



The Methodist Church

Blackheath and Crystal Palace Circuit

Quarterly Newsletter

Issue 23

September 2018

Superintendent Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

It is with great joy that I am writing to you for the first time as your new circuit Superintendent Minister. Allow me to tell you a little about myself. I come to you from the Battersea and Wandle Valley circuit where I have been a Presbyterian for the past 7 years in a multi-cultural setting and where I have learned to enjoy Jollof rice and curried goat as well as lively, uplifting worship!

I come originally from the City of Chester in Northern England, but have travelled around quite a lot during 28 years of ministry. This included 2 years in Japan before I came into ministry and 11 years as a Mission partner in Italy. 10 years of my ministry has been as a Superintendent.

I am married to Carol, who comes from Northern Ireland, and who works in the London District Offices at Central Hall, Westminster. Carol and I often work together in ministry and believe in open hospitality in our Manse. We have a son named John who will be living with us in the Mottingham Lane Manse. John is 25 years old, a young professional man who worships at St Martins.

My interests include swimming, playing the guitar, and mountain walking, especially when we return to our small holiday flat in Northern Italy. Carol and I also enjoy going to concerts and art exhibitions together.

My real passion is my Christian faith and building Christian communities. I have served in a variety of places from small rural churches to larger churches in South London. I am a fifth generation Methodist, my mother's family being of North Staffordshire Primitive Methodist stock! My goal is to build churches where people are encouraged to share their God given gifts. My vision is for churches in which faith is nurtured and encouraged, injustice is challenged and people grow to be the Spirit filled believers God wants them to be.

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I seek to work with all who seek to build God's Kingdom on earth whatever their background, their race, gender or sexual orientation might be to build open, inclusive churches.

I look forward to meeting and working with all of you in the Blackheath and Crystal Palace circuit in the years that lie ahead, and I pray God's blessings upon us all.

Kind regards,

Richard

Letter from Stephen and Angela Maunder:

Dear friends,

We would like to express our sincere thanks for the Circuit gift which we received at the 'farewell service' last month, and for the cards and expressions of best wishes which were offered prior to our departure. We were touched that so many people were present on a very hot Sunday afternoon, and look forward to buying something significant which will always remind us of you.

Fortunately, we have been able to have a little relaxation before moving into the new manse in Oxford, and we then look forward to future challenges!

With every blessing,

Stephen and Angela

Letter from Bill Tardy:

Dear Friends,

As I sit here and type on the computer keyboard, Renate and I have been back from sabbatical for almost a month. So, what did we experience and what did we learn? First, we had a wonderful time visiting family. We spent an extended visit with my mother and sister in Maine. As we arrived, it was actually still snowing! So, we had idyllic walks on snow-covered paths along an abandoned railway track. We even surprised a Canadian Lynx on one of our sojourns.

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As spring was beginning to show its face in Maine, we were off to visit my children and grandchildren. What a blessed opportunity! We visited each of my children's locations (Maryland, Kentucky and Georgia) and shared many wonderful moments of grandbaby kisses and breaking bread together. We took out time to visit old friends along the way: the church where I served in Stoutsville, Ohio, old friends and my former spiritual director in Columbus, Ohio. We also stopped by a distant cousin's of Renate's that lived in South Carolina (they hadn't seen each other for over forty years. What a gift!

After 2,200 miles of driving to visit family, we took off from Atlanta to head out to the Southwest USA. We picked up a campervan in Las Vegas and set off for another 2,000+ mile journey through Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico. It was my first time visiting the Grand Canyon, the Painted Desert, the Petrified Forest and many of the Native American Cliff Dwellings. I remarked to Renate that we were being blessed by our moments of family, friends and the beauties of creation.

After a harried 30-hour turnover in London (primarily to change contents in our suitcase and backpacks), we headed off to Europe. Again, we had wonderful moments with Renate's mum and opportunities to visit Berlin, Potsdam and Barcelona. To close out our journeys, we headed down the eastern coast of Spain and spent the last week in a little cabin amidst groves of olive and tamarind trees.

Throughout the sabbatical, we were reminded of how fortunate we were to be able to take this time out of our normal everyday life. How fortunate that as we travelled, we had sufficient food & water, more than adequate shelter, the gift of family & friends and safe travels. How many people in our world have so few of these blessings?

As we continue our lives, we are called to reach out to others who are not so fortunate. *"One of the principal rules of religion is, to lose no occasion of serving God. And, since he is invisible to our eyes, we are to serve him in our neighbour; which he receives as if done to himself in person, standing visibly before us."* – **John Wesley**, A Plain Account of Christian Perfection.

May the love of God guide our shared journey of faith,

Revd Bill Tardy

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Safeguarding

The Blackheath & Crystal Palace Circuit is committed to Safeguarding. Below is an extract of the Safeguarding Principles adopted at the Circuit meeting on 12 June 2018. A copy of the full policy document is available from your Circuit Rep.

Since 1 September 2017, some 60 people have attended Safeguarding Training at both Foundation and Refresher level. Training is on-going, and if you wish to find out more, please speak to the Safeguarding Officer at your church, or contact Elsie Sutherland, Circuit Safeguarding Officer: sutherland.elsie@yahoo.co.uk

Statement of Safeguarding Principles

Every person has a value and dignity which comes directly from the creation of humans in God's own image and likeness. Christians see this potential as fulfilled by God's re-creation of us in Christ. Among other things this implies a duty to value all people as bearing the image of God and therefore to protect them from harm.

Principles

We are committed to:

- the care and nurture of, and respectful pastoral ministry with, all children, young people and adults
- the safeguarding and protection of all children, young people and adults when they are vulnerable
- the establishing of safe, caring communities which provide a loving environment where there is informed vigilance as to the dangers of abuse.

We will carefully select and train all those with any responsibility within the Church, in line with Safer Recruitment principles, including the use of criminal records disclosures and registration with the relevant vetting and barring schemes.

We will respond without delay to every complaint made which suggests that an adult, child or young person may have been harmed, cooperating with the police and local authority in any investigation.

We will seek to work with anyone who has suffered abuse, developing with them an appropriate ministry of informed pastoral care.

We will seek to challenge any abuse of power, especially by anyone in a position of trust.

We will seek to offer pastoral care and support, including supervision and referral to the proper authorities, to any member of our church community known to have offended against a child, young person or vulnerable adult.

We will follow the requirement of the GDPR legislation as it affects Safeguarding, and pay heed to advice as it emerges. We will seek to ensure that all parties are made aware of their rights under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) regarding information that is held by us. Privacy Notices will be supplied to those about whom data is being processed.

In all these principles we will follow legislation, guidance and recognised good practice.

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**BLACKHEATH AND CRYSTAL PALACE CIRCUIT
SUMMER FAIR – 23 JUNE 2018
at FOREST HILL**

The Circuit Summer Fair was held on the longest day of the year and what a glorious day it was! The entrance looked so festive with the colourful balloons and bunting. There was beautiful scorching hot sunshine all day which made people feel so happy and joyful like in Pippa's Song -

‘God's in His heaven
All's right with the world.’

A huge THANK YOU to so many people who organised the event and to those who attended and contributed to the funds.

There was a great deal of very hard work, huge amounts of energy expended to make it such a wonderful event. An enormous amount of physical energy was spent in setting up the furniture in the Hall and outside and the Gazeboes in the garden and at the end of the day packing them all up.

The contributions made by members from our different Churches in managing a variety of stalls, providing food for refreshments and serving breakfast, lunch and a variety of cakes and drinks as well as financial contributions and of course providing the music, managing the entrance and cashiering are all greatly appreciated.

The efficient organization and the hard work of the planning committee and many helpers contributed to the smooth running and the success of the event. All their efforts and work carried out with such joy are greatly appreciated. Thank you to Margaret Baker for managing the overall supervision of all the details of the event tirelessly. It was a Circuit event which is always an afternoon of fellowship.

The funds collected will be our contribution to the three charities supported by MWiB London District – Mercy Ships, Rafiki Foundation and Saving Children of Africa in Need (SCAN). In addition, 20% of the funds collected will go to the Methodist World Missions Fund as a contribution from our Circuit.

*IRA FERNANDO
CIRCUIT MISSIONS AND MWiB SECRETARY*

Final figures have now been confirmed:
£767.96 for current MWiB Project Charities
£191.99 for World Mission.

Many congratulations to the organising committee and all involved.

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Taiwo's on the Road to Kilimanjaro – an update

For various reasons I've not yet raised enough to do the climb this year so I have made the decision to postpone the trip until July 2019 as this gives me more time to fundraise. In particular it gives me more time to try and get corporate sponsorship.

On Saturday 9th June our premises manager, Wang, hosted the Authentic Chinese Meal where 20 people were taught how to make spring rolls and Chinese dumplings (fried and steamed). As well as raising funds for the Kilimanjaro project this event gave participants an opportunity to spend time getting to know each other. Attendees ranged from young adults to the older members of the congregation and each person got the opportunity to prepare both the spring rolls and the dumplings which made up the starters for the sumptuous lunch. These were followed by an egg and tomato dish and noodles with vegetables and prawns.

By all accounts a good time was had by everyone. The event raised £202 which brings the total personal donations to £775 so this is a great start. I'd like to say a big thank you to those who have contributed to this project so far whether financially, with offers of equipment, hiking trail ideas or with words of encouragement.

This has already been a massive learning experience for me particularly spiritually and I'm excited to continue on this journey and see how it impacts my life and my relationship with God and how that is expressed in my life and ministry, particularly the effects it has on the people I encounter each day through my work and in my ordinary life. I will continue to keep you informed of my progress in all areas.

If you would still like to contribute, you can do so by:

- Handing it to your senior steward who will forward it to me at Forest Hill
- Paying online via my fundraising page at <https://www.gofundme.com/taiwoskilimanjaro>

Thank you for your continued help, support and prayers. May God continue to guide this project God Bless

Taiwo Dayo-Payne (local preacher at Forest Hill)

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DO YOU LIKE A GOOD TUNE?

***THEN WHY NOT COME ALONG TO A CONCERT
BY THE ELTHAM PARK
PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON ORCHESTRA?***

www.pleasant.org.uk

30 September; 28 October; 25 November

3.00pm

ELTHAM PARK METHODIST CHURCH

Westmount Road SE9 1XX

Sunday 11 November 3.00pm

NEW ELTHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Footscray Road SE9 3UL

***A special concert of reflective and commemorative music
to mark the centenary of the armistice***

ADMISSION FREE

Refreshments available

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TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Sharing friendship, faith and fun

September to November 2018

Tuesday Fellowship, an ecumenical fellowship group, meet at Forest Hill Methodist Church and Centre from 2:00 on Tuesdays for refreshments and chat, before we start at 2:30 with a hymn and prayers, then listen to a speaker or have an activity. We do not duplicate what church does. All are welcome, as we get to know each other better, make new friends and develop our skills.

4 September	Remi Darfour: My experiences as a nurse in the U.K.
11 September	Chris Wise: The history of Ichthus
18 September	Brenda Onatade: Louise Bennett's Jamaican vernacular poetry
25 September	Taiwo Dayo-Payne: 'My road to Mount Kilimanjaro'
2 October	<i>(speaker to be confirmed)</i>
9 October	GNia diction with conviction poet: Caribbean songs and African / Caribbean poetry
16 October	Hazel Carcas 'Forgotten people in the New Testament'
23 October	Rev. Dee Yeadon: Potentially all age session (<i>school holiday</i>)
30 October	<i>(speaker to be confirmed)</i>
6 November	Sue Rhodes: Angel Project creative session
13 November	Jane Moxhay-Baker: Tuesday Tunes
20 November	<i>(speaker to be confirmed)</i>
27 November	Chris Wise: 'Mission Aviation Fellowship'

We are running an Angel Project at FHMCC this year, knitting, crocheting and crafting Christmas decoration angels to give and bless each other in a service in December, to bless the people attending groups and meetings and our neighbours and invite them to our Christmas and Watchnight services. The Project will be as small or big as God inspires; we've started it and will see where God takes us.

Tuesday Fellowship secretary: Sue Rhodes
suerhodespersonal@gmail.com

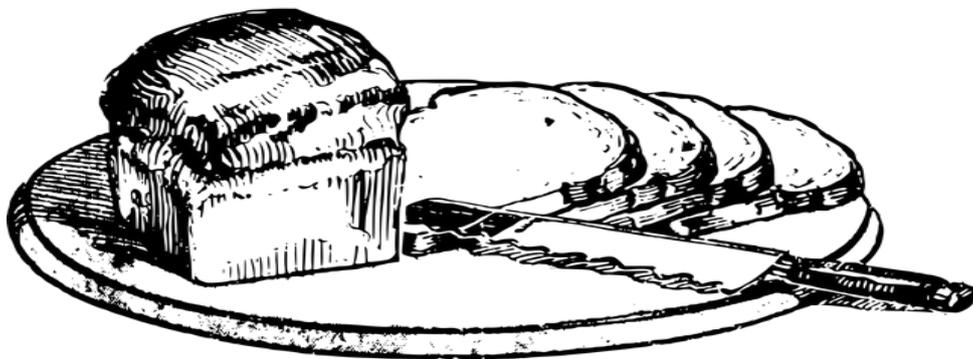
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**Anerley Methodist Church
Saturday Event**

You are warmly invited to attend

**Faith, Food and
Fitness**

**Nourishing your
Mind, Soul, and Body**



Saturday September 15th 2018

10 am – 2.30 pm

(light lunch provided at 12.30 pm)

Details from Peter and Margaret

Tel: 020 8462 2228

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Talents Festival in Shirley
(Formally Methodist Talents Festival)
Saturday 2nd March 2019
Shirley Methodist Church, Eldon Avenue,
Croydon CR0 8SD

You may have taken part at previous Festivals as a competitor or as a spectator, or the Talents Festival may be new to you. Whatever your interests, there are a wide range of creative and performing classes from which to choose.

Copies of the syllabus, which include details of the classes, and rules of entry, have been circulated to churches, or are available from Linda at the circuit office: office.bcpc@btinternet.com

Why not get together with other church members, chose which classes may be suitable for you, and send off an entry via the festival co-ordinator at your church! Sections include Creative Writing; Crafts, Textiles and Needlework; Photography; Drawing; Painting; and Cookery. Performance classes include Vocal and instrumental sections; poetry reading; Drama, and scripture reading.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR ENTRIES: REGISTER YOUR ENTRY/ENTRIES - Closing date for entry details for all classes to be given to your Church's Festival Co-ordinator no later than Sunday 11th November 2018.

FINISHED ENTRIES – Creative Classes entries (except classes 76-83) are due in to your Church Festival Co-ordinator no later than Sunday 13th January 2019.

Timetables for Performing Classes will be available in February.

TALENTS FESTIVAL DAY Saturday 2nd March 2019 10.00 am Doors open.

Display of Handicraft entries all day 11.00 am onwards. Refreshments on sale, including light lunches. 5-6 pm Festival Concert All are welcome to attend the Concert when entrants, including some class winners, will perform.

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BURNT ASH SINGERS

PRESENT

‘Yesterday’

Join the ‘Ash’ family as they celebrate the life of ‘Stanley Ash’ through music, song and prose



Saturday 27th October 2018 at 3pm

**Burnt Ash Methodist Church Hall,
Lee, SE12 0QD**

All tickets £7.50

**Includes Afternoon Tea and Cakes
served during the interval**

Book early to avoid disappointment

Raffle in Aid of The Actors Benevolent Fund

For information/booking contact: rynld@aol.com

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Opportunities for Coffee and Fellowship within the Circuit:

Burnt Ash:

Wednesday mornings 10am–12 noon

Eltham Park:

3rd Saturday of every month 10.30-12 noon

Forest Hill:

Tuesday Fellowship 2pm–3.30pm

Middle Wednesday of the Month

September Coffee morning in aid of McMillan Cancer Care

Sunfields:

Saturday mornings 10am–12 noon



Circuit/Church Forthcoming Events

Sun. 2 nd Sept.	Circuit Welcome Service	5pm	Lewisham
Sat. 15 th Sept.	Faith, Food and Fitness	10am-2.30pm	Anerley
Sat. 15 th Sept.	Synod	10am	Central Hall
Sun. 30 th Sept.	PSA	3pm	Eltham Park
Thurs. 18 th Sept	Circuit Meeting	7.45pm	Lewisham
Sat. 27 th Oct.	Burnt Ash Singers	3pm	Burnt Ash
Sun. 28 th Oct.	PSA	3pm	Eltham Park
Tues. 30 th Oct.	LP & WL meeting	7.45pm	Burnt Ash
Sun. 11 th Nov.	PSA	3pm	New Eltham
Sun. 25 th Nov.	PSA	3pm	Eltham Park

Circuit Website: bhcpmethodist.org.uk

Deadline for information for next newsletter:

24th November 2018

Please email details to: office.bcpc@btinternet.com

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