

# ANERLEY CENTRE ECHO



## LENT 2022

The Newsletter of

**ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH**

Oakfield Road

Anerley

London SE20 8QA

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

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Property Bookings	David Hynes	8289 3524
Baptismal/Cradle Roll	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
Junior Church Contact	Audrey Bobb-Sayers	8655 3119
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Wednesday Club	Marian Young	8402 6618
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Missions Treasurer	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
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**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE (EASTER  
EDITION) SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN YOUNG BY SUN-  
DAY 13TH MARCH 2022**

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

**February/March 2022**

**Volume 53 Number 5**

## **FROM THE MINISTER**

Grace and peace from our Lord Jesus Christ!

Friends, a very Happy New year, and I hope this finds you well.

It felt a little strange to be writing for Easter, with barely Christmas over on 6<sup>th</sup> January, Epiphany. But I was quickly reminded about the gifts of the 'three wise men' to honour the infant Jesus; gifts chosen for their special spiritual symbolism: gold representing his kingship, frankincense, his priestly role, and myrrh, an early indication of Christ's death and embalming, which points or leads us to the significant events of the Passion of Christ.

It is therefore worth noting that our Christian festivals are not simply tick box exercises, but rather they link us with our heritage and forthcoming festivals.

And so, in the lead up to Lent, I write of another such significant event, Transfiguration Sunday, on 27 February 2022, the Sunday before Lent. Its position in the Christian year suggests why the Transfiguration was given; to offer encouragement before a time of rigour. Peter, John, and James were given a vision of Christ in glory, the risen and ascended Lord, as they struggled to come to terms with what Jesus had said about the trouble and suffering that lay ahead.

Traditionally, Lent encourages Christian to give up and make sacrifices, to tighten our belts and deny ourselves excess, to better understand the way of the cross, the suffering of Jesus and the world. On the day before, Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday) or Pancake Day, people said good-bye to meat (*carne vale*). The last of the rich foods are eaten before the fasting began with the start of

Lent on Ash Wednesday. 'Shrove' refers to making confession and Lent is associated with a time of review and reflection. Lent offers us the opportunity to embrace change, to re-examine priorities and to remember the needs of our neighbour.

Transfiguration Sunday not only makes us more aware of the needs of our neighbours but gives to us, as to Peter, John and James, a vision of Christ in Glory, for our encouragement and hope day by day as we journey with Jesus towards the cross.

On this Sunday before the start of Lent, may we look at the event known as the Transfiguration of Christ, and ask what this unusual or maybe even strange happening can say to us and our world.

May the encouragement that Jesus gave to His disciples at the Transfiguration, also encourage us in the coming days.

To help us on our journey this Lent, there will be a four-part 'Lenten Study', details as follows:

## **LENTEN CONVERSATIONS**

Session 1: 07.03.22 Matthew 4:1-11 The Temptation of Jesus

Session 2: 14.03.22 Luke 9:28-37 The Transfiguration

Session 3: 21.03.21 John 12:1-8 Jesus anointed at Bethany

Session 4: 28.03.21 Mark 8:27-38 Peter's Declaration about Jesus

**8-9.30pm, Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

**Anerley Methodist Church, Oakfield Road, SE20**

**ALL ARE WELCOME**

## **Mothering Sunday – 27<sup>th</sup> March**

There is an old Jewish saying: God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made mothers. Mother Church, Mother Earth, Mother of the Gods, our human mothers, and mother-figures – all of them have been part of the celebration of 'Mothering Sunday' – as the fourth Sunday in Lent is affectionately known. It has been celebrated in the UK since at least the 16th century.

In Roman times, great festivals were held every Spring to honour Cybele, Mother of all the Gods. Other pagan festivals in honour of Mother Earth were also celebrated. With the arrival of Christianity, the festival became one honouring Mother Church. During the Middle Ages, young people apprenticed to craftsmen or working as 'live-in' servants were allowed only one holiday a year on which to visit their families – which is how 'Mothering Sunday' got its name. This special day became a day of family rejoicing, and the Lenten fast was broken. In some places the day was called Simnel Day, because of the sweet cakes called simnel cakes traditionally eaten on that day.

In recent years the holiday has changed and, in many ways, now resembles the American Mother's Day (on second Sunday in May), with families going out to Sunday lunch and generally making a fuss of their mother on the day. But this is not how the day began.

**HAPPY MOTHERING SUNDAY (in March) TO YOU ALL!**

### **A Pastoral Prayer**

For all whose hearts are troubled  
at the start of this new day,  
be the voice that they hear,  
the warmth that they feel,

the wisdom they seek,  
 the strength they require,  
 and the one in whose arms they rest. **AMEN**

[www.faithandworship.com](http://www.faithandworship.com)

### **Final Prayer**

Transfigured Jesus – Crucified, Risen and Ascended Lord  
 who gives gifts to humankind, we thank You for all that  
 You have done for us and for the love with which  
 You reach out to every human being.

For the presence of Your life-giving Spirit in the Church, in our  
 world and in our lives, we give You thanks. **AMEN**

### **Easter Sunday**

He is risen! Alleluia, He is risen indeed! On Easter Sunday, we re-  
 member Jesus' sacrifice and give thanks for all that He brought to  
 our world. Wishing you a blessed and holy Easter! Happy  
 Easter! May you continue to know God's blessings, love, and  
 peace this Easter.

**Abe**

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### **THANK YOU**

We have received the following letter from Demelza Hospice, fol-  
 lowing our Gift Service at the beginning of December.

“Dear Everyone,

Thank you so much for the Arts and Crafts goods you gave us after  
 the Gift Service at Anerley Methodist Church. We really appreciate  
 you thinking of us.

Happy Christmas from Everyone at Demelza SEL”

## **.ROUND THE FAMILY**

The Memorial Service for Joan Loring, who died in March 2020, will be held in the afternoon of Saturday 26th March. The actual time of the service is still being finalised. If you are intending to come to the service, please let Andrew Tredinnick know, so that we have a rough idea of how many will be coming, in case Covid-19 restrictions are still in force.

Our services over the Christmas period were very enjoyable and not badly attended, considering the restrictions in force. Our Gift Service was led by Hilary Waterhouse. and our gifts were given to Demelza Hospice (see their thank you on previous page). Our Carol Service was led by Valerie Tredinnick and followed the tradition of readings and carols, involving the Junior Church and members of the congregation. There was no Christmas Eve Communion this year but the Christmas Day service was well-attended, and several Christmas presents were shown to the congregation!

The Church received Christmas and New Year greetings from Rose Bateman, Margaret and Peter Boreham, Ronnie Butler, the Rev. Graham Cocking, Abraham Doku, the Rev Imran Malik, Eula Morris, Rev. Judy and Alan Turner-Smith, Dawn Watts, and Aaro, Nimasha, Anaiah and Neave Yusuf.

We have also heard from the Rev. Derek Stanforth, a retired Methodist Minister who has taken services at our Church, who sends his best wishes and New Year greetings to everyone at Anerley.

Marian



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

### **No. 4 Jemima**

I've always talked to cats, and when Jemima, a long-haired black feline first appeared in the garden I spoke with her straight away. She was always friendly and invariably made a bee-line to me to be stroked. In a short while I discovered that I could pick her up by the scruff of her neck and carry her a short distance. She loved this and when I put her down would plead to be carried again.

She was a large cat with a certain presence. Jemima rarely hurried herself. Although responsive to human interest she also displayed a proprietorial attitude and, if our front and back doors were open, would calmly walk through the house to short cut a longer route via her home at the end of terrace.

Early in our acquaintance I was painting the woodwork at back of the house. I was using an aluminium ladder to reach the first floor windows. I was unaware that Jemima had come into the garden, but she followed her usual routine and came to greet me. The first I knew was when she appeared beside me, purring, having climbed a dozen or so metal rungs to where I was working!

Having received her 'approval' for my paintwork I was concerned that she could get herself down safely, after all cats and metal ladders don't seem a good combination. I needn't have worried. She deftly turned herself around, 'ran' down the rungs and continued on her way.



### **Circuit Stationing: September 2022**

As many of you will know, our Minister Abe is leaving us at the end of July to move on to another Circuit. The Circuit invitations team have issued the following statement regarding her successor.

“The circuit invitations team is delighted to announce that our circuit has, in the first round of Presbyteral stationing, been successfully matched with Revd William Davis. William will be joining our circuit in September 2022 and will have pastoral charge of Upper Norwood and Anerley Methodist Churches. William will be coming to us from the Wolverhampton circuit. Previously, he served part time in the New River Circuit (North London) and part time as Chaplain to the Ghanaian Methodist Fellowship. Prior to that, he served in a number of appointments in Ghana, his home country, including work in Christian education. He comes to us with his wife Vashti, who is an early years teacher. William and Vashti have four children, though it seems likely that only two will make the move back to London. William brings experience, enthusiasm and an eagerness to build churches and faith in our circuit “

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### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

Although members of the Church Council are elected once a year, there is provision for anyone to attend the Church Council meetings as an observer, without voting rights. If you are not a member of the Church Council, but are interested in seeing what happens at a meeting, the next Church Council Meeting is on Thursday 24th February at 8pm.

## **LETTER FROM RICCI SOCIAL SERVICES, MACAU**

Several people in our church have been supporting Ricci Social Services for many years, via donations to Andrew Tredinnick via “The Tin”. This is an extract from their latest letter.

### The Joy of Walking Together

On long journeys, keeping walking together is not always easy. Circumstances may tempt us to leave those who are weaker or different behind, specially when we feel they become a burden for our plans or personal projects. A contrary temptation inclines undue caution, walking pointlessly slowly and choosing safer or easier paths to walk while leaving our companions alone and in danger. More happily, walking with others, being together with them, can be a journey of transformation. Starting from St. Ignatius, Jesuits have known that to walk with the poor, those who suffer, those at the margins of societies unites them with Heaven and makes them friends of God and Companions of Jesus. Through walking together with those in suffering, Jesuits know who they themselves are and what they are called to be. The poor, the afflicted, the outcasts, are more than companions on a journey; they are the compass that shows the path to take.

This year we have commemorated the tenth anniversary of Fr. Ruiz’s passing (27/7/2011). Fr. Ruiz started Casa Ricci as a living expression of this Jesuit identity and their deep desire to “walk with the poor” in China. The Chinese character “xing” represents a cross-roads and signifies “walking”. Serving China’s poor and marginalised means we walk with them. To keep walking beside them we take them as our guides, who enable us to grasp what needs to be done to build a more harmonious society. By walking with them, we also find the meaning of our own poverties. In China’s ever-

changing society their needs change. As we walk with the poor, the afflicted and the outcast, we need to change as they change, continually developing new abilities to serve them better. Sufferers from leprosy and from HIV/AIDS, sex workers, hospital patients, small social service organisations needing help and support, all are guides for our journey.

To have good guides for a long journey brings confidence and shortens the way. The closer we walk with those who are suffering or have lost hope, the deeper is our joy in walking together with them. Fr. Ruiz used to say that the biggest joy is to help people feel joyful. The joy in walking together is mutual. This has been casa Ricci's experience since our beginning.

Fr. Fernando Azpiroz  
Macau, 03 December 2021.

(A longer version of this letter, together with pictures of some of the activities at their various centres, can be seen on the Notice Board in the entrance hall)

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## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

This year the service (formerly known as Women's World Day of Prayer) will take place on Friday 5th March at 7.30pm. The venue is still being arranged, but will probably be in one of the more roomy churches in Penge, to allow for social distancing –more details later.

The service has been prepared by participants in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and the theme is "I know the plans I have for you."

## **COOKERY CORNER**

### **Sugarless Low Fat Pineapple cake**

You will need a 20cm (8 inch) cake tin, well greased.

Ingredients to serve 6 to 8 portions

425 gr. (15oz) can of pineapple in natural juice

450 gr. (1 lb) mixed dried fruit

5 ml (1 oz) mixed spice

50 gr. (2 oz) corn oil

2 medium eggs, at room temperature

225 gr. (8 oz) white self-raising flour

#### Method

1. Crush the canned pineapple in its natural juice.
2. Place the pineapple, mixed fruit, mixed spice and corn oil in a saucepan.
3. Bring slowly to the boil for three minutes only and then leave until absolutely cold (preferably overnight).
4. Beat the eggs, then blend eggs and flour into the fruity mixture in the saucepan.
5. Bake at Gas mark 3 (325°F/170°C (150°C for fan oven)) for about 1½ hours, covering if necessary.
6. Test if done with a skewer, or the point of a long knife.
7. When cold, store in the refrigerator.

Ann Vickery

## INTROIT

The introit for the next 4 months (starting on Sunday 6th February) will be as follows:-

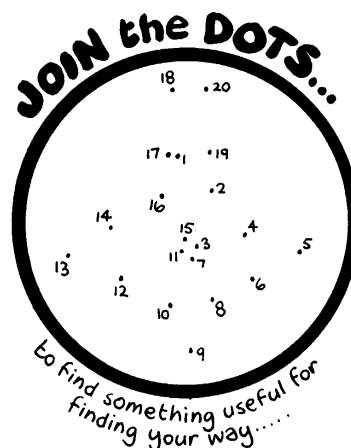
Jesus stand among us  
At the meeting of our lives;  
Be our sweet agreement  
At the meeting of our eyes.  
O Jesus, we love You, so we gather here;  
Join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.

So to You we're gathering  
Out of each and every land;  
Christ the love between us  
At the joining of our hands.  
O Jesus, we love You, so we gather here;  
Join our hearts in unity and take away our fear.

Graham Kendrick © 1977 Thank You Music  
CCLI 327359

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## FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS





## **Penge Community Pre-School**

**Leader:** Chloe Edginton

**Anerley Methodist Church**

**Deputy Leader:** Sue Charlesworth

**Oakfield Road**

**SENCO:** Dawn McConochie

**Anerley SE20 8QA  
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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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**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)**



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### FEBRUARY

Wed 2nd	Wednesday Club 8pm Give us a Clue
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday Club 8pm Musical Evening
Sun 13th	All Age Worship 11am led by the Worship Leaders
Wed 16th	NO Wednesday Club
Wed 16th	Circuit Meeting 7.30pm at Eltham Park Methodist Church
Wed 23rd	Wednesday Club. 8pm Programme Planning
Thur 24th	Church Council 8pm
Sun 27th	Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Orchestra, 3pm at Eltham Park Methodist Church

### MARCH

Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Wednesday Club 8pm
Fri 5th	World Day of Prayer 7.30pm Venue to be confirmed
Sun 6th	General Church Meeting
Mon 7th	Lent Studies 8pm in the Side Hall
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday Club 8pm
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	MAGAZINE ITEMS TO BE GIVEN TO MARIAN!
Mon 14th	Lent Studies 8pm in the Side Hall
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday Club 8pm
Thur 17th	Pastoral Committee Meeting 7.45pm at Church
Mon 21st	Lent Studies 8pm in the Side Hall
Wed 23rd	Wednesday Club 8pm
Sat 26th	Memorial Service for Joan Loring. More details later.
Sun 27th	Mothering Sunday All Age Worship, 11am

Mon 28th      Lent Studies 8pm in the Side Hall

Wed 30th      Wednesday Club

### APRIL

Sun 10th	Palm Sunday
Thur 14th	Maundy Thursday
Fri 15th	Good Friday service 9.15 am
Sun 17th	Easter Sunday

Morning services are held every Sunday at 11am. Holy Communion is usually celebrated on the 3rd Sunday of the month.

There are no evening services at present.

The Prayer Meeting is not meeting in person at present, but is meeting via email. For more details contact Margaret Boreham - [mboreham5@gmail.com](mailto:mboreham5@gmail.com)