

Addington Methodist Magazine

July - August 2023



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Celebrating those who came

**Rev
Stephen
Day**

I write this a week before the 75th anniversary of the HMT Empire Windrush arriving in Tilbury on 22 June 1948. It has been a privilege to meet members of the Windrush Generation in Croydon and to hear their experiences.

I have been moved by the courage and tenacity of those viewed with suspicion and hostility and whose gifts and graces were not truly recognised and valued.

This anniversary provides an opportunity to look back and thank God for those who arrived on the Empire Windrush and those who followed them.

I pray that Windrush Day this year will enable us to consider how we continue to strive to make our church communities ones in which there is space for every person to contribute and flourish.

I offer the following poem, written by Professor Laura Serrant OBE, to aid our reflection:

You Called And We Came

You called and we came.

*In ships bigger than anything we had seen,
dwarfing our islands, and covering them in the
shadows of smoke and noise.*

*Crowded, excited voices filled the air, travelling
to the 'Motherland' – over weeks, over oceans that
threatened to engulf us.*

Driven by a wish, a call to save, to rebuild and

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support efforts to establish 'health for all' in the aftermath of war.

You called and we came.

*Women and men of position in our homelands;
nurses with a pride in the excellence of our care.*

*With experience of management, organisation,
and a sense of duty.*

We appeared.

*Smiling and eager to work on the wards,
communities and clinics of this England.*

You called and we came.

*Our big hearts, skilful hands, and quick minds
encased in our skins – of a darker hue.*

*Which had shimmered and glowed in our sunnier
climes.*

But now signified our difference – our un-belonging.

*Matrons became assistants. Nurses became like
chambermaids.*

*All the while striving to fulfil our promise – to
succour, to serve, to care.*

You called and we came.

*The blue of the sister's uniform – seemed as far
away from us as the moon.*

Unreachable by our dark hands in this cold land.

But we were made of sterner stuff.

*The hot sun, which once beat down on our ancestors,
when they too left their lands, shone within us.*

*Forging our hearts and minds with the resistance
of Ebony.*

You called and we came.

Rising like the Phoenix, from the heat of rejection.

We cared, we worked, and we organised.

*Until the quickness of our brains and the
excellence of our care made it hard for you to
contain us.*

*And slowly, so slowly, the blue uniforms had dark
and lighter bodies beneath them.*

*The professional care in our touch was valued
despite the strangeness of our speech and the kinks
in our hair.*

<< **Continued from Page 3**

You called and we came.

A new millennium – new hopes spread across this land.

New populations, engaging and reflecting the varied, diverse, and vibrant nature of these shores.

Challenging and reflecting on leadership for health.

Moves to melt the ‘snow’ at the peaks of our profession.

Recognising the richness of our kaleidoscope nation.

Where compassion, courage and diversity are reflected in our presence and our contribution.

Not only the hopes and dreams of our ancestors.

Human values needed to truly lead change and add value.

Remember - you called. Remember - you called. YOU. Called.

Remember, it was us, who came.

The language of calling may be especially poignant as those called by Christ and sent into the world as his disciples.

*Rev Stephen Day,
Croydon Methodist Circuit Superintendent*



Join Addington Bells
for a Musical Tea and
Cakes Afternoon on



Saturday 29 July at 2:30pm

at Addington Methodist Church.

Entry free. Donations to Addington
Methodist Church fund welcome.

Juniors mark anniversary

Addington Methodist Junior Church members celebrated 72 years of child-focused Christian activity on Sunday 4 June.

The congregation came together to enjoy craft, sing ‘Happy Birthday,’ pray and reflect as well as enjoy a slice of cake after the service, which was led by Local Preacher Caryl Rapps and Janet Godfrey.



Fresh flowers return for first time since Covid

Floral arrangements have made a return to Addington Methodist Church.

Sonia Smith, steward of Addington Methodist Church, writes: “It was a delight to be given a bunch of flowers on 4 June after church. Thank you Caryl [Rapps] for a fresh floral

arrangement after nearly three years.

“This used to be done weekly before Covid-19 happened.”

There will be fresh flowers every third Sunday going forward so if you would like to learn how to do floral arrangements please speak to Sonia or Cathy [Oldham].

AMC seeks to set up events committee

Addington Methodist Church is looking to establish an events committee to create fundraising activities and plan social gatherings.

Planning and running events successfully will be pivotal in the trajectory of

AMC’s ministry and foster the desire for others to “come and see” what being part of our community is all about.

If you are interested, email: addington-methodist-magazine@gmail.com.

Justice for all

Emma Hughes

God, whose nature is just, yearns for justice in the world. As Christians we are called actively to do justice, show loving kindness, and walk humbly with God. This invitation is at the heart of A Methodist Way of Life.

Methodists, now and in the past, have challenged injustice, worked for change, and supported people experiencing injustices. As the Church in Britain faces new challenges – economic, ecological, political, social and those of declining membership – the time is right for a renewed focus on justice and a fresh approach for our Church.

As a result of the Walking with Micah Project, which saw conversations take place between February and June 2022, the Methodist Church is proposing a framework to support action for justice over the next five years.

Principles of justice

Six principles for justice underpin our understanding of God's justice and what it means to seek justice:

- God made humans in the image of God, each worthy of equal value and dignity. The search for justice entails treating

others with respect and may involve reclaiming lost worth.

- God desires the flourishing of creation and human community within it. The search for justice does not diminish or limit the flourishing of others but seeks to enable it.

- God consistently shows a bias to people experiencing poverty and those who are excluded. The search for justice must prioritise people who live in poverty or people who are marginalised in other ways.

- God entrusts those in power with a special responsibility for upholding justice. Those seeking justice will encourage and challenge those with power to fulfil their vocation.

- God calls all people and nations actively to work for peace and justice, liberation, and transformation. It is never just someone else's responsibility. We all have a part to play.

- God calls us to live in hope and in ways that reflect God's character and the pattern of God's kingdom. So, seeking justice involves honesty and truth, and may demand protest and resistance, restitution, forgiveness, reconciliation and

ultimately transformation.

These principles help us talk about our understanding of God's justice and are a tool to help us in our discussing, discernment, and action.

Priorities for justice

These five key priorities for justice, which were agreed after a time of listening and reflection by the Walking with Micah Project, focus our efforts and our

resources to support local churches in their worship and action.

■ Tackling inequality and poverty:

seeking life in all its fullness.

■ Enabling a flourishing environment: right relationship between people, planet, and God.

■ Seeking justice for refugees: one people, one world.

■ Opposing discrimination: all are made in the image of God.

■ Pursuing peace: seeking justice and reconciliation.

Methodists have the opportunity to make a difference.

Through campaigning, being with those experiencing injustice and offering support, building relationships, or striving to tell a different story of a just world, churches will be able to engage with priorities that are most

relevant in their context – through existing involvement or through actions that reflects their gifts.

Practices for justice

The Practices for justice challenge people to consider both our ways of doing justice and our ways of being just, and how they can be consistent with each other.

■ Our ways of doing justice involve bringing about change in the systems that hold problems in place. Beyond short term practical help, this can include action to change structures, to build relationships, and to transform understanding.

■ Our ways of being just enable us to be 'at our best' when seeking justice. They enable sustainable, transformative, and rooted action for justice to develop in churches and communities, and keep our actions grounded in and guided by our faith.

Using these practices helps us to examine our current and planned justice activities, making sure that they contribute to change and are consistent with our beliefs about God's justice.

A two-year process is proposed to embed this new framework for justice, produced by the Walking with Micah Project, in the Methodist Church, and enable local churches to engage with and act on the Principles, Priorities and Practices for justice.

“As the Church in Britain faces new challenges the time is right for a renewed focus on justice and a fresh approach

July/August worship

Email addmethzoom@gmail.com to get a link to worship from home via Zoom.

10:30am Morning Services (unless stated)

2 Jul	July Church Parade Sunday Service with Rev Richard Lowson
9 Jul	Action for Children Sunday Service with Local Preacher Pauline Little
16 Jul	Sunday Service including the Sacrament of Holy Communion with Rev Leslie Griffiths and Junior Church
23 Jul	Sunday Service by Local Arrangement and Junior Church
30 Jul	Sunday Service with Rev Richard Lowson
6 Aug	Sunday Service by Local Arrangement
13 Aug	Sunday Service with Stonehouse
20 Aug	Sunday Service including the Sacrament of Holy Communion with Rev Richard Lowson
27 Aug	United Service with Christ Church

Tea and Coffee After Sunday Service Helpers

2 Jul & 6 Aug	Cathy Oldham, Cecelia Essiam, Margaret Ansong
9 Jul & 13 Aug	Jenny Halliday, Angela Mills
16 Jul & 20 Aug	Edward Larby and other volunteers needed
23 Jul & 27 Aug	Jane Colvert, Appolonia Madinyenya, Tatiana Tivoli
30 Jul	Volunteers needed

Dates for your diary

All events take place at Addington Methodist Church unless otherwise stated.

July dates

Sat 1 Jul	10am-Midday Food Bank collection and coffee morning.
Tue 4 Jul & 18 Jul	2pm to 4pm Stitch & Craft Club. Coffee and biscuits served for £1 a meeting. Bring a project or share in learning something new. Contact Cathy Oldham: catherine.m.oldham@gmail.com .
Every Thursday	12.30pm Lunch Club. Anyone looking for good company, a hot meal and a dessert for £7.50 a week is welcome to join. Contact Jenny Harms: jenharms2110@gmail.com . There will be no lunch club in August. Lunch Club will return on 7 September.
Tue 11 Jul & 25 Jul	2pm to 4pm Tuesday Club. Fun and fellowship with guest speakers, quizzes and other activities, concluding with refreshments. Contact Cathy Oldham.
Tue 18 Jul	3.30pm to 5pm Messy Church. Crafts, stories and praise open to children of all ages plus their parents and grandparents.

August dates

Tue 1 Aug & 15 Aug	2pm to 4pm Stitch & Craft Club. Contact Cathy Oldham: catherine.m.oldham@gmail.com .
Sat 5 Aug	10am-Midday Food Bank collection and coffee morning.
Tue 8 Aug & 22 Aug	2pm to 4pm Tuesday Club. Contact Cathy Oldham.

Pre-school to shut its doors

After 61 years Huntingfield Pre-school will be permanently closing on 14 July.

Elaine Back, manager of Huntingfield Pre-school, wrote: "This has not been an easy decision but due to many contributing factors unfortunately the business is no longer viable.

"We have always been a very popular pre-school with a great reputation in the local community boasting an outstanding Ofsted, but I can no longer compete with the settings or day nurseries who can offer more hours.

"For the last 14 years Huntingfield has been my passion and I am truly proud of what we have achieved. I have met some wonderful families and supported and nurtured so many amazing little people and for that I am so proud. My wonderful team and I love what we do and are very sad to be saying "Goodbye"."



The pre-school has been held at AMC since 1962

Following the announcement, Facebook was flooded with tributes to the pre-school and the "aunties" who have looked after the youngsters.

Nicola Webster wrote: "We have fond memories of being part of the Huntingfield family and all the lovely aunties and Uncle James. Thinking of you all at what must be a very difficult time."

Sarah D'Arcy said: "This is such a loss to us now and the local community in the future. I wish you all the very

best for the future and thank you with all my heart for all the support you have given me personally."

Jane Lee wrote: "My girls loved you all and you gave them the best start to their learning lives and for that I will always be grateful."

Hannah Fleming said: "Huntingfield is a very special pre-school indeed. Sending love to you and all the amazing aunties and thank you for all your efforts over the years, Forestdale will miss you."

Council sets up mould force

Croydon Council has established a taskforce to tackle damp and mould in council and private rented housing.

The taskforce will coordinate the council's response to damp and mould.

It will work closely with colleagues across the council, taking a data-led approach to help repairs contractors and tenancy officers identify households and areas at risk of dampness, so they can carry out proactive visits and inspections.

A specialist has also been commissioned to

provide training to staff, including call centre staff and tenancy officers, to make sure they understand the risks and report these appropriately.

For tenants in the private rented sector, the Private Sector Housing Team help them when complaints are raised.

The team aims to support landlords and property agents to be proactive in identifying and resolving damp and mould issues, and to take immediate action to resolve the issue.

For more info see: www.croydon.gov.uk

Croydon in waste contract rejig

Croydon Council is set to secure a new recycling and waste management contract, after listening to concerns from residents.

The terms for procuring the new contract, which includes recycling and general waste collection, garden waste, food waste, bulky waste collections and street cleaning, were agreed at a meeting in June.

Executive Mayor Jason Perry said the council will ensure any new agreement enables the council to hold contractors to account if they underperform.

Community contacts

Huntingfield Pre-School

Contact: Elaine Back

Email: info@huntingfieldpreschool.co.uk

5th Selsdon & Addington Scouts Pinewood Seahorses

Contact: David Steeds

Email: davidsteeds@hotmail.com
pinewoodseahorses@hotmail.com

Addington Methodist Lunch Club

Contact: Jenny Harms

Email: jenharms2110@gmail.com

6th Addington Rainbows & Brownies 1st Addington Guides

Contact: Andrea McCallum

Email: ville13th2nd@virginmedia.com

Lemoine School of Dancing Exercise classes

Contact: Fiona Avenalle

Phone: 020 86570602

Are you caring, patient and committed?

Be there

Have fun

Make a difference!

**Support a young person in
South London**

Become a Volunteer Independent Visitor

- **Meet up with a young person in care once/twice a month**
- **Your travel and activity expenses fully paid**
- **Training and ongoing support from a dedicated team**

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croydon.gov.uk/iv
Email us: iv@croydon.gov.uk

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