

**ANERLEY CENTRE
ECHO**



EASTER 2025

**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

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**ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE NEXT MAGAZINE SHOULD
BE GIVEN TO MARIAN YOUNG BY SUNDAY 11TH MAY 2024**

Church website: www.anerleymethodist.org

April/May 2025

Volume 56 Number 6

LETTER FROM THE MINISTER

Friends, the cross must become a vital part of your everyday life. Why? Because you have three relentless enemies you must overcome each day: sin, Satan, self. Friends, how do you overcome them? By living the crucified life. Paul writes, 'I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me'. You say, it's too difficult to live a Christian life. No, it's not difficult, it's impossible. The only way is to let the power and person of Christ live through you. That's why Paul wrote, 'God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world' (Galatians 6:14)

After years in a Russian labour camp, Aleksander Solzhenitsyn became so depressed that he wanted to die. Laying his shovel down, he walked over to a bench and sat down, knowing that any moment a guard could come by and use that shovel to beat him to death. It was then that a fellow inmate took a stick, and in the sand at Solzhenitsyn's feet traced out the sign of the cross. As he stared at it, his entire perspective shifted. Realising the cross represented the greatest power in the universe, he slowly got up, picked up his shovel, and went back to work under the sign of the cross. And you must do that too. Friends, each day remind yourself: 'Jesus died for me. I died with Him and He lives in me. When He lives in me, I can live for Him'. That's the secret of a victorious Christian life.

Wishing you a peaceful Easter Celebration.

Rev. William Davis

ROUND THE FAMILY

Congratulations to Josie Oppong and Benjamin Kwafo-Boadu Junior, who will be getting married on 11th April in Ghana. We send you both our best wishes and hope you have a wonderful day!

We were sorry to hear of the death of Joyce Graham in February. Joyce had been a member at Anerley for many years, moving back to Jamaica to live following her retirement. She came back to visit many times, and moved back to the UK last year when she became unwell, to be near her daughter. Many of us will have fond memories of Joyce, and our thoughts are with her family at this time.

We were also sorry to hear of the death of Christine Conquest in February in her home in Canada. Older readers may remember Christine (nee Parry) and her husband Peter Conquest, who were members of our Youth Club in the 1960s. Our thoughts are with Peter and the family in Canada at this time.

We were pleased to welcome Samson and Olamide (Temi) Temitayo into membership of the Methodist Church at the morning service on 16th March. Samson and Temi, together with Joshua and Ezra, have been worshipping with us for some time, and it was good to formally welcome them into our fellowship.

Marian

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

Julie would like to thank everyone who took part in the World Day of Prayer service. This year the service had been devised by women of the Cook Islands in the South Pacific, and our Junior Church had built a decorated canoe which took pride of place in the service held at the Penge Congregational Church .

CHURCH 160TH ANNIVERSARY

Our church will be celebrating its 160th Birthday on the weekend of 10th/11th May. There will be a concert on Saturday 10th May by the Soul Sanctuary Gospel Choir at 7pm, and on Sunday 11th May the service at 11am will be conducted by the Rev. Imran Malik, a former Minister at Anerley, and will be followed by a Bring and Share Lunch.

Below are pictures of the original church, which was destroyed during the Second World War.



Andrew's bus journeys

4. Some tall stories

When spending a few days at Milford-on-Sea in Hampshire, we saw advertised a combined boat and bus ticket enabling us to sail from Lymington to Yarmouth on the Isle of Wight and then offering a day pass on the open-top service which followed a circular route between Yarmouth and the Needles.

We drove to the ferry terminal at Lymington where we left the car and took the ferry, as foot passengers, across to the Island. Several other people joined us on the top deck of the bus which was waiting for us when we arrived. Soon after the journey commenced a taped commentary started, highlighting some of the features we were passing. The site of the first major pop festival in the country (I think in 1968) was pointed out, and that "*topping the bill had been The Wombles!*" Now I'm not any expert on pop music but I'm sure that's not right. The commentary continued as we journeyed on and it was difficult to know what fact and what was fiction.

Those of you that have been to the Needles will know that cars are not allowed to use the narrow access road which climbs above Alum Bay to the site. However the bus is permitted to make the journey. As we ascended round several hairpin bends, with a steep drop on the seaward side, our driver announced: " *I suffer with vertigo so I've closed my eyes!*". As you can imagine this evoked screams and shouts from many of the passenger on board.

We got off at the top and after inspecting the Needles and former military buildings, now in the hands of the National Trust, we took a high level stroll across Tennyson Down back

to Freshwater Bay, where we joined a later service on the circular route, so we could enjoy again the thrill of negotiating the hair-pin bends. Each driver seemed to have developed his own patter to embroider the 'official' commentary.

Returning to Yarmouth we passed the grounds of a substantial house, and heard, *"When the poet Tennyson moved to the Island, he would have been happy with a 'two up and two down', but his wife insisted on this mansion!"*

We had a very entertaining day.

EASTER SERVICES AT ANERLEY

Maundy Thursday 17th April - Joint Service at Upper Norwood Methodist Church at 7pm

Good Friday 18th April - Service at 9.15am

Easter Sunday 20th April - Early Morning Communion at 9.15am

All Age Worship at 11am





A Policeman's Lot How Times have changed?

Perhaps an unusual topic for a church magazine but maybe you will find this interesting. Sadly guns and shootings are all too familiar on our streets today. Less so in the early 1970's when I qualified as an 'authorised firearms officer' Back then officers were not routinely armed except for those guarding embassies or engaged in close personal protection. Today of course police firearms are much more visible and there are armed patrols immediately available with the authority to 'self arm' when required.

I guess I never really thought that one day I might be required to actually shoot someone! Great fun firing at targets in the basement of Old Street Police Station or at the range on the marshes in Rainham but on the streets would be an entirely different thing.

One day, minding my own business on the beat on the Walworth Road (yes once upon a time police officers did actually walk the streets) information came over the radio that an armed robbery was taking place at a bank in Camberwell. Was there an authorised firearms officer available? I volunteered. Soon I was swept up by the Area Car and conveyed with blue light and two tones – not towards Camberwell and the scene of the robbery – but in the opposite direction to Carter Street Police Station.

There I presented myself to the Station Sergeant and showed him my authorisation card. The Sergeant solemnly opened the station safe and produced a 'six shot' Smith & Wesson handgun and counted out 12 rounds of ammunition. Which I duly signed for. I loaded the gun and placed it in a holster

around my waist – no body armour in those days! Back in the Area car we sped back towards Camberwell where I guess I was supposed to engage the robbers! Well as you can imagine, by the time this pantomime of drawing weapons had run its course, much to my relief, the robbers were long gone. So back to Carter Street to sign the gun back and count the bullets for the Sergeant to sign for in the ledger.

I guess the nearest I ever came to firing a gun in action was some years later, following the night time burglary of a sporting goods shop in Fulham Road. We learned that the villains had run into a flat on a Peabody Estate. With others, having gone through the ritual of drawing firearms we arrived at the scene and as the senior officer I led the search of a darkened flat. I entered a dimly lit bedroom and with my firearm drawn and loaded I knelt down to look under the bed. To my horror a suspect was lying spread-eagled under the bed with a handgun inches from his hand.

Fortunately the suspect was compliant and did not move towards the gun – had he done so I dread to think what would have happened – I suppose I would have had to shoot. After the search we discovered that the gun was in fact a replica – looks like the real thing but not capable of firing. Had I shot him, I guess a subsequent trial or enquiry would have expected me - as an 'expert firearms officer' to have been able to identify that the weapon was only a replica! "Excuse me sir, is that gun you are pointing at me real?" BANG!

CIRCUIT BIBLE STUDY

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

Thursday mornings 10.00am to 11.00am facilitated by Margaret Boreham

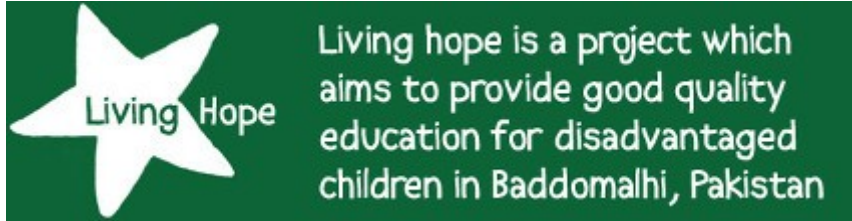
The zoom opens at 9.45am with the study beginning at 10am.

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?pwd=NTJFUmJ1WHVubjZwaWVCNzd0MIEvdz09>





NEWS FROM LIVING HOPE

Dear Friends,

It is with great joy that we bring you this wonderful news! Although the playground is not yet fully ready or equipped, the children are already making the most of it and loving every moment. It has become a safe place where our students can run around, play games, and enjoy themselves to the fullest. Seeing their smiles and laughter fills our hearts with gratitude.

In addition to the playground, we have also created a dedicated space for gardening. The children are excitedly preparing the ground and getting ready to plant some vegetables. This hands-on activity not only teaches them about nature and sustainability but also gives them a sense of pride and responsibility.

Living Hope is deeply grateful for your unwavering support and prayers. Your generosity has made these developments possible, and we cannot thank you enough for being a part of this journey. Together, we are creating a brighter and more joyful environment for the children we serve.

Thank you for standing with us and for your continued prayers.

We will keep you updated on the progress of the playground and garden.

With heartfelt gratitude,

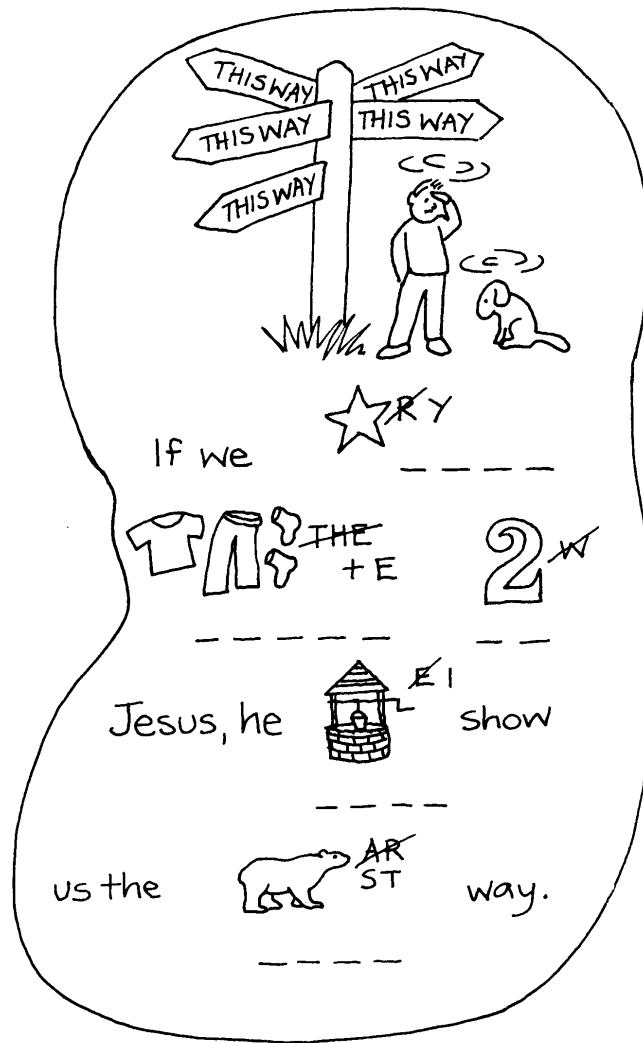
Rev Imran Malik 10 Portland Road

Hawkhead Road, Paisley

PA2 7GH



FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS





Penge Community Pre-School

Leader: Chloe Edgington

Anerley Methodist Church

Deputy Leader: Liane Durka

Oakfield Road

SENCO: Dawn McConochie

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REGULAR CHURCH USERS

- Campbell School of Dance** Friday 4-7pm 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

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

APRIL

- Tue 1st Circuit Lent Bible Study by Zoom. Week 4: James, Son of Thunder
- Wed 2nd Wednesday Club 8pm Noughts and Crosses
- Tue 8th Circuit Lent Bible Study by Zoom .Week 5 Mary Magdalene
- Wed.9th Wednesday Club 8pm: Surprise Evening
- Sun 13th Palm Sunday 11am Preacher: Hilary Waterhouse
- Mon 14th Christian Action Group 8pm in the Side Hall, Speaker: Rev. Leslie Griffiths, Lord Griffiths of Burry Port
- Wed 16th Wednesday Club 8pm: Work Out No.8
- Thur 17th Maundy Thursday service 7pm at Upper Norwood Methodist Church
- Fri 18th Good Friday Service 9.15am
- Sun 20th Easter Morning Communion 9.15 am
Easter All Age Worship 11am led by Valerie Tredinnick
- Wed 23rd Wednesday Club 8pm: All Things St. George
- Sun 27th Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Eltham Park Methodist Church at 3pm
- Wed 30th Wednesday Club 8pm Mind the Gap

MAY

- Sun 4th Circuit Easter Offering Service 4.30pm at Lewisham Methodist Church
- Wed 7th Wednesday Club 8pm Card Games
- Sat 10th 160th Anniversary Concert. 7pm. More details later

Sun 11th 160th Church Anniversary 11am Preacher: Rev. Imran Malik, followed by Bring and Share lunch

Sun 11th MAGAZINE ITEMS TO BE GIVEN TO MARIAN

Mon 12th Christian Action Group 8pm in the Side Hall. Speaker: Rev. Charles ILunga

Wed 14th Wednesday Club 8pm Programme Planning

Wed 21st Wednesday Club 8pm Bird Bingo

Sun 25th All Age Worship 11am Local Arrangement

Sun 25th Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Eltham Park Methodist Church at 3pm

Wed 28th Wednesday Club 8pm What

JUNE

Thur 3rd Circuit Meeting 7.30pm at Burnt Ash Methodist Church

Mon 23rd Christian Action Group 8pm. Speaker: Paddy Boothe

Morning services are held every Sunday at 11am. Holy Communion will be celebrated on 20th April (9.15am on Easter Sunday) and 18th 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 contact Margaret Boreham—mboreham5@gmail.com

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