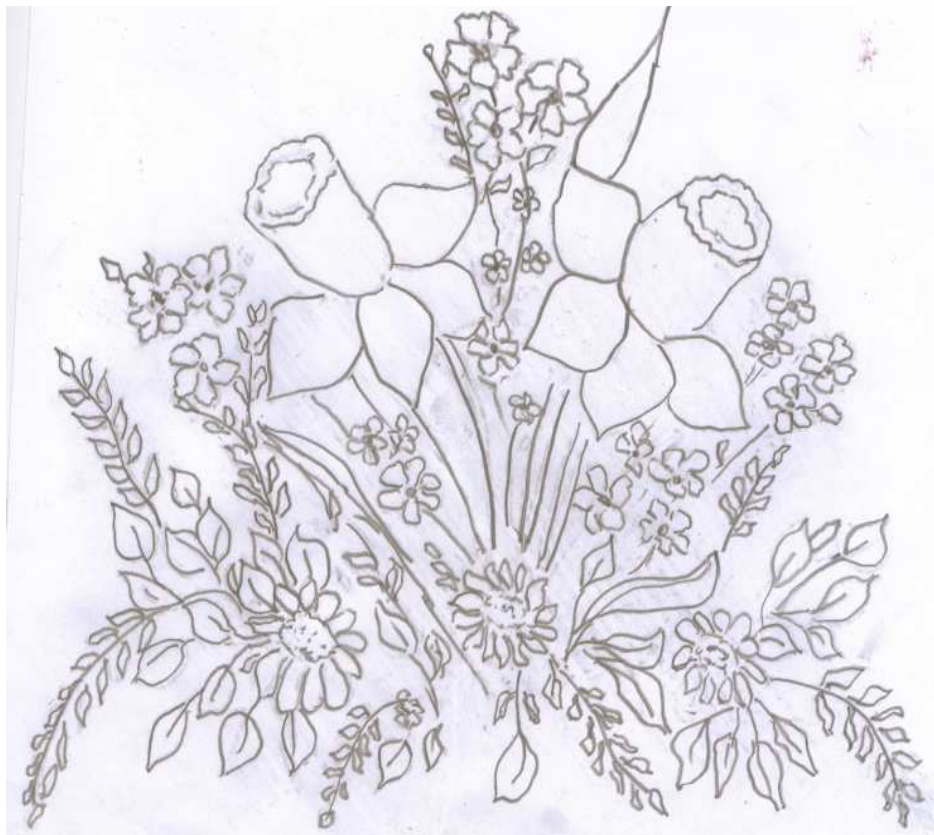


THE INDICATOR

February & March 2015



***Beckenham Methodist
Church***



Dear Friends,

Lent is almost upon us once more! As you read this, Ash Wednesday is only a couple of weeks away. The weekend before will be the Sunday Before Lent when, as always, we shall consider that seemingly peculiar incident known as the Transfiguration of Jesus. The sense of its peculiarity arises from two factors: our almost instinctive literalist experience of describing things these days, and the inability to cope with the way the NT writers expressed themselves.

Actually, though, it doesn't take too much effort to find similar moments of transfiguration in our every-day lives now. Think, for example, of the many faces of the athletes we saw at both the Olympics and the Commonwealth Games. Those who got a medal stood on the podium and 'shined' with pride and joy. When my daughter first brought her new partner to see me she and he 'lit up the room' with the look on their faces: you could 'see' that they were deeply in love. And when my first wife, Linda, first held our grand-daughter shortly after she was born Linda described the feeling as "being on cloud nine"!

However you might want to explain away these human experiences; for the people concerned these are moments when life grants us the deep conviction that the world does make sense and that everything fits. They are moments when majesty and beauty are almost overwhelming; moments when our vision is stretched and the world is so much more' than the hum-drum of everyday life.

‘Put all those things together and you are close to where Peter, James and John found themselves on that day as they climbed the mountain.

The Gospel describing the Transfiguration of Jesus says that his face shone, his clothes were white with light, he was there with Moses and Elijah. Who knows, literally, what was going on? The fact is, the disciples certainly didn’t know! They are with the Jesus they know so well (probably knew him way back in his woodworking days in Capernaum, when they sold their fish to Mary as old Joseph repaired their boats). But this is different. There on the mountain top they see Jesus in a new way - as though for the first time they can really ‘see’ him. This time they see a depth, a beauty, a meaning, a power, an awesomeness, that they had never seen before - something exciting and thrilling, yet so powerfully present as to be almost frightening.

There are moments for all of us when we get a glimpse of how the world is richer and deeper and more connected and meaningful and beautiful than in the mundane ordinariness of the rest of our time. But those moments, like seeing a rainbow, are impossible to capture and keep. They do serve, however, to remind us that there are dimensions and depths to life that are largely ‘hidden’ during the mundane and routine.

Lent offers us a chance to reflect on the period of Jesus’ life which followed his Transfiguration when not only the mundane and routine hours were his lot but also the frightening and despairing too. Somehow, through all the mundane, through all the fear and the despair, Jesus held on to the conviction that there was ‘more’ - and at the end of it all he came to the victory of the cross and the triumph of resurrection.

Have a good Lent - and prepare yourself for a splendid Easter.

Mike

CHRISTIAN AID 2015
COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

If you would like to follow the daily reflections through Lent and respond by donating, please

Visit: [christianaid.org.uk / lent](http://christianaid.org.uk/lent)

Email: orders@christian-aid.org

Phone: 0870 078 7788

Free download to your smart phone or tablet from the Apple App store or Google Play.

Versions for children and young people also available.

A paper copy will also be on display at both sites from the beginning of Lent.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10-16 MAY 2015

Christian Aid week is fast approaching and once again volunteers are urgently needed for door-to-door collection.

Please speak to one of the stewards or Lum Ntumazah should you have any spare time during that period.

Your help in supporting this good cause is much appreciated.

An invitation to the Daffodil Day at Central Hall Westminster

From 1.40pm there will be community singing led by Revd. Tony Miles, Deputy Superintendent Minister.

The main programme will be from 2.00pm until 3.45pm. Our theme this year will be “flowers”.

Please invite your family & friends & loved ones and let as many people as possible know about the event.

Our annual Spring Rally Daffodil Day has always been a feature of Methodist Central Hall, Westminster and is sponsored jointly with Women’s Network.

I do hope that your group, or individuals in your church, will wish to be part of this great celebration.

The doors of the Great Hall will be open at 12noon and you are welcome to sit and eat your lunch there. It would be helpful if members of your group could be seated by 1.40pm in preparation for the hymn singing.

The cafe will be open for those requiring a hot meal. A crèche will be available from 1.45—3.45pm but you would have to book it through Ollie McEwen, Church Office (02076543809) by 5.00pm Friday 13th February. At the latest. We will be welcoming the Revd Steve Wild, Chair of the Cornwall District and Methodist President Designate and Susan Crossly, President Methodist Women in Britain.

Also to entertain us will be Anando Mukajee, Operatic Tenor & Cathy Sara, Actress & Singer. The music will be supplied by our own Director of Music Gerard Brooks and Andrew Furniss

The Lord Mayor of Westminster has been invited and our ministerial staff will also be participating.

The Revd. Tony Miles book “Maybe Tomorrow” will be on sale, so will our fabulous CD’s “The Heart of Methodist Worship” and our two new Organ CD’s will be available at our well stocked bookshop.

Refreshment points will be based in the Lecture Hall and both ends of the 3rd floor from 11.30-1.30pm. To celebrate the day invite each member of your group to wear a daffodil. Alternatively, if they prefer, they can buy a Marie Curie Daffodil at the entrance and thus support a worthy cause.

This year we are having a representative from Marie Curie to speak about the excellent work they do.

More information of course is available from Ollie McEwen, my Personal Assistant, who is available to answer any queries you may have about the Rally.

Thank so much for all your support and the hard work you do.

We hope that this years’ Daffodil Day will be special and be a day to remember.

Your Sincerely
Martin Turner

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Smiles

A police recruit was asked during the exam, ‘What would you do if you had to arrest your mother?’
He answered, ‘Call for back up.’

FROM THE VESTRY

At our January Church Council, it was agreed that the changeover of Stewards should take place on September 1st each year (instead of May 1st) to bring us into line with the other circuit churches.

This means that we can be more flexible with the date of the General Church Meeting, which for 2015 will be announced soon.

Three of our long-serving Stewards will be stepping down this year. If you feel you might be able to make the commitment of serving the Church in this way, please talk to any of the Stewards to find out what is really involved. It is very worthwhile to support our preachers and enable the most meaningful worship we can!

It was also decided that it would be beneficial for the Stewards and anyone else who is interested to undertake some first aid training at Bromley Road.

If you would be interested, or if you hold a current certificate, please inform one of the Stewards. We will keep a list of qualified first aiders at both sites.

Pastoral care

Also, if you live alone, your Pastoral Visitor will be asking if you would be willing to let her/him know contact details of someone close to you. These would be kept confidentially in each vestry in case of accident.

If there is anything about church life you would like to comment on, please feel free to speak to me - *Jenny Nichols*

THANKS FROM DEPTFORD MISSION

Dear Friends at Beckenham Methodist Church,

I am writing on behalf of Disabled People's Contact to thank you for the donations of toys, gifts and food that we received at Christmas. We host around 25 guests and a similar number of volunteers on Christmas day for dinner with all the trimmings and each person gets a gift to take home. The guests are people who would otherwise be completely alone for Christmas and, for most of these, the gift that we give them is the only Christmas gift they will receive!

The gifts of toys go into our shop, where all the money taken is put to the running of the day centre. These toys are bought by local people who are able to afford something in our charity shop, thereby helping them to bless their families and maintain their self-esteem at being able to provide for them.

Gifts of food are used in our day centre - we can never have too many biscuits or too much tea and coffee! Anything that we don't use gets passed to our local night shelter for homeless people, the Robes Project, at which I cook once a week during the winter months. We also pass along to them tooth brushes, soaps and shower gels and these are given to the Robes guests for their use.

Thank you again for the way that your support helps us to offer this important ministry and to share Christ's love at Christmas and throughout the year.

Melissa Quinn

You can read the complete letter on the notice board in the New Room at Bromley Road or in the Long Vestry at Clock House Road.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH 2015 at 2pm

ST.MARY'S CHURCH, SHORTLANDS

Prepared by Christian women of The Bahamas

Jesus said to them: Do you know what I have done to you?

Please join us for this interdenominational service.

*[367 bus stops outside the door (top of St. Mary's Avenue)
Unlimited street parking]*

The Bahamas is overwhelmingly Christian and has been since 1647 when a group of English Puritans from Bermuda, in search of religious freedom, settled on the island of Citagoo, which they renamed Eleuthera, meaning 'freedom'.

Today the churches are impacting on The Bahamas in practical ways, including running drug rehabilitation centres, working with people with HIV and AIDS and numerous social and street programmes.

Bahamian society requires mothers to take sole responsibility for their families.

Women continue to look to the church for their social life.

Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday 29 March 10.30am

Services at Bromley Road & Clock House Road.

Maundy Thursday 2nd April

Holy Communion will be held at Bromley and West Wickham Churches at 8pm.

Good Friday 3rd April

11am CTiB Walk of Witness

Starting from St Edmunds at 11am.

Circuit Service at Bromley Road, 3pm

Followed by tea

Easter Sunday 5th March

8am Joint Holy Communion Service at

Clockhouse Road - Followed by breakfast

10.30am Joint Holy Communion Service at

Bromley Road

LINDEN CLUB

The West Wickham Methodist Church, Hawes Lane, has a small fellowship group on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month starting at 2.15pm.

We are a very pleasant and friendly group and would welcome some new members. At our meetings we have a variety of speakers and finish with a cup of tea and a chat.

We offer a very warm welcome to anyone who feels they would like to join us.

Wednesday 11th February Further Aspects of Churchill
Neville Snazel

Wednesday 25th February Hearing Dogs for Deaf People
Fred Carpenter, Jill Solly & Bounty

Wednesday 11th March The Golden Temple of Amritsar
Mr & Mrs A Stabbins

Wednesday 25th March Linden Club Party

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Our Garden at Bromley Road

I would like to say a big thank you to David and Greta Blacknell, on behalf of us all for their care of the containers adjacent to Bevington Road, which they have looked after for many years. It has been much appreciated, and they deserve a rest.

Fortunately Ingrid and Nada Shumoogum, and Alice Everest have agreed to “join the team”, and we wish them many years of happy gardening at Bromley Road.

David Keall

CHURCHES TOGETHER in BECKENHAM

I am sure you will remember the Pentecost Picnic organised on Beckenham Green by CTiB last summer. It was a great event and well attended. If you didn't make it you will be pleased to hear that you have another chance to attend such a day as CTiB have decided to hold another Big Picnic this summer. This will be held on Sunday 7th June and it is hoped that all the Churches will be involved. Please watch the weekly notices and the next Indicator for more details.

CTiB is working well at the moment. At Christmas the Churches supported the local residents association with a parade down the High Street prior to turning on Beckenham's Christmas lights.

The next event will be our Annual Walk of Witness on Good Friday (more details elsewhere in this issue of the Indicator).

At the moment lay representatives meet with the clergy of Beckenham at regular intervals to help organise these occasions. Maureen Bull is our representative and, over the last year, I have been helping her. However if anyone would care to join us we would be very glad to see you. Please speak to me if you are interested.

Thank you

Christine Handel



News from the Church Family

We continue to hold in our thoughts and prayers members of the church family who are unwell at this time.

Ann Dyson who is in Lewisham Hospital following a fall.

Muriel Staples who is not well at all and unable to get out.

We want to congratulate Gordon Wilson on celebrating a Special Birthday.

We welcome Joe and Vicky and their baby daughter, Isobel, into our church family.

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Real Life Stories

Today I asked my mentor– a very successful business man in his 70s– what his 3 tips are for success.

He smiled and said,

” Read something no one else is reading,
think something no one else is thinking,
and do something no one else is doing”.



Church Flowers

Bromley Road

February	1st	Wendy Richman
	8th	Ena Hamblyn
	15th	Wilson Broom
	22nd	Sheila Priestman
March	1st	Barry Stewart
	8th	Margaret Hazlewood
	15th
	22nd	Christine Handel
	29th	Ruth King

The Editors would like to thank Margaret Hazlewood for her weekly oversight of the flowers at Bromley Road and for the decorations during the Christmas season.

Clock House Road

February	1st	Mary Sawyer
	8th	Irene Antwi
	15th	Maureen Bull
	22nd	Lum & Roy Ntumazah
March	1st	Venus Leon
	8th	Mary Sawyer
	15th	Irene Antwi
	22nd	Maureen Bull
	29th	Lum & Roy Ntumazah

OPEN DOOR

**Mondays 2 to 3.30pm in the Wesley Lounge at
Bromley Road.**

Come every week or just when you can.

February	2nd	50s music - bring your favourites
	9th	Christine Handel - Registrar ‘The happiest day of your life?’
	16th	Considering Lent
	23rd	Favourite authors
March	2nd	Background to Women’s World Day of Prayer
	9th	Alison Driscoll “Journeys around Bethlehem” The work of ABCD (Action Around Bethlehem Children with Disability)
	16th	St. Patrick
	23rd	Natural Resources - Wood
	30th	Holy Week thoughts

Always time for chat and refreshments!

All welcome

BROMLEY METHODIST CHURCH
THURSDAY SERVICES at 12.15 pm

Preachers/Speakers for February

- 5th John Morley.
12th Revd Karen George.
19th Revd Mike Cassidy.
26th Revd Liz Davis. St Andrew's Church Bromley

Preachers/Speakers for March

- 5th Mrs J Pogose.
12th Revd Karen George. Holy Communion
19th Mr David Lemmon.
26th Revd Mike Cassidy.

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MENS FORUM – PROGRAMME 2015

Our Men's Forum meets monthly on the second Saturday at our Clock House site to provide Christian fellowship based upon presentations of interest followed by discussion. We are pleased to join in witness with our brothers and sisters at Bromley Methodist Church.

January 22	12.15	Bromley Methodist Church followed by lunch at The George, Hayes Village
February 14	11.00	Aspects of Policing by Alan Durston
February 26	12.15	Bromley Methodist Church followed by lunch at The Anglesey Arms, Bromley
March 14	11.00	The Story of Oil an address by Gordon Hughes
March 26	12.15	Bromley Methodist Church followed by lunch at "The Warren", West Wickham Common
April 11	11.00	Nada Shumoogum will address us on Social Services and Care.

We will be concluding our Fund Raising activities for 'Men in Sheds'

April 23	11.00	The Methodist Museum at Wesley's Chapel
May 9	11.00	Visit to Chartwell followed by lunch at The Royal Oak, Crockham Hill, Westerham
May 21	12.15	Bromley Methodist Church followed by lunch
June 13	11.00	My experiences in Indonesia an address by Peter Reardon
June 25	12.15	Bromley Methodist Church followed by lunch.

All interested to join our Group are asked to contact Graham McLeod at 0208 325 5243 or 07534 184 471 or join us at any of our meetings.

REPORT FROM THE MEN'S FORUM

The Men's Forum continued our programme over the winter season with a meeting in November that concentrated our thoughts on the Anniversary of the start of the 1914 conflict; unfortunately our planned visit to the Imperial War Museum failed to materialise.

Our December meeting took the opportunity to decorate the tree at Clock House Road Church as well as a sharing of our recollections of Christmas.

The highlight of our social programme was our Christmas Lunch held at "The Warren" on December 18, 2014 to which all church members were invited. A good time was had by all, ably recorded by Comfort on her smart phone. Thanks to Alan for his organisation.

Our meeting in January took the form of a planning meeting, discussion and informal gathering followed by a generous helping of fish and chips.

We continue to enjoy regular monthly worship with Bromley Methodist Church, normally on the third or fourth Thursday followed by lunch at The Warren or a suitable hostelry in the Bromley area, these lunches offer an opportunity for relaxed fellowship and are proving a great success.

Finally, an invitation to join us at our future meetings as outlined in our programme for the forthcoming months.

Graham McLeod

Job advertisement

Bromley Methodist Church Pre-School Leader

Following the forthcoming retirement at the end of the Summer Term there will be a vacancy for a new Leader of the Bromley Methodist Church's Pre-School from September 2015.

If anyone you know has the relevant qualifications and would be interested in applying - the job advert has been placed on the London Borough of Bromley's website - visit

<https://recruitment.bromley.gov.uk>

The Vacancy Reference is 0000004609

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Please send articles for the next Indicator, covering April and May 2015, to Jenny Nichols (e-mail jenny.nichols1@ntlworld.com) or Christine Handel (e-mail christine.handel@ntlworld.com) by Sunday 15th March 2015 at the latest for distribution on Sunday 29th March.

Volunteers are requested to join the Folding and Stapling Party at 10.00am on Thursday 26th March in the Wesley Lounge.

A BREEZE ABOVE OUR HEADS

An Evening of Poetical Fun

with



**Christine Pope,
Jane Sharp**



& Mary Sawyer at the piano

Saturday 7th February 2015

at 7.30 pm

Beckenham Methodist Church

Bromley Road, Beckenham

Tickets £5

(includes refreshments)

Poet's Punch

Bard's Biscuits

from

Cheese Hearts

Christine Pope 020 8464 9810

or on the door

Jelly Babies

Diary Dates

(Page for more Information inside)

February 2015

Fri 6th 7.00pm Supper for TCs Volunteers BR

**Sat 7th 7.30pm A Breeze Above our Heads BR
(P20)**

**Sun 8th 12.15pm Extra Ordinary Circuit
Meeting at BR**

Wed 18th 8.00pm Ash Wednesday Service at WW

March 2015

**Mon 2nd 2.00pm Daffodil Day at Central Hall
Westminster (P 5&6)**

**Fri 6th 2.00pm Women's World Day of Prayer,
St Mary's Church, Shortlands
(P9)**

**Sat 7th 7.00pm Beckenham Junior Choir
& Beckenham Voices Concert BR**

**NB The clocks go forward one hour on the
29th March.**

FUN FOOD & FELLOWSHIP

FFF stands for Fun, Food & Fellowship and meets about six times a year. The group is open to anyone who wants to share in it's varied activities.

A few of us attended the Women to Women Conference at Westminster Central Hall on Saturday 15th November. We heard some inspirational speakers and really enjoyed the worship songs.

We decorated the Bromley Road Christmas Tree in December as a group.

Our most recent excursion was to see 'Jesus Christ Superstar' on the 23rd January at the Churchill Theatre which was an enjoyable and moving experience.

We plan to meet again at 8pm on Friday 13th February at Bromley Road to share food and plan a schedule for the year.

Please join us to share your thoughts of what we could do next.

Judith Reep

Sunday Services

Bromley Road

Clock House Rd

1st February

**Revd Mike Cassidy
Holy Communion**

10.30am

Revd Karen Jobson

8th February

Mr J Morley

10.30am

**Revd Mike Cassidy
Holy Communion**

15th February

Revd Karen George

10.30am

Mrs M Smith

22nd February

Revd D Stanworth

10.30am

**Mrs M Bull
Parade Service**

1st March

**Revd Mike Cassidy
Holy Communion**

10.30am

Mr J Holman

8th March

Revd Karen Jobson

10.30am

**Revd Mike Cassidy
Holy Communion**

15th March

Mr R Baker

10.30am

Mr M Tinson

22nd March

Mrs M Bull

10.30am

Mrs P Wilson

29th March

Ms A Driscoll

10.30am

Revd Karen George

USEFUL CONTACTS

Beckenham Methodist Church

(Registered Charity No. 1138006)

Bromley Road Church BR3 5JE & Clockhouse Road Church BR3 4JP
0208 650 2763 0208 663 6149

Minister in Charge: Revd Mike Cassidy 8249 8592 or 07473 827774

Stewards Jenny Nichols (Senior) 8460 6713 Christine Handel 8658 1381
Irene Antwi 8778 2124 Comfort Lawson 3539 4944
Sheila Priestman 8460 1091 Barry Stewart 8325 8861

Church Council Secretary: Sheila Priestman 8460 1091

Church Treasurer: Mark Cheesman 8249 5522

Junior Church Co-ordinator: Mary Cook 8656 2815

Flower Secretaries: BR - Margaret Hazlewood 7733 6116
CHR - Irene Antwi 8778 2124

Property Co-ordinator: David Jackson 8656 2815

Property Stewards: Colin Wilson 8464 3768
David Jackson 8656 2815
Barry Stewart 8325 8861
Roy Charles 8402 5562
Graham McLeod 8325 5243

Room Booking Officers: BR David Jackson 8656 2815
CHR Graham McLeod 8325 5243

Brownies: Carole Dewar 8650 9027
Guides: Karen Millican 8650 6248
Beavers: Mandy Sarhane 8650 4822
Cubs: Steve Shirley 8650 0330
Scouts: Gordon Wilson 8650 1035

Web Site: <http://www.beckenhammethodistchurch.co.uk>