

# ANERLEY CENTRE ECHO



## LATE SUMMER 2021

The Newsletter of  
**ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

Oakfield Road  
Anerley  
London SE20 8QA

USEFUL CHURCH CONTACTS (as at 01.08.20) All prefix 020

Church (Minister is not available on this number)		8289 6771
Minister	Rev. Abe Konadu-Yiadom	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 Secretary	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

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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 12TH SEPTEMBER**

Church website: [www.anerleymethodist.org](http://www.anerleymethodist.org)

**August/September 2021**

**Volume 53 Number 2**

## **FROM THE MINISTER**

**Greetings in the name of God the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.**

It is my prayer that this will find you well, double vaccinated and ready to face the future!

As normality returns albeit slowly, the Methodist Conference went ahead in Birmingham, under heavy restrictions. Amongst the many items on the agenda: the induction of a new president and vice President, Reception into Connexion, and Ordinations, the other dominating headline was the Methodist Church's vote to allow same-sex marriages.

Following the vote on the provisional resolutions the Revd Sonia Hicks, President of Conference said: "The debate today and our wider conversation has been conducted with grace and mutual respect. As we move forward together after this historic day for our Church, we must remember to continue to hold each other in prayer, and to support each other respecting our differences."

The Secretary of Conference, the Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, also gave his report to the Conference on the past eighteen months. Here are some excerpts of his report: "We have found ourselves in unknown territory. The current situation of the pandemic is challenging and unlike anything that most of us have experienced before. However, one of the words that has been overused (and misused) has been 'unprecedented'.

Of course, none of us has witnessed a global pandemic like this in our lifetime before. But in the broad panorama of history, little of the last 18 months' experience has, strictly speaking, been unprecedented. Human beings have lived with rampant contagious and potentially fatal diseases before; schools and businesses have been closed for extended periods before; social gatherings have been limited before; even churches have been shut to worshippers before.

All of which enables us to see that societies (and churches) emerge from such periods **changed**. The effect of a pandemic has been to **accelerate** a change that was already beginning.

Whatever lies in the future, therefore, one thing that is known is that we will not return to how we were in 2019. The Church will need to respond to a new environment and to rediscover how it best serves this reshaped society and therefore what it is.

As the Faith and Order Committee reports, this speedy change has left us with a considerable amount of thinking to do about what it means to be church over the next few years.

To begin the conversation, a key question to ask ourselves is not 'how do we become a digital Church but 'how are we faithfully being what we are called to be, as we connect in this way more and more?' How do we welcome others if they need an invitation whilst ensuring that it is a safe space?

He concludes "there is much to reflect. The last year has changed us. Historians tell us that periods of pandemic often serve to accelerate changes that were already in train. Some of the things that have stopped during this last year might not resume, but that may not be a bad thing. What we have to do is to recognise in all this what has changed for the better and to hang onto it.

The Church has been given the opportunity to create a fresh approach, not just where **we've** always been in the past. There is always a tendency to be inward rather than outward looking, especially as more is done simply to keep things going rather than to engage with wider society.

The experience of the last twelve months may have helped to clarify for us what it means to be God's Methodist people in this place and this time. However, to respond to this crisis by living for ourselves, would be to betray our Methodist heritage.

So as we think about what it means to be God's Methodist people in this place and this time."

To conclude, the Revd Sonia Hicks writes in her pastoral letter: "the Presidential theme this year is God's Table: An Invitation for All, and God's invitation is for every single one of us. The Methodist Church has held tension for many years and as a Church and a family, we must do all we can to live with contradictory convictions."

Our prayer for you, beloved siblings, is that in joy or sorrow, in pain or excitement, we might continue to live within that reconciling love." **AMEN**

**A Prayer based on Romans 12.4**

The Body has many parts.  
We pray now for those parts,  
and the gifts its members need.

It may be difficult to answer questions of faith:

**God give grace.**

It may not be easy to teach in hostile circumstances:

**God give grace.**

It may be challenging to call people to account for their actions:

**God give grace.**

It may be demanding to minister in difficult circumstances:

**God give grace.**

It may be hard to be cheerfully generous:

**God give grace.**

To all those who keep the faith in arduous or trying circumstances:

**God give grace. Amen.**

This comes with warm wishes for the Summer and family re-unions. May  
the Lord bless you, and bless you kindly.

In Christ,

Abe

## **ROUND THE FAMILY**

We were sorry to hear that a former member at Anerley, Florrie Sutton (formerly Webb, nee Howard) died on 7th June. Florrie and her sisters, Rose and Queenie, were very involved at Anerley during the 1950's & 60's. Florrie and her husband Roy Webb, who became the full-time youth leader, were both active in our work with young people. Older members will have happy memories of her singing and participation in the youth club pantomimes. Please remember Florrie's family in your prayers.

We were also sorry to hear of the death of Mike Vickery in a hospice in Kent on 25th June. Mike was a member at Anerley during the 1960s before he married Ann and moved away. He, Ann and Mike's sister June were active in the Youth Club at that time, and Mike was living with June at the time of his death. Mike made the church donations box in the early 1980's to replace the one lost in the fire. Please remember Mike's family in your prayers.

Marian

## **A PLACE FOR ALL**

This is the title of the Methodist Prayer Handbook for 2021/22.

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

### **Some memorable moments with cats** by Andrew T.

In the coming months I should like to share with you six brief accounts of cats that have featured in my life. I have always been a cat lover and when out and about will often 'talk' with them given the chance. Valerie's always concerned that one day a cat will follow me home.

#### **No. 1 The spooky cat – a short tale**

Astronomy is one of my interests and from time to time I go into the garden to view the night sky. On this occasion I was outside to catch sight of one of the regular meteor showers. It was a good night for observation. It was very dark. There was no Moon, and none of the security lights which several of our neighbours have now installed.

I'd been in the garden for some twenty minutes allowing my eyes to accustom to the darkness: I was standing stock still, with my head raised skyward looking for the flash of a shooting star streaking across the heavens. I can't now recall whether I saw any that night but what I do remember is that suddenly, without any warning whatsoever, a young black cat sprang up my back and perched on my left shoulder for a few seconds, purring away. It then jumped down and disappeared. To say I was surprised is an under-statement. Where had it come from? I'd never seen the cat in the garden before and never saw it again.

You're probably thinking I'd been dreaming but I came indoors immediately and recounted the incident to Valerie. I'm not sure but maybe the cat had a short tail!

### **SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Church Services are now being held at Anerley on the first and third Sundays of the month. During August the services will be as follows:-

Sunday 1st August 11 am—Preacher: Hilary Waterhouse

Sunday 15th August 11 am—Preacher: Hilary Waterhouse

Wednesday Club has also resumed, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month. During August the meetings will be as follows:-

Wednesday 11th August 8 pm— Music Evening

Wednesday 25th August 8 pm—Quiz

The following Circuit events have also been arranged:-

Sunday 15th August 3pm at Lewisham Methodist Church—  
Local Preachers' Recognition Service for Sia Jonny and Chris Watkins.

Saturday 4th September 3 pm at Burnt Ash Methodist Church.—Welcome Service for the Rev. Craig Gaffney, who is assuming pastoral oversight for Burnt Ash, Hither Green and Sunfields Methodist Churches.

The frequency of church services and Wednesday Club from September onwards has not yet been decided.



As we gradually come out of Covid –19 restrictions, many of us may feel bruised by the events of the last eighteen months, the lock-downs, the restrictions, lack of contact with friends and relatives, perhaps the illness or loss of those close to us. We may also feel very unsure of what the future holds as restrictions are lifted. The following hymn may be appropriate at this time.

**By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered  
And confidently waiting, come what may,  
We know that God is with us night and morning.  
And never fails to meet us each new day.  
Yet are our hearts by their old foe tormented;  
Still evil days bring burdens hard to bear;  
O give our frightened souls the sure salvation  
For which O Lord you taught us to prepare.**

**And when the cup you give is filled to brimming  
With bitter suffering, hard to understand,  
We take it gladly, trusting though with trembling,  
Out of so good and so beloved a hand.  
If once again, in this mixed world, you give us  
The joy we had, the brightness of your sun,  
We shall recall what we have learned through sorrow,  
And dedicate our lives to you alone.**

**Dietrich Bonhoeffer Tr Fred Pratt Green and Keith Clements.  
Tune:Finlandia**

## BEYOND EXILE

**After our lockdown exile, the Bible inspires us to rebuild the 'Jerusalem of chapel worship', writes the Revd Dr Jonathan R Hustler.**

As churches reopened for worship, many will have used the service 'Beyond Exile: a service to celebrate the return to public worship' (available on the Methodist Church website). The title picks up the image of exile, which was used by many of us to reflect on going into lockdown last year when, in the words of Psalm 137, we found ourselves singing the Lord's song in a strange land.

The books of Ezra and Nehemiah tell the story of the Jews, who struggled to sing the Lord's song in a strange land, returning to Jerusalem and the rebuilding of the city. It strikes me as I read the account that the return was a drawn-out process; it was over a period of decades that the exiles returned and rebuilding both the physical structure of the city and the community took time.

As churches return and rebuild, we recognise it is not easy work – there is no quick fix! Nor is there a route back to where we were. When the foundation of the Temple was re-laid by Ezra, those who had seen the former glory wept. The future will not be like the past, though how unlike we do not yet know.

The full impact of the pandemic on our Church and society will not be apparent for some time and anxiety and stress will remain. Along with the weeping there was joy. The future was not like the past but there was much good in it and not only in Jerusalem. The experience of exile taught the Jewish people

that God was not confined; Jewish communities scattered throughout the Ancient Near East – the diaspora – had found that they met God in worship where they were.

The rebuilding of Jerusalem put the Temple back at the heart of the city as a pilgrim centre for Jews everywhere. This was the context into which Jesus was born and ministered. The diaspora was the context through which the good news of Christ's resurrection spread throughout the Roman Empire.

Our exile has been to the Babylon of the online world; our diaspora may be to remain in the lands of Zoom, Facebook Live, and YouTube. The Jerusalem of our worship will take time to rebuild and some circuits might never be what they were before. However, as we build back, we open ourselves to whatever God will do in and through us, feeling confident of a greater future ahead.

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Be a bright star before me,  
A guiding star above me,  
A smooth path below me,  
A kindly shepherd behind me,  
Today, tonight and for ever.

St. Columba, missionary (521 – 597)

## COOKERY CORNER

### Orange Cream Pie

#### Ingredients

175gr. (6 oz) sweetmeal (digestive) biscuits  
75 gr. (3 oz) melted margarine  
1 can mandarin oranges  
½ orange jelly  
1 small can evaporated milk  
10 ml (2 teaspoons) lemon juice  
grated chocolate (optional)

#### Method

1. Put the biscuits between two sheets of greaseproof paper or foil, roll with a rolling pin until biscuits are crushed into fine crumbs.
2. Put the crumbs into a bowl, stir in margarine and mix well
3. Brush a 21cm (8 in) pie plate with melted butter
4. Press the crumb mixture over the bottom and sides, leave in a cold place to set.
5. Drain juice from mandarin oranges, measure 5 fl. oz. (¼ pint) of juice and bring to the boil in a small pan.
6. Pour the juice onto the jelly and stir until the jelly is dissolved, leave in a cool place until thick.
7. Meanwhile, pour the milk into a basin, add the lemon juice and whisk until thick. It will thicken quicker if the tin of milk is chilled in the fridge for an hour beforehand.
8. Whisk the milk into the jelly and continue whisking until the mixture is thick and fluffy

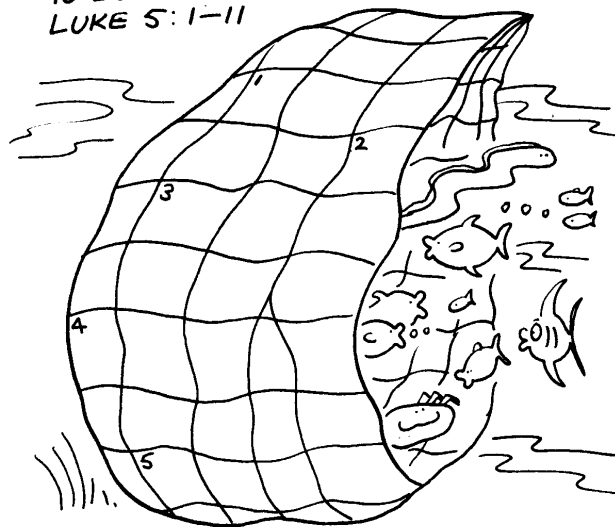
9. Chop half of the mandarin oranges, stir into the jelly mixture and pile into the prepared case.
10. Leave to set. Decorate with the remaining mandarin oranges, sprinkle with grated chocolate if liked.

Ann Vickery

### FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

## WHAT A CATCH!

TO SOLVE THIS PUZZLE, READ  
LUKE 5: 1-11



#### ACROSS

- 3 How many boats on the beach?
- 4 They caught so many fish that their nets began to \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 See 2 DOWN

#### DOWN

- 1 What was Simon's other name?
- 2 (and 5 Across) What had the fishermen done without success?



## **Penge Community Pre-School**

**Leader:** Chloe Edgington

**Anerley Methodist Church**

**Deputy Leader:** Sue Charlesworth

**Oakfield Road**

**SENCO:** Dawn McConochie

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<b>Harlequins Theatre School</b> Monday 4.00-6.30pm	Tel: 07773 066 645
<b>Hill Dance Academy</b> Tues. 4,30-8.30pm; Sat 11am-3pm	Tel: 07772 199 103
<b>Only Believe Christian Assembly</b> Tues 7.30pm to 10.30pm	Tel.020 8778 0863
<b>Penge Community Pre-School</b> Monday to Friday 9.15am to 4pm	Tel. 020 8289 6771
<b>Salvation &amp; Deliverance Ministry</b> Sunday 2pm to 5.30pm;	Tel. 020 8683 3094
<b>Tai Chi</b> - Thursday 8pm - 10pm	Tel. 01424 420 050

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**Email:wendy.blenman@ntlworld.com**

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