ANERLEY CENTRE ECHO



SUMMER 2022

The Newsletter of

ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Oakfield Road Anerley London SE20 8QA

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ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MARIAN YOUNG BY SUNDAY 9TH JULY 2022

Church website: www.anerleymethodist.org

JUNE/JULY 2022

Volume 54 Number 1

FROM THE MINISTER

To the Church at Anerley and surrounding community,

I pray that this, my final note, in which I wish to share with you two stories told by the evangelist John, will find you well.

The first is the story of the encounter with difference and the second, about the language of the 'Spirit' at Pentecost and its message to followers of Christ Jesus.

In the gospel of John 4, the evangelist John carefully unfolds a story about how one woman, a Samaritan, comes to faith and leads others to believe in him. When two people meet for the first time they can soon become overwhelmed by the real difference between them. The difference of age, personality, background, religion, nationality etc. can all contribute to making the encounter difficult and hopeless. The two people might be unable to face each other honestly because the barriers between them seem insurmountable.

A man and a woman meet at a well beyond the edge of a town. They are strangers – not only because they have never met before but because they should never be meeting at all. He is a Jew who is travelling through foreign territory; she is a Samaritan who is on home ground. According to their own traditions they should remain strangers to each other. But will this man and this woman allow that estrangement to dictate their attitudes to each other? Will they rise above the mutual hostility of their own traditions and face each other honestly?

Of course, this is not just any man; for that matter, the Sa-

maritan is not just any woman. In writing the story John is anxious to tell his readers who Jesus is; that he is the Messiah and the Saviour of all peoples. But first he shows us Jesus as the weary and thirsty traveller who wants to make inroads into people's lives. No matter who they are.

The woman is taken aback that a Jew, no matter how thirsty, would bother to ask a Samaritan for a drink. Jesus expects her to be a *good* Samaritan and his expectation confuses her. He then intrigues her by suggesting that if she knew his real identity, she would ask him for living water. The fact that he has no bucket worries her, but the water Jesus has to give turns into a spring inside people.

She calls Jesus "prophet". He is a man who knows who she is. Jesus tells the woman who he is. While Jesus is reluctant to admit to His own people that He is the Christ; but He willingly tells this 'Outsider' who He is. And in telling her who He is, He gives Himself away to her. He gives her the living water. She does not keep her experience a secret. She turns her experience of Jesus into a message for others. Because of her, the whole town comes to meet Jesus. Many come to believe in Jesus because of her story.

The second story of the story is of John's message about the Pentecost in chapter 20.19-23 where the group of the dispirited followers of Jesus had gathered and locked themselves in an upper room, after the crucifixion, in fear and suspicion. The group of followers were afraid that they would suffer the same fate as their master. They prayed that no one would discover their hiding place and that the world would leave them safe in their sacred enclosure.

In contrast to the powerful image of the Holy Spirit, one who is not shy of the boundaries and the barriers that people

erect, bursts into the locked room. And the presence of the Spirit makes the disciples open their lives to others: they don't just decorate their sacred enclosure; they leave it and pass over into the lives of other people with the gifts of Gospel and peace and forgiveness.

The Spirit charges the disciples to go outdoors to the marketplace where people gather and there, they proclaim to all how they have been changed by the power of the Spirit. They tell how God has worked wonders in them; everyone acknowledges that something happened to dramatically change their outlook and behaviour, as followers of Jesus.

In both stories, the Samaritan woman, an outsider, becomes one of the first witnesses of John's Gospel who leads others to Jesus. Her race, colour, or past does not hinder her from being a messenger of Good News. She has a story to tell.

Similarly, in the language of the Spirit at Pentecost, the message is that followers of Jesus are now invited to spread the Good News, so as to enable 'others' to hear it, but most importantly 'in their own language'. In John's Gospel race, colour, or past must not hinder anyone from being a messenger or recipient of the Good News of Jesus and Pentecost.

The message of both stories is that the Good News transcends all boundaries. It is not for the select few and requires no special dictionaries to understand it. Like the disciples in their locked sanctuary, they are to leave their sacred enclosures and go outdoors to where people gather. They are to proclaim to all how they have been changed by the power of the Spirit. They are to tell how God has worked wonders in them. They are to change, dramatically, their outlook and behaviour, as followers of Jesus. For this is the experience and power of encountering Jesus and the 'Holy Spirit'.

As the time has come for me to move on to new encounters, it is my prayer that the Spirit of Pentecost will free us all from our own mundane attempts to spread the Good News of love and understanding. But instead transform and renew His Church to proclaim the good news in a spirit of love and compassion. Above all, that the Spirit stirs all with new life and open hearts to the truth and love of the Good News, so that all peoples, all languages, can with one, voice give glory to God our Father.

I give thanks for all my encounters here through Him who sent me; for your hospitality to Matthew and me; for the King replied 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of this brother and sister of mine, you did for me.' (Matthew 25:40 NIV)

Finally, I pray that you will continue to experience appreciation through the Spirit, for your particular gifts to His Church, to one another and the surrounding community.

Abe Konadu-Yiadom,	Presbyter, in His service!
++++++++++++	<u></u>

HELP WANTED

Now that numbers are gradually increasing at our Morning Services, there is now a need for our Door Stewards to take up their positions again! After lockdown several of our volunteers have had to give up for various reasons, Are you able to join the rota and help us?

As most people are not using hymn books now, it will just be a case of offering hymn books to those who would like one and having a few Bibles available, also distributing Service Books, Orders of Service and other bits and pieces (flyers, special collection envelopes) as required. The main requirement is to give everyone a friendly Anerley welcome!

If there are enough volunteers, you would probably only be required to help every 4-6 weeks. Please speak to me if you can help and I can give you more information.

From the Editor

With this edition the magazine commences its 54th year of production—we are still staggering on!

When Mike started the magazine in 1968 it consisted of two double -sided foolscap sheets duplicated on a temperamental Gestetner machine that lived in our bedroom! It is now prepared on a computer and, as well as printed copies, it is sent far and wide by internet - something never dreamed of in those far off times!

Mike started the magazine as a way of keeping everyone in the church family in touch with what was happening in the Church, and I am sure that he never envisaged it still going strong over 50 years later. I am very appreciative of everyone who gives me articles, news and suggestions for things to include. If anyone has any news or an idea for an article, or even feels moved to write the occasional article themselves, please have a word with me or contact me - my details are inside the front cover.

I have been the editor for the past 30 years, but production of the magazine is a team effort. The magazine is now mainly distributed electronically, though there are still hard copies for anyone who would prefer one. I would like to thank Dave Hynes, who maintains the mailing list and sends out the email version. Following the lock-down hiatus, Valerie and Andrew Tredinnick are now again collating and stapling hard copies of the magazine, and the Pastoral Leaders help to distribute hard copies of the magazine if needed, so I would also like to thank them for their help.

If anyone would like to receive a hard copy instead of (or as well as) the electronic version, please let me know.

Marian

ROUND THE FAMILY

Please remember in your prayers Lorraine Williams and family following the death of her daughter Ann-Marie in April. Please also remember Maureen Cole, who is continuing to receive treatment.

Belated congratulations to Jean and Dennis Pogose, who celebrated their Emerald Wedding Anniversary (55 years) in March. I understand they enjoyed their special day!

On Sunday 6th May we held our 157th Church Anniversary. The service was led by the Rev. Craig Gaffney, who stepped in at the last minute, as our planned preacher, the Rev. Paul Hulme, was unwell. We all enjoyed the service and the chance to chat over a cup of tea afterwards.

Marian

INTROIT

The Introit for the next 4 months (starting on Sunday 5th June) will be as follows:-

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

In you, O Lord, I put my trust. In you, O Lord, I put my trust. In you, O Lord, I put my trust.

Anonymous

Singing the Faith no.18, vv. 1 and 3. CCLI 327359

Andrew's Cat Stories. No. 6 Puskin.

Yet another ginger cat – this time with long hair. He also lived in the flat above the dry cleaners. He was very sociable. You could often see him sprawled out on the counter of the dry cleaners or sitting in the ladies' hairdressers next door watching the world go by.

He would run to me without being called and get round my feet, rubbing his head against my shoes and then rolling over right in front of me. I know lots of cats will brush up against you but his behaviour was quite extreme. If met down the garden it was a real effort to get back to the house without being tripped up.

We do not encourage cats to come into the house – nor do we ever feed them. However, when Puskin was young, like most cats, he was very inquisitive. Often he would sit outside the open kitchen door looking in. If he made the slightest move to come inside we would say firmly "Noo…" which he seemed to understand. On a warm summer evening we had left the kitchen door open, and while were we sitting in the front room his face suddenly appeared round the door. Hearing our "Noo…" he retreated rapidly.

Another time, we knew he was around and had already called "Noo…" when he inched towards the open door. Suddenly he darted inside and I followed – he was up the stairs and into the bathroom in a flash, doubled back to our front bedroom, followed by an about turn into the rear bedroom and back down the stairs to sit outside the kitchen door again. There he sat looking very pleased with himself as if thinking, "I'm much too quick for you".

Andrew T

LONDON DISTRICT WEEKEND AWAY

THEME: PROPHETIC LIVING AND PEACE MAKING

A weekend of fun and fellowship, exploring Christ's challenge to live truthfully and to walk justly.

FRIDAY 22ND -SUNDAY 24TH July 2022

High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesden, EN11 8SG

Keynote speaker: Revd. Ruth Harvey (Iona Community)

Book your ticket at :https://woven-weekendaway.eventbrite.co.uk

TICKETS

Adults (Ages 17+) - £60/ Children (ages 6-16) - £30/ Under 5's FREE

Deposit Scheme: Pay a non-refundable deposit of £10(child) or £20(adult) to secure your booking. You will be invoiced after the event with the outstanding amount to be settled by a specific date.

WHAT'S ON: Inspiring workshops/worship/ space for relaxation, reflection and fellowship/activities for children and young people.

Bible Study

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT: access to all sessions and activities/full board and en-suite facilities/fitness trail, lawns and gardens, and much more.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL AND MUSEUM OF METHODISM

As many of you know. I am a volunteer Heritage Steward (i.e. Guide) at Wesley's Chapel, Museum and House in London. Most of the stewards are retired, and, since we have re-opened after lockdown, several have decided not to return, so we are very short of stewards to greet visitors and show them round. Is this something that you feel you would like to do? You need only commit to two days a month (hours 11am -4pm) though you can do more if you want. It is very interesting, and we are now getting more groups from overseas visiting the chapel. On one day recently we had visits from a group of Korean pastors, a group from Brazil, two visitors from Ghana, the pastor of an international United Methodist Church in the north of Germany, as well as others from the USA and the UK. The official advert from Wesley's Chapel, with contact details, is below. If you would like to know more, please ask me. Marian

Become a Wesley's Chapel & Museum of Methodism Heritage Steward

Would you like to show visitors around one of the most important Methodist sites in the world? Or perhaps you would rather help behind the scenes and assist with the collections in store?

Wesley's Chapel and the Museum of Methodism are always looking for committed and enthusiastic volunteers to support day-to-day operations. This is an excellent opportunity to meet interesting visitors from all over the world, work with staff and our many volunteers and to learn more about the historic Chapel and Methodism.

No previous knowledge of the history of Methodism or experience is necessary, full training will be provided. We pay travelling expenses and also offer a generous volunteer dis-

count in the museum shop.

If you are friendly and enthusiastic and can commit at least two days per month, we would love to hear from you! Please contact the Chapel on 020 7253 2262 or email museum@wesleyschapel.org.uk

COOKERY CORNER Double Chocolate Chip Muffins

Ingredients

275 gr.(10 oz) self-raising flour

75 gr.(3 oz) sugar ½ teaspn. Salt

2 medium eggs

225 ml.(8 fl.oz.) milk

1 teaspn. Vanilla essence

4 tablespns. Cocoa powder

75 gr.(3 oz) plain chocolate chips 75 gr.(3 oz) white chocolate chips

110 gr. (4 oz) butter

Makes 12 muffins

Method

- Preheat oven to 200°C, 400° F, Gas Mark 6, and place 12 muffin cases in a deep muffin bun tin.
- Mix together sugar, eggs, milk, butter and vanilla essence.
- 3. Fold in the flour and salt, add cocoa and chocolate chips, and mix gently to a lumpy batter.
- Divide the mixture between the muffin cases, and bake at the top of the oven for 25-30 minutes, until well risen and golden.
- Remove muffins from the tin and cool on a wire rack.

Ann Vickery



OXFAM Pledged Giving

On your behalf I have recently sent £352.50 to Oxfam as part of the Pledged Giving Scheme.

Part of their letter to me reads:

This could train three women in Bangladesh to create business plans and gain business management skills, to engage them in management of a community water enterprise, such as a desalination plant, which meets the water demands within the community while also providing work opportunities for women.

Em Åbdo, a member of the women's group, engages in discussions with women in her community. "People trust us, since we come from the same background", she said. "Many women find it easier to confide in us than in social workers, or authorities, and trust that their secrets are safe with us".

In the poorest city on the Mediterranean, a group of refugee women in Tripoli, Lebanon, are fighting against Gender Based Violence and empowering other women in the communities to do the same. The women's group was established a decade ago. Women receive training to help them act as focal points providing support and advice to other women in the community. In a country where laws and norms do not protest women from violence, the community turn to the group seeking help and refuge. The women's group was established and supported by OXFAM and partners in Tripoli.'

These are just two examples of the work that OXFAM is involved in throughout many countries. If you would like to become a Pledge Giver please have a word with me.

Valerie



Penge Community Pre-School

Leader: Chloe Edgington

Anerley Methodist Church

Deputy Leader: Sue Charlesworth

Oakfield Road

SENCO: Dawn McConochie

Anerley SE20 8QA

Ofsted Inspected Established in 1975

Learning through play for children from 2 to 5 years

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REGULAR CHURCH USERS

Amaze Penge First Monday monthly, 5.30pm – 7.30pm term time	Tel. 07882 760 828
Cali Swing Thursday 6.30pm-9.30pm	Tel.07535 891 253
Campbell School of Dance Friday 4pm to 7pm	Tel. 020 8777 7529
Harlequins Theatre School Monday 4.00-6.30pm	Tel. 07773 066 645
Hill Dance Academy Saturday 9am—1pm	Tel. 07772 199 103
Penge Community Pre-School Monday to Friday 9.15am to 4pm	Tel. 020 8289 6771
Salvation & Deliverance Ministry Sunday 2pm to 5.30pm	Tel. 020 8683 3094
Tai Chi - Thursday 8pm - 10pm	Tel. 01424 420 050

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.

O20 8244 0512 or 07956 351 511

Email:wendy.blenman@ntlworld.com

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY JUNE

Wed 1st	Wednesday Club 8pm Cat Bingo
Wed 8 th	Wednesday Club 8pm. Puzzle Evening
Sat 11th	Penge Festival Fete 11am-5pm at Royston Field, Penge
Sun 12th	Circuit Youth Event at Hither Green Methodist Church 5pm—6.30pm
Wed 15th	Wednesday Club Dinner at Coombe Lodge
Thur 16th	Circuit Meeting 7.30pm at Burnt Ash Methodist Church
Mon 20 th	Christian Action Group 7.30pm Visit to Hilary's allot- ment—venue to be advised
Wed 22nd	Wednesday Club Short Ramble; meet at 32 Lloyds Way at 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.
Sun 26th	All Age Worship 11a.m. Preacher: Valerie Tred- innick
Wed 29th	Wednesday Club 8pm. Table Top games
JULY Wed 6th	Wednesday Club 7.30pm sharp. Petanque at 32 Lloyds Way
Sun 10th	MAGAZINE ITEMS TO BE GIVEN TO MARIAN!
Wed 13 th	Wednesday Club 8pm Craft Evening

Sun 17th Rev. Abe Konadu-Yiadom's final service at Anerley 11am Wed 20th Wednesday Club 8pm Nature Trail Game Fri 22nd—Sun 24th London District Weekend away. See magazine for further details. All Age Worship 11am. Preacher: Mary Sparkes Sun 24th Mon 25th Christian Action Group. 8pm at the Church. Speaker: Audrey Bobb Wed 27th Wednesday Club 8pm: Surprise Evening **AUGUST** Wed 3rd Wednesday Club 8pm. Workout Challenge Mon 22nd Christian Action Group 8pm at the Church. Speaker: Valerie Tredinnick Morning Services are held every Sunday at 11am. Holy Communion will

be celebrated on 19th June and 17th July

There are no evening services at present.

The Prayer Meeting is not meeting in person at the moment, but is meeting via email. For more details, or to request prayer, please contact Margaret Boreham. mboreham5@gmail.com