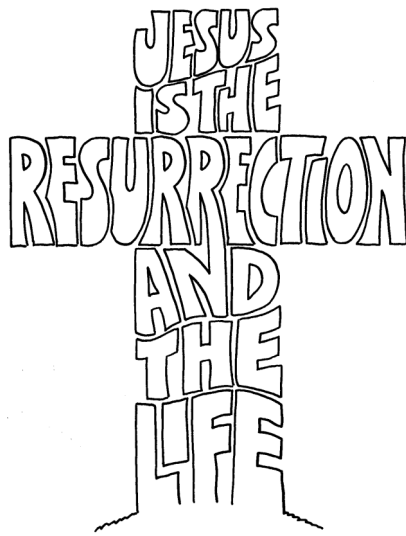


ANERLEY CENTRE ECHO



EASTER 2024

The Newsletter of

ANERLEY METHODIST CHURCH

Oakfield Road,
Anerley
London SE20 8QT

USEFUL CONTACTS (as at 01.03.20) All prefix 020

Church (Minister is not available on this number)		8289 6771
Minister	Rev. William Davis	8653 4902
Church Council Secretaries	Marian Young Julie Taylor	8402 6618 8778 5881
Treasurer	Sylvester Oppong	07900 193 953
Property Steward	David Hynes	8289 3524
Property Bookings	David Hynes	8289 3524
Baptismal/Cradle Roll	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
Junior Church Contact	Sandra Hynes	8289 3524
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 SHOULD
BE GIVEN TO MARIAN YOUNG BY SUNDAY 12TH MAY 2024****Church website: www.anerleymethodist.org**

April/May 2024

Volume 55 Number 6

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

Friends, Easter is here again. Jesus said, 'I am going to prepare a place for you. When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am' (John 14: 2 -3). This was a groom to bride promise. In Christ's day, when a couple received permission from both their families to marry, the groom would return to his father's home and build a house for his bride.

And by promising to do the same for us, Jesus elevated funerals to the same level of hope as weddings. From His perspective, the trip to the cemetery and the walk down the aisle warrant identical excitement. Both celebrate a new era, a new name, and a new home. Friends, rejoice, your heavenly Bridegroom is coming to take you away on His arms. Does that sound too good to be true?. Check the record. If you can find one time in all the sixty – six books in the Bible where God made a promise He didn't keep, you will have reason to doubt this one.

Your final glimpse of life will trigger your first glimpse of Jesus. Because Christ's tomb is empty – His promise isn't. He made it two – thousand years ago, and He's been working on your new home ever since. Friends, can you imagine what it will be like?. Living on a tiny, barren island called Patmos, John the Revelator wrote, 'There was no more sea' (Revelation 21:1). Every morning when John arose the sea was all around him; it was the barrier that separated him from his loved ones on the mainland. Friends, think about it:

in your heavenly home there will be no barriers, no separation, and no limitations.

Wishing you and the entire family a blessed Easter celebration.

Rev. William Davis

ROUND THE FAMILY

Please remember in your prayers Comfort Oppong, Dinah Anaman and their family, following the death of their aunt in Ghana. Our thoughts will be with Comfort and Dinah as they travel to Ghana for her funeral.

We were sorry to hear that Desmond Greeves, Pastor of the Salvation and Deliverance Ministry (who use our Church on Sunday afternoons) has had to travel to Jamaica following the death of his mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with Desmond and his wife Stephanie and family at this time.

Marian

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

Julie would like to thank everyone who took part in the World Day of Prayer service. This year it was the turn of our church to host the service, and we managed to fit into the Side Hall for the service, as the church was still drying out after the flood. Thanks to Janice and Sandra who arranged for the refreshments.

The total offering amounted to £171, which has been sent to World Day of Prayer organisation.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A HERITAGE GUIDE?

Wesley's Chapel & The Museum of Methodism are looking for friendly and enthusiastic helpers from the London area and the South East to show visitors around the chapel. Museum and John Wesley's House.

No knowledge about John Wesley or museums is necessary, full training provided.

Travel expense contributions and refreshments available throughout the day.

If you are interested, please contact Wesley's Chapel Admin Office on 020 7253 2262.
or email museum@wesleyschapel.org.uk.

+++++

Please see Marian Young (who is a Heritage Guide) if you would like to know more about volunteering at Wesley's Chapel. You would be required to attend on two days a month, from 10.30am to 4pm (excluding Sundays or Mondays). Volunteers are urgently needed, so do please think whether you could help in this way.

Andrew's Railway Journeys

11. Missing a connection and missing seats!

In 2000 I walked the White Peak Way (a circuit of the limestone country in the Peak District). I was travelling from St. Pancras to Sheffield where I was meeting my colleague, Dave, who was coming from Oxford on a Cross Country service. He was due to arrive shortly before me, leaving a twenty minute wait for a connecting service to Grindleford, where our walk commenced. It was important we didn't miss that train, otherwise we faced a two hour wait for the next one.

My train left London five minutes late. At first I wasn't particularly concerned but as the journey progressed we seemed to be losing time. When the ticket inspector came round I told him I was meeting a friend at Sheffield and that we had to make the connection. He assured me I should not worry and said he was sure everything would be all right. When he came past again I stressed the importance of getting the local train because when we got to Grindleford we faced a ten mile walk to reach our lodgings for the night. Again he said not to get concerned as he would phone ahead and ask for the local train to be held.

However, my train got later and later. I rang Dave to explain I was delayed. The guard then came to tell me 'the powers that be' would not hold the other train but instead would lay on a taxi.

When I eventually got to Sheffield and met up with my companion, we were joined by another passenger who had also missed the connection. He was going to a station some 15 miles further on. True to their word the railway company pro-

vided a taxi to deliver us to Grindleford. As we left the cab we heard the driver ask his remaining passenger whether he knew the way to his destination because he didn't! We were left wondering whether they ever made it!

oooOOOooo

Back in 1989 I was tackling the West Highland Way with Tony Fryer (our Group Scout Master) and Keith Sherlock (Group Chairman). I believe it was a time when there was a dispute on the Underground so we had to walk from Charing Cross to Euston station to catch the service to Glasgow. We had booked seats on the train, but on getting on board were informed that for 'operational reasons' the expected rolling stock had been replaced with another set of carriages which had a different seating plan and fewer seats.

Rather than compete for seats with other passengers, we made our way to the luggage van at the rear of the train, where the guard allowed us to sprawl out on the floor. He said once the train had emptied a bit we should be able to find seats. He was quite right, but not until we had left Preston! One fact I particularly remember was that the luggage van had several small purpose made holes in the floor, presumably to enable it to be hosed down and cleaned. Looking through one of these holes as the sleepers sped by underneath was quite mesmerising!

AT.

THE GREAT FLOOD

No, this isn't Noah and the Ark! Something a bit closer to home.

On 29th January a Thames Water main in Minden Road burst which flooded the entire church premises to a depth of 2" to 4", cascading from the top hall down into the entrance hall and church.. Fortunately, our side hall seems to have sustained no lasting damage and the electrics were unaffected.

The Thames Water flood mitigation team (Flood Call) were on site within 5 hours of the burst being discovered and remained on site until midnight on the day of the flood. Flood Call has been amazing in their response, and they will be overseeing the repairs going forward. The water has been drained from the premises and equipment is installed throughout to dry the building. Thames Water have accepted responsibility, and we are working with their Loss Adjuster and flood mitigation team to undertake repairs.

The Pre-School staff worked hard to clean and disinfect the top hall and it was due to their efforts that Pre-school was able to resume after three days. We are very grateful to them for all that they did. All our other users have been accommodated.

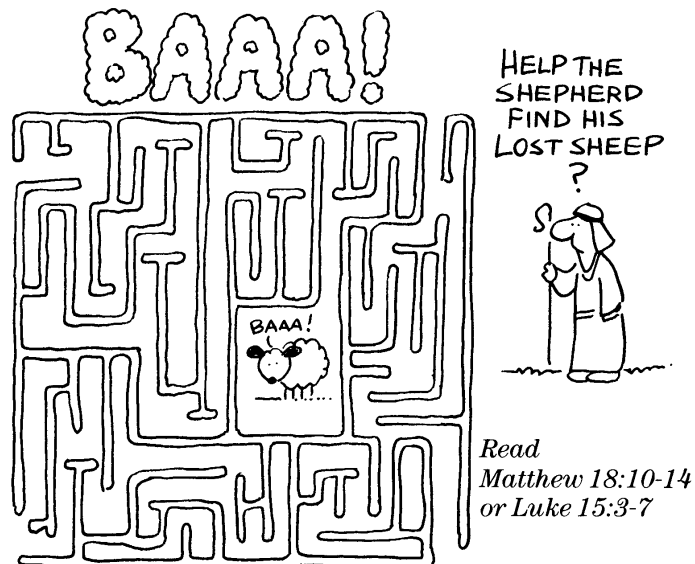
All floors in the top half of the building, and the entrance hall and small kitchen below, will need to be lifted to dry the under-floor and then lay new flooring, so going forward some disruption to activities will be inevitable. We expect all floors to be re-laid and remedial work undertaken by 14th April with the majority of the work being undertaken during the school Easter holiday.

The carpet in the church has been removed, and the contractor has now started work on repairing the floor of the church. Once this is completed, the new carpet will be laid. We hope that we shall soon be back worshipping in the church.

The Thames Water Loss Adjuster has agreed to an interim payment of £5K to compensate for the additional energy costs of running heating and fans continuously and to enable the photocopier to be replaced

The church owes a great debt of thanks and appreciation to David and Sandra, for all their efforts both with negotiations with Thames Water and in clearing up after the event., and to them and our Church Stewards in enabling our Sunday services to continue in the Side Hall or the Top Hall each week.

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS



THE DELIGHTS OF GETTING OLDER

We thought we'd have some
days away
My other half and me.
We thought we'd drive down
to the coast
And stay there by the sea.

We have no great
commitments,
So we can just go with
the flow.
Now our kids have flown
the nest
We can simply up and go.

'We'll take a small bag each,'
said I,
'Yes, we can travel light.'
But I'd reckoned without
one thing
That would stop us in
our flight.

He said: 'Don't forget
those tablets
For my arthritic pain,
And I must take those new
blue ones
In case I get migraine.'

And also take those
garlic ones
They're so good for

the heart,
And I always have Omega 3;
They help to keep me smart.

And put in my new
heartburn pills,
They really work a treat.
And take my ginkgo
and ginseng
So that Alzheimer's I beat.

Don't forget those
yellow ones;
They keep my blood
pressure right.
And some ibuprofen would
be good
In case my back goes in
the night.

So by the time we'd packed
that lot,
Our urge to fly had flown.
We'd just as well sit down
right here
And spend the week
at home!

Lin Dyer.
Whitchurch, Bristol.

(Thanks to Dave Hynes for providing this)

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CIRCUIT

The Rev. Richard Grocott, our Superintendent Minister, is leaving the Circuit in August 2025, and it is unlikely that he will be replaced. This would mean there will be a probable reduction from 4 Ministers to 3 Ministers, to cover 9 churches.

The Circuit Way Forward group have considered some of the issues involved in this, and have prepared a set of proposals which have been discussed with, and agreed by, the Ministers and the Circuit Leadership team.

The proposals are as follows:

The nine circuit churches would be combined into three 'stations' in the North (Eltham Park, Lewisham and Sunfields), Middle (Burnt Ash, Forest Hill and Hither Green) and South (Anerley, Upper Norwood and Wesley Hall) sections of the circuit. These stations all had roughly 150 members in 2023.

From 2025, Revd Craig Gaffney would become Superintendent with pastoral responsibility for the Middle of the circuit; Revd William Davis would have pastoral responsibility for the South of the circuit; conditional on re-invitation, and until 2027 when he retires, Revd Charles Ilunga would have pastoral responsibility for the North of the circuit.

In the near future, Forest Hill and Wesley Hall congregations are expected to worship together at Wesley Hall while Forest Hill is rebuilt. During this period, Craig and William will share responsibility

for the joint congregation.

In view of the reduction in the number of ministers but no reduction in workload the Circuit would seek to employ additional administrative staff to support the ministers. They will also consider whether to employ other lay workers to help fill gaps identified by the circuit and member church mission plans.

If you want to know more about the proposals, or wish to make any comments, please speak to one of the Church Stewards (Dinah, Evelyn, Sandra, Steven and Julie) or Marian.

CIRCUIT BIBLE STUDY

Weekly Thursday Morning zoom Bible Study Finding 'The Way' together.

Thursday mornings 10.00am to 11.00am facilitated by Margaret Boreham

The zoom opens at 9.45am with the study beginning at 10am.

Conversations are based on a Bible passage and there will be questions to make us think and rethink. There is an opportunity and time to share thoughts and questions. Closing remarks are at 11am for those who want just an hour, but stay open after 11am for anyone keen to chat or continue the conversations sparked by the Bible Study.

Margaret on mboreham5@gmail.com, 07483 86 86 12

Recurring zoom link: [https://zoom.us/j/98461065032?](https://zoom.us/j/98461065032?pwd=NTJFUmJ1WHVubjZwaWVCNzd0MIEvdz09)

pwd=NTJFUmJ1WHVubjZwaWVCNzd0MIEvdz09



Penge Community Pre-School

Leader: Chloe Edgington

Anerley Methodist Church

Deputy Leader: Sue Charlesworth

Oakfield Road

SENCO: Dawn McConochie

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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 by appointment Tel. 07772 199 103

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)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

Wed 3rd	Wednesday Club 8pm Music evening
Wed.10th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Bird Bingo
Mon 15th	Christian Action Group 8pm in the Side Hall, Speaker: Valerie Tredinnick: Following Peter from Easter to Pentecost.
Wed 17th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Slides of 2023
Sun 21st	Circuit Youth Service 5pm at Hither Green Methodist Church
Wed 24th	Wednesday Club 8pm: Quiz—Mind the Gap
Sun 28th	All Age Worship—Local Arrangement
Sun 28th	Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Eltham Park Meth- odist Church at 3pm

MAY

Wed 1st	Wednesday Club 8pm Oxo Quiz
Sun 5th	Circuit Easter Offering Service 4.30pm at For- est Hill Methodist Church
Wed 8 th	Wednesday Club Meals 7.15pm at Coombe Lodge
Sun 12 th	Church Anniversary 11am Preacher: Rev. Richard Grocott
Sun 12 th	MAGAZINE ITEMS TO BE GIVEN TO MARIAN
Mon 13th	Christian Action Group 8pm in the Side Hall. Speaker: Saira Bohan-Croft: My work with Refugees
Wed 15th	Wednesday Club 8pm Programme Planning

Wed 22nd	Wednesday Club 8pm Surprise Evening
Sun 26th	All Age Worship 11am Local Arrangement
Sun 26th	Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Eltham Park Meth- odist Church at 3pm
Wed 29th	Wednesday Club 8pm Darts

JUNE

Mon 10th	Christian Action Group 8pm. Speaker: Mary Sparkes: You don't need to get on your knees to pray.
Thur 20th	Circuit Meeting 7.30pm at Sunfields Methodist Church

Morning services are held every Sunday at 11am. Holy Com-
munion will be celebrated on 21st April and
19th May .

There are no evening services being held at the church at
present.

The Prayer Meeting is not meeting in person at the moment,
but is meeting via email. For more details con-
tact Margaret Boreham—
mboreham5@gmail.com

Circuit Bible Study by Zoom takes place every Thursday
morning from 10am to 11am. See further de-
tails and Zoom joining details in the magazine