44ejhyNnAvMDhDb3pVaFBmWmdHdz09)

Meeting ID: 842 4889 1011 Passcode: 047560

The second of the Lent conversations will look at the first Epistle (letter) to the Corinthians from 8th - 29th March;

**Lent Conversations 2 (8-9.30pm), Mondays 8th -29th March 1
Corinthians**

1 Corinthians is a wonderful reminder that there is no perfect church and takes away any notion that church was ever easy and without difficulty! Among other topics, Paul deals with division, pride, immorality, false doctrine, church services, and spiritual gifts. We will look at the following studies:

08.03: Study 1 1 Cor 1:1-2:5 Christianity Involves Following Who?

15.03: Study 2 1 Cor 4 What 'Successful' Christian Ministry Looks Like

22.03: Study 4 1 Cor 12-14 How Should We Use Spiritual Gifts?

29.03: Study 5 1 Cor 16 Church: A Team Effort

ZOOM recurring link
[https://us02web.zoom.us/
j/84248891011pwd=Um44ejhyNnAvMDhDb3pVaFBmWmdHdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84248891011pwd=Um44ejhyNnAvMDhDb3pVaFBmWmdHdz09)
Meeting ID: 842 4889 1011 Passcode: 047560

! hope you can join us, once again, as we bring all of who we are to God, trusting that God will meet us, time and again, along the way.



Weekly Thursday from 3pm - 4pm

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85937780586?
pwd=VndVVzVlMDJSVnhucnV4VGxrN3RPdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85937780586?pwd=VndVVzVlMDJSVnhucnV4VGxrN3RPdz09)

Meeting ID: 859 3778 0586 Passcode: 145285

Mobile: 02039017895,,85937780586#,,,,*145285#

Dial one of these number to join by landline: 0203 901 7895 or 0203 051 2874

Meeting ID: 859 3778 0586 Passcode: 145285

Pastoral News

We continue to remember Andrew Hynes, Sandra and David, and the entire family of Sara, in our prayers, as she was laid to rest on Friday, 8th January 2021.

It is also with deep sadness that I announce the death of Mr Alfred Standford, whose death occurred at the PRU on 3rd January, 2021. May the souls of the dearly departed rest in peace and rise in glory with our Lord and risen Jesus Christ! We give thanks for the remarkable care given by so many of our care givers in the NHS and at St Christopher's Hospice, and of course by the Church.

Dial-a-Prayer

Finally, I have provided other options to help us get through these difficult times, from the President and Vice President. I am also available for chats on the phone, you can call me anytime, if you

don't find me in , (as even I, am allowed an exercise or two!), I will call back!



FREE phone lines for prayers, reflections and news from the Methodist Church

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to a pastoral message from the President and Vice

President: 0808 281 2695

Listen to our Podcast: 0808 281 2478

Dial-the-Manse - 020 8653 4902

Or join us on WhatsApp - 07842457703

Supporting parents through lockdown - The demand for parenting support during lockdown has grown as families have struggled to balance home schooling, childcare and work. Help is at hand at Action for Children

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk>

Finally, a prayer for patience:

Lord, make possible by Your grace that which seems impossible by nature. You know, Lord, that we can suffer little, and that we are soon thrown down with little adversity. Make Lord, every trial or tribulation to us amiable and, for Your name, desirable; for to suffer and to be vexed for You is full wholesome for our souls.

(Imitation III.56. Ed Robyn Wrigley-Carr, Evelyn Underhill Prayer Book)

Praying as always, for you and all your loved ones!

Your Minister Abe

.ROUND THE FAMILY

Your prayers are asked for the family and friends of the following members of our church family who have died in recent weeks, as they adjust to the loss of their loved ones.

- Sara Hynes, wife of Andrew Hynes and daughter-in law of David and Sandra Hynes, in December.
- Kathleen Seale's sister Margaret in November.
- Alfred Stanford, a long-time member of our church, in January, following a fall on Christmas Eve.

Following Government Covid-19 restrictions, we were unable to hold our usual Christmas services, though we did hold a pared-down Gift Service on December 6th, when gifts and donations were received for Demelza Children's Hospice .We also held a Zoom Christmas Celebration on 13th December, when we enjoyed Christmas carols, and seasonal poems, prayers and readings by members of the congregation.

The Church received Christmas and New Year greetings fro the Rev. Graham Cocking, Ronnie Butler, Abraham Doku, Fegan's, Kathleen Seale, Rev. Judy and Alan Turner-Smith, Dawn Watts, and Nethaji, Rajee and Steven.

Marian

THANK YOU

Kathleen Seale would like to thank everyone for their good wishes, cards and flowers following the death of her sister Margaret. She appreciated the kind thoughts very much.

Yonder peasant who is he?" - Fond memories of carolling in Anerley

My memory of carol singing with the Senior/Wednesday Club on behalf of NCH (now AfC) goes back to the early 1960's though I have no doubt that the practice started years before that. The basic route was well established via Ridsdale, Castledine & Trenholme Roads, Trenholme Close, then into Anerley Park to visit three closes – Rosebank, Ridgemount and Tower. The later redevelopment of the area beside the railway did not change our course, although the increased number of dwellings meant to get round the route singing had to be spread over a couple of nights. In the 70's & 80's we sometimes sang on a third evening in South Penge Park, the estate which had been built between Selby and Croydon Roads.

We assembled just before 7.30pm at the church, where several paraffin lanterns would be lit, before making our way over to Ridsdale Road. The lanterns were not so much for the benefit of the singers, but to lend an atmosphere to our performance. The warm glow given by natural flames conveyed the spirit of the season and I'm sure encouraged householders to be generous. Our efforts in the early years were enhanced when we took a small portable 'ship's organ' along with us played by Fred Garrard, one of the church pianists. We would quietly set the organ up under a convenient street lamp, and once comfortably settled on his seat, Fred would lead us in a rumbustious rendition of a well-known carol. After the singing a verse or two, our collectors, carrying a tin and lantern, would start calling at the surrounding properties. Having announced ourselves with a rousing start we'd sing something quieter, perhaps followed by the men and women singing parts, such as the monarch and page in "*Good King Wenceslas*", before moving to another pitch.

The advantage of keeping to the same route was that people came to expect us, and it was not unusual to hear comments like, "*It's not*

Christmas till you've called". Whilst some people only opened the door to give something before disappearing back inside, a significant number would open windows or leave their door ajar to better hear the singing. In the Estate some would gather together on communal balconies. Children looked down in wonder from bedroom windows while others were brought to the front step or even out into the garden and stare in amazement. It was not unusual for parents to make requests for their children, and in the course of an evening we could sing "*Away in a manger*", "*Little donkey*" and "*Little Jesus sweetly sleep*" several times. After exchanging Christmas greetings we would move on.

The quality of our singing was of course variable, depending both on the number of people turning up and individuals' singing ability, though fortunately a number of traditional carols, such as "*God rest ye merry gentleman*" lend themselves to hearty rather than musically precise performances. For many years though, Mike Young (bass), together with John Tucker (tenor) added greatly to the output of the male voices. When we no longer had the organ we were pleased when instrumentalists joined us such as Esther Young and her friend Janet with their flutes. Later on, after the church invested in a Digital Hymnal, Marian was able to provide musical accompaniment for many carols, though the stamina of the Hymnal's battery did not match that of the singers, so towards the end of the evening it was just our tiring voices doing all the work!

We sang from the Bethlehem Carol Sheet which contained some 25 or more traditional carols. As more modern songs came along, like the "*Calypso*" carol, we added them to our repertoire. After so many years carolling I got to know almost every line of every verse in all the carols so didn't rely much on the song sheets.

Many people, other than regular Club members, joined in carolling. It was always a sociable occasion made memorable by particular incidents. One year when there was lying snow and it was very cold, we reached one of the Anerley Park closes where a lady

opened her downstairs window and beckoned us into her front garden to sing. She then proceeded to offer hot drinks to everyone. Another time, someone handed us a giant soft toy (still in its plastic covering) which they had won in a raffle. Knowing that we were collecting for NCH the donor asked if we could take it to a children's home, which we did. It was not unusual for the person opening the door to then call upon other members of the household to contribute. Sometimes we had to sing a number of carols before all the loose change and the contents of piggy-banks and jam jars had been handed over.

Once, on our way back to the church, we were passing the premises opposite the former Anerley Town Hall. In those days this included a small bistro. I can only think that the owner had noticed our lanterns because he suddenly appeared and asked if we would sing to his diners. We were taken downstairs to find a party of twenty or so finishing their meal seated around a long table. There we sang several carols including a solo from one of the Junior Church youngsters. By then it was close to 9.30pm – we had been singing for nearly two hours so I don't think they got our best performance. Nevertheless, the proprietor encouraged each diner to give something to which he added his donation. A very profitable evening.

We went out whatever the weather. Over the years we sang in just about all conditions. On calm clear frosty nights our voices would travel a considerable distance. Falling snow or fog dampened the sound but made the evenings more atmospheric. The coming of the Ridsdale/Castledine estate worked to our advantage, as we could stand beneath the overhead walkways and gain a measure of protection from the worst of the elements. When it was wet we were always pleased to reach the three small blocks of flats in Trenholme Road. Before the days of security doors and entry phones we would stand under the porch at the entrance to each block and open the double doors wide. The sounds of "*Hark the*

herald angels sing” or “*Angels from the realms of glory*” would fill the stairwell giving the impression of an enhanced ‘heavenly choir’!

I have mentioned that friends from the wider church family often came along. You may be surprised to hear that for many years we were joined by *Dennis the Menace!* The cold night air could chill you to the bone but Janice Friend, who became a regular singer in later years, found a way to offset the effect. Inside her coat she carried a hot-water bottle with a cover depicting the famous comic character. Others just wore plenty of layers and made sure they remembered their gloves.

It was always good to have volunteers to collect. One such was Jennifer who lodged with Valerie and me for four years from the age of 18. She came from a remote rural community in north Northumberland, and willingly took one of the tins when we were carolling. In those days, before the area was redeveloped, the Anerley Arms in Ridsdale Road stood alongside the then entrance to Anerley Station. There was a row of maisonettes across from the pub which is where we would start singing. I don’t remember us previously collecting at the pub but Jennifer, without hesitation, marched straight into the Public Bar confidently rattling her tin and asking the drinkers to pay up – I’m pleased to say she got a good response (this was over 40 years ago when it was still unusual for a single young lady to enter licenced premises on her own).

Although when married, Anne & Eddie Jackson lived in Wandsworth they always came back to Anerley for carolling. Eddie particularly enjoyed doing the collecting. His summoning knock and amiable doorstep manner, coupled with his sizeable frame, which filled the doorway, invariably produced a good response and at the end of the evening you could be sure his tin weighed heavier than anyone else’s. How we wished for more Eddie’s.

In the early years at the end of the evening we would return to the church for just a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. As the years

went by and some older Club members felt they could no longer come out with us, but still wanted to be involved, we took up their offers to provide refreshments at their homes. I can recall memorable 'feasts' at the home of John & Sadie Douglass with warmed mince pies, hot sausage rolls and sometimes soup – a wonderful way to thaw out and restore the circulation! Then we would eagerly count up the contents of the collecting tins. Offers of hospitality grew until various church members routinely provided seasonal refreshments for the singers – which were always most welcome.

Our carolling came to an end about ten years ago. Interest had gradually waned and fewer singers meant it became harder for those who did turn out. Maybe it had had its day -- it would have been impossible anyway just recently with all the Coronavirus restrictions.

Carolling was good fun, but tough on the vocal chords. A couple of hours singing twice or three times within a week or so, coupled with local carol concerts and our own carol service often meant that by the 25th our voices were hoarse. Sometimes on Christmas Day I could barely whisper, "*Christians awake, salute the happy morn*", but I wouldn't have wanted it any different.

Andrew Tredinnick



COOKERY CORNER

Queen of Puddings

4 to 6 servings

Ingredients

100gr. (4 oz) breadcrumbs	100gr. (4 oz) sugar
40gr. (1½ oz.) butter	jam
2 eggs	
600ml. (1 pint) milk	

Method

1. Heat milk and butter in a saucepan, almost to boiling point, pour over the breadcrumbs and add half the sugar.
2. Stir, and leave for 20 minutes.
3. Separate eggs, beat yolks with a teaspoon of cold water and add to crumb mixture.
4. Put into a greased pie dish and bake in a moderate oven for about 20-30 minutes, at 190°C/ 375°F/ Gas Mark 5.
5. Whisk white of eggs stiffly, then fold in remaining sugar.
6. Spread a little jam over top of the baked crumbs etc. and pile meringue on top, spreading roughly
7. Return dish to oven, lowering heat a little, and leave until browned on top, oven temp. 150°C/ 300°F/ Gas Mark 2.

Ann Vickery

Information from the Government about the National Census which is taking place on 21st March 2021.

It's a survey that happens every 10 years and gives us a picture of all the people and households in England and Wales. It helps plan and fund public services, like transport, education and healthcare. By taking part and encouraging others to do the same, you'll help make sure you and your community get the services you need.

Nearer the time, you'll receive more information. There'll be plenty of help to take part for people who need it. It's easy to take part. If you need help to fill in your form, we've got it covered. We will send you a letter with an access code. Visit our secure website and enter your access code to get started. If you, or anyone you know, needs help, a wide range of support services are available.

If you need help, visit www.census.gov.uk @ Census2021 OR for Bromley residents, contact Aleksandra Besevic | Census Engagement Manager - Bromley | Office for National Statistics | +44 (0)7452934102 | aleksandra.besevic80@field.census.gov.uk | www.census.gov.uk

HELP NEEDED!

Gardening/Tidying – We still need help with on going leaf clearance and litter picking – to date **NO-ONE has come forward**



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REGULAR CHURCH USERS

(Some users may be affected by current Governments guidelines regarding COVID-19 restrictions—please contact relevant group for more information)

Amaze Penge Tuesday 10am-12 noon, term time Tel. 07882 760 828

Campbell School of Dance Friday 4pm—7pm Tel. 020 8777 7529

Harlequins Theatre School Monday 4pm— 6.30pm Tel. 07773 066 645

Hill Dance Academy Tel: 07772 199 103
Tuesday 4.30pm-8.30pm; Saturday 11am-3pm

Only Believe Christian Assembly Tel.020 8778 0863
Tues. 7.30 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 4.30pm;

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)