

THE INDICATOR

Beckenham Methodist Church

February & March 2016



The Church at Worship: Resourcing Renewal

In July 2014 a small group from Beckenham Methodist Church came to visit me in Chislehurst. They had come to see the newly refurbished Chislehurst church and I enthused to them about the transformation that had taken place. Little did I know that just over a year later I would become their minister at Beckenham.

I was excited to be appointed to this circuit knowing that Beckenham was preparing for a major redevelopment. I have seen and experienced what can be achieved when everyone gets behind a God given vision to take forward the mission of the church.

Exploring a vision for the mission of our church involves reflecting theologically. Firstly, we need to reflect theologically on the nature of worship. Worship is our core activity as a church and with this once in a life time opportunity to carry out a major refurbishment of our worship space we need to ask ourselves some quite fundamental questions about worship.

1. Why? Why do people come to church, and why most don't? An easy answer is to say that we come to worship God, though in practice there's a whole range of more ordinary, practical answers. But what does it mean to worship God? Perhaps to glimpse another world (the kingdom of God), perhaps to look at life through God's eyes.

2. Who worships? Traditionally, church worship was conducted by ministers or local preachers very much on their own. Ten years ago the Anglican Church and the Methodist Church together launched the Fresh Expressions initiative. Over the years many innovative and creative approaches to worship have been explored seeking to engage those on the outside of the church, recognising that worship doesn't just take place on a Sunday. An example of this is Messy Church. I have been involved in establishing four Messy Churches now and each one has been amazingly successful in reaching young families outside the church. A church which is flexible, without the restraint of pews for example, lends itself to a much greater variety of styles of interactive worship which many, especially young people find engaging.

(But our traditional and much valued worship of word and sacrament remains central - Rowan Williams spoke of a 'mixed economy' in the worship we offer.)

3. Where are the worshippers coming from?: this is not a geographical question, but a recognition that worship needs to reflect the ordinary (as well as sometimes the extraordinary) world we inhabit day by day, that is worship should begin where people are.

*'We come with self-inflicted pains
of broken trust and chosen wrong'*

Singing the Faith 499

4. Believing: it is often said that we sing our faith, which is why which hymns we sing is so important. Our worship should be a statement of what we actually do believe. It should also be an occasion for exploring, challenging and deepening our corporate faith, not just an occasion for supporting individual beliefs.

5. How: how do we enable a sense of the presence of God? Fred Pratt Green's hymn '*God is here! As we his people meet to offer praise and prayer* . . .' (Singing the Faith 25) draws our attention to the importance of symbolism in our church: colour, light, music, seating arrangements . . . These can help us to gaze on God and may enable adoration. All worship is sacramental because all life is sacramental. We prepare by developing a mood of expectancy of God's presence.

6. Aim: the aim of worship is two-fold: the adoration of God and transformation - the transformation of self, of church, and indeed of the whole world, creation itself. That is why every act of worship concludes with the sending out of God's people into God's world, with 'food for our journey'. Worship leads to mission, God's mission of justice and peace for all people.

We have a unique opportunity to carry out a major refurbishment of the church and a holy calling to develop the premises to 'serve the present' (Charles Wesley). This is a huge and exciting responsibility treasuring all that has gone before whilst recognising the need to enhance our worship space for the greater glory of God.

Our second task is to build on our own unique history and experience and creatively develop our premises to serve better the needs of the local community, and I will explore this second task in my next article in *The Indicator*.

Meanwhile, in order to take forward the redevelopment of the church, I have been seeking from within our midst people with energy and vision and a passion for renewal. We need a Redevelopment Team that will work well together representing different ‘groups’ within the church. I am delighted to say that all those I have approached have responded positively to being involved in a Redevelopment Team.

One of the roles of a minister that I take very seriously is to empower others. It is wonderful to have willing volunteers with energy and enthusiasm, church members who may not have played a major role in the life of our church before, and give them an opportunity to flourish through sharing their gifts and talents.

At our Church Council in March I look forward to exploring further a vision for the redevelopment of the church. We will also be seeking the Church Council’s endorsement of a team prepared to take forward this onerous but rewarding task of redevelopment.

Lord of all, of Church and Kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel,
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day’s dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
We who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

Fred Pratt Green
Singing the Faith 25

Barbara Calvert
January 2016

WORSHIP

BIBLE READINGS

Following discussion at a recent Stewards meeting, it was agreed that the New Revised Standard Version would be used in services. This translation is preferred by the Methodist Church and has been written using the latest scholarship and inclusive language. It will be used regularly at Bromley Road and Clock House Road, though from time to time preachers may prefer a different version.

A large print edition is available for readers at both sites.

Twenty personal copies are available for purchase at the special price of £16 each.

Please speak to Rev Barbara Calvert if you would like one.

At www.bible.oremus.org, the whole Bible is available online and particular passages can be selected and printed out.

BEGINNING OUR SERVICES

For some time the Church Stewards have been concerned that this time is confusing; people are not ready to welcome the preacher and begin worshipping.

From Sunday 7th February, we propose the following:

At 10.30am the organist will begin the introit:

“Come all you people” StF 22, which people will sing while seated and during which the preacher and Steward will enter.

The Steward will give the welcome as usual and any really vital notice.

Worship will then continue according to the Order of Service.

Bromley Methodist Church
College Road, Bromley

Thursday Service - 12.15 pm

Preachers for February

- 4th **Revd Christine Latham**
Bromley and Sheppard's Colleges
- 11th **Revd Karen George**
Minister, Bromley Methodist Church
- 18th **Revd Barbara Calvert**
Superintendent Minister, Bromley Methodist Circuit
- 25th **John Morley**
Lay Reader, St Luke's Church, Bromley Common

Preachers for March

- 3rd **Deacon Laura MacBean**
West Wickham Methodist Church
- 10th **Revd Karen George**
Holy Communion for Lent
- 17th **Revd Helen Warmington**
Bromley and Trinity United Reformed Churches
- 24th **Readings and Prayers for Holy Week**
- 31st **Revd Liz Davis**
Minister, St Andrew's Church, Burnt Ash Lane

All are welcome!

TC's NEWS

Staffing: At present we are just about managing to keep our Community Café open, Monday to Friday, 10.30am - 2.30pm. However, we really would be glad of more Volunteers on a regular basis as has been said many times before, or those who could stand in for holidays and emergencies.

Do please come forward if you can help us.

Cake Making: I am pleased to report that I have had two offers to make cakes from time to time, so it would be great if more folk would come forward. The cost of ingredients can be reimbursed as required.

From Stones to Water - The Third Borehole Do have a look at the pictures and the letter from Daphne Brown displayed on the notice board in the New Room at Bromley Road.

Finally, my sincere thanks to all our Volunteers for your loyalty and to all our customers for your support. Over the past 16 years we have been able to donate to many excellent causes locally, nationally and internationally.

Valerie Wilson

Clothes Bank at Holy Trinity, Beckenham

A sincere thank you to all those who regularly put gifts into 'that box' in the New Room - they are very much appreciated, particularly items of clothing for this cold weather.

Colin & Valerie Wilson

“When you walk towards the light, the shadow of your burden falls behind you”

Kahil Gibran

Dementia Friendly Churches Network

A meeting and workshop will be held on **Saturday April 9th** in St. John's Church, Eden Park. It will begin at 9.30 with a half hour meeting for anyone who belongs or would like to belong to the network. We will discuss progress since October and plan ahead.

Julia Burton-Jones will lead a workshop at 10.00 entitled "Supporting faith during dementia". The purpose of the workshop is to help us become more effective in supporting people living with dementia to practice their faith. This workshop is open to anyone who ministers to people with dementia, whether that is visiting them in their own homes, in residential settings or in church-based activities. The workshop will end at 12.30.

The workshop is open to anyone who is interested in the topic.

If you are interested in going, please contact Rev Barbara Calvert.

Concerned about your memory?

Many people over 50 years old become concerned about their memory. We all have trouble remembering everything that happens in our lives. For example, can you remember what you did on 4 June 2009? Chances are you don't remember unless there was a significant event on that day like a birthday or anniversary.

Memory loss becomes a problem when it starts to interfere in your everyday life. You may have trouble remembering where you are or the names of people important in your life. These could be early signs of dementia.

If you are concerned, the most important thing to do is visit your GP. Your GP and specialist professionals can conduct a series of tests to find out what is causing the changes to your memory. There are other things like medication, alcohol, stress, anxiety, depression and infections that may be causing memory problems.

Support and information is available.

CHRISTIAN AID - 'Count Your Blessings 2016'

This year 'Count Your Blessings' features stories from Bangladesh, the focus country for Christian Aid Week 2016.

If you would like to download your own set of reflections please visit:
www.christianaid.org.uk/lent

A version for children is also available.

A paper copy of the adult version will be on display at both sites.

FAIRTRADE CAKE STALL

As part of Fairtrade Fortnight, there will be Fairtrade cake stalls, in aid of the Fairtrade Foundation, following the Mothering Sunday parade services on Sunday March 6th - 10.30am at BR and 4pm at CHR.

It would be wonderful to have a great variety of cakes for sale!

If you can, please bake a cake (or some small ones) for the stall, using Fairtrade ingredients where possible.



**Wednesday 10th
February**

**Circuit Service
8.00pm at
Clock House
Road Church**



**Beckenham Methodist
Church**

Bromley Road

Midweek

Lenten prayers and reflections

12.30 - 1pm

Wednesday 17th, 24th February,

2nd, 9th, 16th March

with Revd Barbara Calvert

Everyone welcome

**Lunch in TCs together afterwards
for those who can stay**



Holy Week and Easter Services

Palm Sunday 20 March 10.30am

Services at Bromley Road at 10.30am
& Clock House Road at 4.00pm

Maundy Thursday 24th March

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

Good Friday 25 March

11.00am CTiB Walk of Witness Starting from St Edmunds.
3.00pm Circuit Service and Tea at Clock House Road

Easter Sunday 27th March

8.15am Breakfast (CHR)

9.00am Joint Holy Communion
Service at Clock House Road

10.30am Joint Holy Communion
Service at Bromley Road



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AMAZING GRACE

Canon Derek Carpenter recently arranged a service at St. George's Parish Church to commemorate the life and achievements of the famous cricketer W.G. Grace. He quoted from an address given by the late sports commentator Christopher Martin-Jenkins, which included the following:

'I think Grace is one of the loveliest of words in the English language. It appears, as everyone knows, time without number in the Bible. St. Paul especially loved to use the word, used it with reverence. It appears in the greetings he sent at the beginning and end of his letters - "Grace be with you all", "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ", and the beautiful words spoken in church almost every Sunday of the year, the ending of the second letter to the Corinthians, "The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all".

St. Paul, as he often testified, owed everything to what he called "the Grace of God". In the first letter to the Corinthians he said, "By the grace of God I am what I am". By the grace of God we are all what we are, or perhaps by the grace of God we might be what we are not, or are not yet . . . Ephesians 2:5 "By grace you have been saved" . . .

What a batsman he was. What a man! What a character to be able to fill a church in South London 75 years [and 100 years] after his death. He was just as popular as a family doctor as he was as a cricketer.

I like to think it's true that he said to a mother, whose two children were in bed with flu, "I'm off to play for Gloucestershire at Bristol now, but call me again if their combined temperatures reach 210 for 2".

Gordon Hughes

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH at 2pm

BECKENHAM BAPTIST CHURCH, ELM ROAD

Prepared by Christian women of Cuba
Theme: **Receive children. Receive me.**

**Please join us for this interdenominational service.
Remember that everyone is welcome.**

Although discriminated against in the past, Cuban women today play an important role in society, family and church, although there are still some elements of a patriarchal culture in all levels of society.

After the revolution in 1959, women were active in building up a new society and improving their education and professional training. In 1961, the Federation of Cuban Women was formed, to demand the rights of women, children and the family.

Today more than 46% of persons employed in the public sector are women; women constitute 68% of the technically and professionally qualified labour force and 39% are managers. Nevertheless, it is still primarily men who occupy key positions in economy, politics and religion.

Cuba Quiz Time

1. What is the capital of Cuba?
2. What are the colours of the Cuban flag?
3. What is the chief export of Cuba?
4. How many people live in Cuba?
5. What animal does the map of Cuba look like?
6. What flower is the national emblem of Cuba?
7. When was the revolution in Cuba?
8. Who was the first European to reach Cuba?

OPEN DOOR

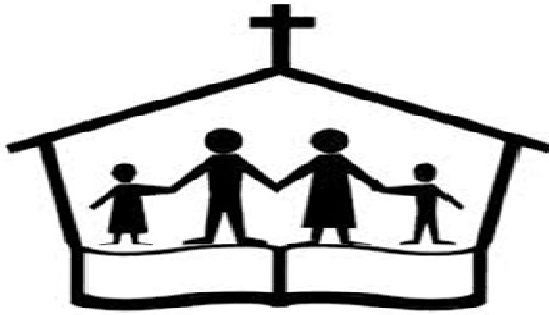
**Mondays 2 to 3.30pm in the Wesley Lounge at
Bromley Road.**

February

- 1st** **Members' choices of favourite music**
- 8th** **Rev Barbara Calvert**
- 15th** **Telling the story of Lent through Art posters**
- 22nd** **David Lemmon**
- 29th** **What is Women's World Day of Prayer?**

March

- 7th** **Rev Barbara Calvert - Visit to the Holy Land**
- 14th** **'Iona, the special island' - Maureen Bull**
- 21st** **Holy Week**
- 28th** **No Meeting - EASTER BANK HOLIDAY**



NEWS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY

We continue to remember **June Durston** and the family following Alan's death in December. Alan is missed by us all.

It was good to see **Emily Husband** over the Christmas holidays when she was home from Durham University. She has two more years of studies in Geography.

Terri and Marcus (daughter and son in law of Kim Pullen) are very happy and their daughter, Amelia, is four and going to nursery school.

Grant Pullen (younger son of Kim) is working hard at 'A' levels and will leave school in the summer. We wish him well with his studies.

David Hancock is struggling with ill health at present - let us remember him in our prayers.

We give thanks for the life of **Jack Taylor** who has been a loyal member of this church for many years and was a Scout and Rover Scout in the 26th Beckenham Troop in the 1930s. Jack's funeral will take place on **Wednesday, 10th February at Bromley Road at 10.45am.**

MEN'S FORUM - PROGRAMME 2016

Our Men's Forum meets monthly on the second Saturday at our Clock-house Road 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 at their Thursday Lunch Time Services.

All interested to join our group are asked to contact **Graham McLeod** on 0208 325 5243 or 07534 184471 or join us at any of our meetings.

Saturday Feb 13 11.00 Revd Barbara Calvert

Thursday Feb 25 12.15 Bromley Methodist Church followed by
lunch at The Anglesey Arms, Bromley

Saturday March 12 11.00 Glass Etching, followed by Quiz

Thursday March 24 12.15 Bromley Methodist Church followed by
lunch at The Change of Horses, Farnborough

YOUTH CHOIR from the First Presbyterian Church at Caldwell, New Jersey, USA

They will give a unique and original performance based on music from *Hair*, but with a Christian message.

Saturday 13 February at 7.00 pm
West Wickham Methodist Church, Hawes Lane, BR4 9AA

Tickets: Adults £5, children £3
(Family discount available)
From 020 8777 1552 or on the door

FUN, FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

FFF stands for Fun, Food and Fellowship The group is open to anyone who wants to share in any of the planned activities. All are welcome. The photo is of our trip to BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir Hindu Temple last Summer.



We were productive in October making crafts for the mission stall and enjoyed a meal out in Bromley in December. We have recently met in January to get to know each other better and plan our activities for the next year. These will include some trips out, some time to learn some more new hymns from Singing the Faith and a meal out. Please join us on Friday 18th March where we plan to watch the film **Chocolat** and reflect on how this relates to Lent

Judith Reap

CHURCHES TOGETHER in BECKENHAM

We are pleased to report that CTiB is flourishing at the moment in Beckenham. Following on from the Churches involvement in the switch on of the Christmas lights in Beckenham, at the beginning of December, the week of Prayer for Christian unity has just been celebrated with services at various churches across Beckenham. These services were all reasonably well attended, despite the weather on some days.

The new Rector at St. George's, Beckenham is to be the Rev. Jeremy Blunden currently Rector of Warlingham. His induction will be on March 17th; see Weekly Notice sheet for more details.

Coming up the following events will be taking place or are being planned:-

The Womens World Day of Prayer will be celebrated at Elm Road Baptist Church on Friday 4 March at 2pm

A walk of witness will take place as usual on Good Friday, starting at 11am at St Edmunds and finishing on the Green with a short service.

A picnic on the Green is again being arranged, this year on 18th September to celebrate Harvest.

It is anticipated that the Churches will again be asked to join the local residents associations with switching on the Christmas Lights again next December

During the year the clergy will be considering more services to bring us all closer together.

Make sure you watch the Notices and the Indicator for more information on these events over the coming year.

Beckenham Methodist Church is doing its part to help with all this. Our own Minister, Revd Barbara Calvert, is very involved and one of our two representatives (Christine Handel) has recently taken over as Treasurer. A post which it should be noted was held for many years by another of our members, Frank Thompson. Thank you Frank for all your dedication and hard work to CTiB over the years.

If you would like any more information on CTiB, or any of the above, please speak to either of us and we will do our best to help.

Maureen Bull & Christine Handel



Church Flowers - Bromley Road

February	7th	Wendy Richman
	14th	Ena Hamblyn
	21st	Wilson Broom
	28th	Sheila Priestman
March	6th	Margaret Hazlewood
	13th	Gordon Hughes
	20th	Christine Handel
	27th	EASTER

Church Flowers - Clockhouse Road

February	7th	Lum & Roy
	14th	Lum & Roy
	21st	Maureen Bull
	28th	Venus Leon
March	6th	Mary Sawyer
	13th	Irene Antwi
	20th	Irene Antwi
	27th	Maureen Bull

Hertfordshire Police Warning — Scam

Dear Watch Member,

Thanks to a Cuffley resident for alerting us that 'Hammersmith Police' called explaining that a male was in custody regarding fraudulent transactions on their cards.

This is a scam following a strange 'phone call from 'Hammersmith Police' to Joe Young's brother in law. Do not enter into conversations with anyone who calls you about your account. This is designed to relieve you of your money.

Neither the Police, nor the banks will ever call you out of the blue and ask about your account details.

If you think your account is compromised, call your bank from another number (not from the same line a scammer called you on).

Please pass this on as far as possible and help prevent serious fraud to your friends and family.

Regards,

Sergeant, Safer Neighbourhood Team, WGC

Neighbourhood Watch

Post script from Joe

You may like to know that in December a man was held by the 'real' Police, in connection with this and other strange calls.

Please send articles for the next Indicator, covering April and May 2016, to :-

**Jenny Nichols - e-mail: jenny.nichols1@ntlworld.com or
Christine Handel - e-mail: christine.handel@ntlworld.com
by Sunday 13th March 2016 at the latest for distribution
on Sunday 3rd April 2016.**

Volunteers are requested to join the Folding and Stapling Party at 10.00am on Thursday 31st March in the Wesley Lounge at Bromley Road.

Beaver Section Update – January 2016

Beavers had another successful camp in October 2015, with a magical theme to it. There have been a number of Beavers who have ‘swum’ up to Cubs recently, and a group of new Beavers have arrived in the Colony.

The Beavers worked on the First Aid badge and Safety badge last term, with some Beavers also achieving their personal goal Challenge Award; a challenge was set by the Leaders at the start of the term and assessed in December whether the Beaver had completed it.

We also celebrated a version of thanksgiving one night, with the Beavers thinking about what they are thankful for and a Turkey was created.



This year will again host, hopefully, two Beaver Camps, and a few day visits to places the Beavers have expressed an interest in attending. We will be working on the Animal Friend and Cook badges this term. We have already created a Beaver dam made from chocolate, and Phil the chameleon visited for the night.



Sunday Services

Bromley Road

Clockhouse Road

7 February

Revd Barbara Calvert
Holy Communion

10.30am

Mr Richard Baker

14 February

Major Cliff Kent

10.30am

Ms Alison Driscoll

21 February

Dr Clive Timehin

10.30am

Revd Barbara Calvert
Holy Communion

28 February

Revd Barbara Calvert

10.30am

Mr Jim Holman

6 March

10.30am

Revd Barbara Calvert
AAW/Parade

4.00pm

Revd Barbara Calvert
AAW/Parade

13 March

10.30am

Revd Barbara Calvert

4.00pm

Deacon Laura MacBean

20 March

10.30am

Mr Chris Sandy

4.00pm

Revd Barbara Calvert

27 March

10.30am

Revd Barbara Calvert
AAW/Holy Communion

4.00pm

Revd Barbara Calvert
Holy Communion

(SEE ALSO PAGE 11)



The South London Singers were pleased to be able to present a cheque for £510 to Emma Bradshaw, the Community Fundraiser for Demelza Hospice Care for Children, following the Carol Concert held at Bromley Road on December 12th. Despite a disappointingly low turnout, the choir were very grateful to those who did come and for their generosity in the bucket collection.

The next concert will be at Bromley Road on **Saturday April 9th** at **7.45pm** and will be an exploration of the European Tradition of Sacred Music. As usual the programme will comprise a mix of the familiar and the less well known. The familiar items will include Mozart's *Ave Verum*, Franck's *Panis Angelicus*, Fauré's *Cantique de Jean Racine* and Haydn's *Little Organ Mass*. Less well-known pieces are by composers whose names however are familiar: Telemann, Grieg, Rachmaninov, Bach, Palestrina, Mendelssohn and others.

The choir will be conducted by the Director, Julian Collings, and accompaniment and solos will be provided by David Thorne at the organ and two violinists, one of whom is a former member of the Wesley Youth Club here at Beckenham, Rosemary Lock. Rosemary had a distinguished career with the BBC Symphony Orchestra for many years and more recently with the Primavera Orchestra and in various string quartets; she currently plays in the Archaeus Quartet and is based in Tonbridge.

Do book the date now for an exciting evening of choral and instrumental music not to be missed. Tickets will be available in March and details will appear in the weekly notices.

Top of the Pew 2016

The new season is beginning and we have been drawn against St. Joseph's Plaistow Lane in the first round which has to be completed by April 10th. As usual volunteers for a team of four will be welcome. See weekly notices for more details

David Jackson

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. Barbara Calvert 8658 6484

Senior Steward: Jenny Nichols 8460 6713

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>

Circuit Web Site: <http://www.bromleymethodistcircuit.org.uk>