

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MINISTER

Over the past few months, the Circuit Stewards have been working with the Leadership Teams of Christchurch with St Philip Worcester Park and Martin Way churches to find a new minister to fill the vacancy that has been created by the retirement of Rev Barrie Tabraham.

We are pleased to say that this process has now been successfully completed, and we are happy to report that, subject to formal ratification by the Methodist Conference, the Rev Paul Timmis is appointed to serve in the Wimbledon Circuit from 1st September 2008, and to have pastoral charge of Worcester Park and Martin Way churches.



Paul was serving in the Hemel Hempstead and Berkhamsted Circuit with pastoral charge of two churches, one of which is a Local Ecumenical Partnership. He is in his thirties, married to Rebecca and they have two young children, Amèlie and Matilda. They will be living in the Worcester Park manse in Kingsmead Avenue

We look forward to him joining and welcome him into our circuit.

David Mortimer
On behalf of the Circuit Stewards

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AND THANKS FROM BARRIE

We would like to thank you all for giving us such a wonderful ‘farewell’. It was quite an emotional time for us both and we were amazed at the Circuit’s kindness and generosity. We shall put the cheque to good use - towards making our new home more comfortable - but we want to thank you for all the other cards and gifts and expressions of love and goodwill and, not least, for taking such trouble to make our farewell so special. But then, you are all special to us!

Thank you and God bless you all.

Barrie and Joan Tabraham

Worship at Martin Way Church

We hold a number of different types of Services here at Martin way Church. A warm welcome is extended to everyone who would like to join us.

1st Sunday in the month	10.30 am	All Age Worship
	6.30 pm	Holy Communion
2nd Sunday in the month	10.30 am	Morning Worship with
3rd Sunday in the month	10.30 am	Praise Service
4th/5th Sunday in the month	10.30 am	Morning Worship
4th Sunday in the month	6.30 pm	Bible Study

All Age Worship is a service at which the young people and adults share the whole service and worship. It is less formal than a traditional service and although it caters for all age groups, the material is such that it can be understood by the young folk. The music is led by our Praise Band.

Morning worship is a traditional Methodist service led by the minister or a local preacher. The children move into the Sunday Club after the first part of the service.

Holy Communion is an essential part of our worship together. All those who profess a faith in the Lord Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the elements. At the morning communion service, the children stay in the Sunday Club from the start but join the congregation towards the end to receive the elements of bread and wine should they so wish.

Praise Service offers a more informal approach to worship and caters for more modern and varied tastes with contributions through music, dance, drama, readings and song. It is a participatory service with members of the congregation taking part. Again, the music is led by our Praise Band.

Please join us for coffee after the Sunday morning services so that we may get to know one another better.

A LETTER FROM MARGARET ADAMS
WIMBLEDON CIRCUIT SUPERINTENDENT
August 2008

Dear Friends,

As I write this it is a beautiful summer's day and I am thinking about my holiday next week in Malta, a time for fun and relaxation before taking on the new challenges that the next Connexional year brings.

Change is always happening around about us, but is not something that we easily embrace. However change always provides opportunity and challenge and that can be both exciting and daunting.

I must admit I feel both excited and daunted at the prospect of becoming Superintendent. I may not always meet up to your expectations and will sometimes make mistakes but I can assure you of my love and prayers. I pray that we will continue to work together to seek God's will and share the love of Jesus Christ with all those with whom we have contact in our communities our churches and within the Circuit.

During the summer we are hoping to appoint a Circuit Administrator and Circuit Pastoral Assistant to enable me to carry out the duties of Superintendent in the Circuit. This means that they will be undertaking some of the tasks that I would otherwise need to do. Please pray for God's guidance and discernment as we make these appointments.

We are thrilled that God has answered our prayers and that we will be welcoming the Revd. Paul Timmis into the circuit in September. Paul will have pastoral responsibility for Martin Way and Worcester Park. We pray that God will bless him and his family as they settle into this Circuit.

The welcome service for Paul, for me as Superintendent, and (if appointed) the Circuit Administrator and Pastoral Assistant will take place on Wednesday 3rd September, in Stoneleigh Methodist Church at 7.30pm. The District Chair Rev Jenny Impey will be the Preacher. It would be really good to see *you* there too!

With my love and prayers
Yours in Christ Jesus

Margaret

WORLD MISSION CONFERENCE



Can reconstruction be a method of mission in God's world? This was the question asked, and the theme for this year's **World Mission Conference** held at **The Hayes, Swanwick on 6th-8th June**. The aim of this event, sponsored ecumenically by Methodists for World

Mission, Anglicans in World Mission, Christian Aid, Christians Aware and the Methodist Church, is to enable people of different cultures and ages to enjoy experiences and fellowship. Joyce Plant and I certainly enjoyed being part of the worldwide Christian community. For many of our newly formed overseas friends, it was a chance to have fellowship, renew friendships and, for those working in challenging situations, an opportunity to recharge batteries.

The President of the International Association for Mission Studies **Dr Philomena Mwaura** from Kenya, reminded us that the Sermon on the Mount was an example of reconstruction, and that the power of the Gospel to change the poor and marginalised and to transform society is evident in that country. The post election problems in Kenya severely tested the integrity and role of the church leadership in Africa where Church buildings did not escape the violence. In areas where there was a dismantling of the power structures, it was the women who responded with compassion to the accumulating needs of their communities. A true model of the Mother Church.

The Revd Dr Carlos Emilio Ham, World Council of Churches Programme Executive for Spirituality Latin American and the Caribbean spoke on reconstructing Mission in an increasingly multi-cultural and multi-religious context, with an emphasis on healing and reconciliation of

communities. He quoted an example when 100 parishioners in a rural Chapel in Wales came to bid farewell at its closing service. Although this is a sad situation with diminishing Church attendances, it produced laughter from the audience, until we were reminded that it is indeed a serious matter. I can personally identify with that comment and the need for reconstructing relationships and more dialogue between denominations in my own country.

Choosing two out of fifteen from the many varied workshops and interesting topics, proved a difficult task. Since the work of Christian Aid is something close to my heart, **Sue Richardson's** seminar entitled **Rebuilding the whole person: Christian Aid on disaster, development and discrimination** did not disappoint me. Most effective was a dramatisation by our group, of the work of the various agencies involved in the reconstruction following the tsunami. Christian Aid had to cope with some victims who felt discriminated against when immediate help was given to their neighbours. Also, because this disaster happened on a bank holiday when many of the staff members were away, Christian Aid has since reviewed their policy with regard to staff coverage.

Reconstructing mission in the multi-religious context of Sri Lanka, presented by **Rev M G Edmund**, was my second choice. From his moving description of his conversion from Buddhism, issues arising from the varied ethnic groups, missionary movements and the role of the Methodist Church, to accounts of the recent persecution of the Christian Church, this workshop challenged me. Edmund recounted an incident when he and his congregation were 'locked up' in the Church building following a service, because of verbal abuse and threats of violence against them. Despite the noisy outburst outside, the service continued.

Other workshops topics ranged from: the Church' response to globalisation, conflict resolution, rebuilding the whole person, issues around human trafficking to reconstructing relationships and reconstructing the idea of conversion. From the list of topics and sharing with each other our impression of the Conference, it would seem that reconstruction is part of God's mission in the world and we are called to be part of that mission.

Gwen Wildman

I attended the World Mission Conference for the first time, and thoroughly recommend the experience. All the facilities are good and the food exceptionally good. To meet the wide variety of people attending was a wonderful experience, why not join us next time?

I attended two very good workshops. The first “*Reconstructing relationships between Christians and Muslims in Kenya*” by Patrick Muriungi, and “*Trafficking: Want to learn more?*” by Jenny Spouge and a team The Open Horizons Working Group. This was interactive to demonstrate how easy it is for young and unworldly people to get caught up and trafficked. Both of these were thought provoking experiences and there were 15 workshops to choose from!

Joyce Plant

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TAIZÉ PRAYER and PRAISE AUTUMN 2008



Dear friends,

This time last year I mentioned storms, flooding, wars etc., which we have all experienced. Thankfully so far this year, in our area at least, we have escaped flooding, but sadly wars persist, and restlessness is everywhere. The greatest fear seems to be suicide bombings; youngsters with knives to terrorise each other and actually killing one another; what on earth do they think they are doing? – certainly not Christian acts of Love, Joy and Peace. What can ‘We’ do about it? – perhaps we could promote the following prayer by the Poet James Dillet Freeman which speaks to people in their everyday lives and give reassurance and comfort:

Do you need me? I am there.

You cannot see Me, Yet I am the light you see by.

You cannot hear Me, Yet I speak through your voice.

You cannot feel Me, Yet I am the power at work in your hands.

I am at work, though you do not understand My ways.

I am not strange visions. I am not mysteries.

*Only in absolute stillness, beyond self, can you know Me as I am, and then
but as a feeling and a faith.*

Yet I am there. Yet I hear, Yet I answer.

*When you need Me I am there.
Even if you deny Me, I am there.
Even in your pain, I am there.*

*Though you fail to find Me, I do not fail you.
Though your faith in Me is unsure, my faith in you never wavers.
Because I know you, because I love you.
Beloved, I am there.*

(James Dillet Freeman 1912-2003)

I give below the dates of the Autumn Taizé Prayer and Praise meetings at 8.00.pm on the following Monday evenings and look forward to seeing you there.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>VENUE</u>	<u>LEADER</u>
8 th September	St. John Fisher Church	Jean
13 th October	St. John Fisher Church	(to be named)
10 th November	St. John Fisher Church	Gwen

Gwen is kindly giving us a talk and update of her work in Kenya during 2007/8. This will be a preparation for showing Slides at a Taizé meeting in the New Year 2009.

Please make every effort to support this meeting and bring a friend if you wish.

8th December ADVENT – shared Meditations at home of
Tom & Christine, 22 Aylward Rd, Merton Park
and some food presentations by all.
Tel. No. (020)8287 0176

I hope you all agree the above is worth looking forward to after our Summer break..

In His Love
Jean Mann
(Taizé Contact)
Tel. No. (020) 8542 5929

PUZZLE CORNER

Find all the animals that are hidden in the box. They can be found by reading forward, backward, up, down or even diagonally, but always in a straight line.

Can you find them all?

Kids Bible Wordsearch

Animals in the Bible

Puzzle # 1

Fit the words in the list into the diagram below reading forward, backward, up, down, diagonally, always in a straight line.



BEAR
CAMEL
DONKEY
GAZELLE
GOAT
HART
HORSE
IBEX
JACKAL



LEOPARD
LION
MOLE
MOUSE
NIGHTHAWK
OSTRICH
SHEEP
UNICORN
WOLF

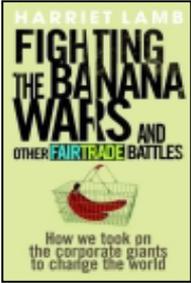


The above puzzle is thanks to <http://biblewordgames.com>

FAIRTRADE



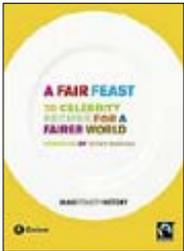
Over a number of issues there have been recipes from Fairtrade. There are also a number of books that have been released about Fairtrade and their products. Here are a few that are available from most good bookshops.



Fighting the Banana Wars and Other Fairtrade Battles

by Harriet Lamb, published by Ebury, £10.99

The Executive Director of the Fairtrade Foundation charts the heroic struggles of the early years to get new Fairtrade products onto supermarket shelves and the growth of the Fairtrade supporter movement.

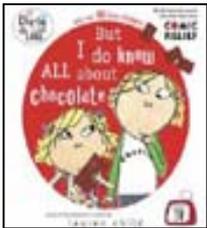


A Fair Feast: 70 Celebrity Recipes for a Fairer World

by Vicky Bhogal

Published by Simon and Schuster, £9.99

From Jamie to Nigella, Sir Elton John to Minnie Driver, Ken Hom to Keith Floyd, celebrities come together to support Fairtrade with recipes and messages.

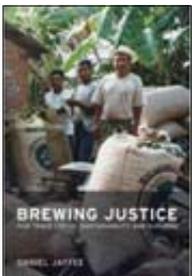


Charlie & Lola But I Do Know All About Chocolate

by Lauren Child

Published by Penguin, £2.99

Help Charlie and Lola with their shopping and learn all about fair trade.



Brewing Justice - Fair Trade Coffee, Sustainability and Survival

by Daniel Joffe

Published by Blackwell, £12.95

The book follows the members of Michiza, a Fairtrade certified coffee cooperative in Mexico and analyses the effects and limits of Fairtrade and its place in the global economy.

A forest destroyed, a family devastated

Destruction of Argentina's Chaco forest has featured in recent issues of SHARE. Andrew Leake now tells how global economic forces affect real people:



Six-year-old Vanesa had been born into a humble Wichi family in the small village of Chofwayuk in the dry tropical forests of northern Argentina. Her early years were happy ones spent playing with her siblings. Most of all, she loved helping her mother look after her baby brother Jeremias.

Family life changed abruptly the day the bulldozers arrived. As the trees crashed down, Vanesa's world was literally wiped out. The beautiful forest was replaced by a barren ocean of soy beans, patrolled by giant agricultural machines and bombarded from the air by crop dusters.

Just when things could seemingly get no worse, an irritation in one of Vanesa's eyes was diagnosed as cancer. Her father, Eduardo, took her to the city where doctors had to remove the eye. She put on a brave face, and recouped some of her beauty with the aid of a glass eye. Eduardo believes the disease was caused by the pesticides used by farmers on their crops.

Confronting the giants

The loss of the forest made family life more and more difficult. Vanesa's parents could no longer find the plants, fruits, honey and animals that provided them with much of their diet. When bulldozers arrived to knock down one of the last patches of forest near her community, Eduardo decided enough was enough. He sought help from local authorities, but when this drew a blank he decided to take direct action. With the rest of his community he stood in front of the advancing bulldozers - which sure enough generated a response, but not one they desired.

Riot police came to the village, beat up the peaceful protestors and arrested all the men. Terrified by what she witnessed, Vanesa grabbed her baby brother and ran off into the forest. In tears, she wandered aimlessly, dragging Jeremias as she was not strong enough to carry him. She became disorientated and was lost for several hours. Eduardo, back home after his ordeal with the police, found the children in the late evening. They were bruised and cut by thorns but otherwise in good shape.

The family recounted the day's events, trying to make sense of the injustice they had suffered. At that same moment, in a lawyer's office a few miles away, a court injunction was being signed that would make it a legal offence for Eduardo and some other community members to go within 50 metres of the plot being deforested. In practical terms, this now means Eduardo has to break the law in order to travel to and from his village.

Though far removed from our own reality, the misfortunes of families such as Vanesa's are often linked to our own lives. International demand for cheaper crops finds a willing partner in the insatiable greed of agribusinesses that supply products regardless of environmental and social costs. Left unchecked and fuelled by our own consumer demands, these economic forces play havoc with the wellbeing of family life halfway round the globe.

The Anglican Church with support from SAMS (South American Mission Society), is actively involved in supporting indigenous communities in Argentina in issues of land rights and preservation of the forest. This work is conducted by the programme of social justice, ASOCIANA, to which Andrew devotes part of his ministry.

For more information about SAMS please visit their website at www.samsgb.org

This article first appeared in the International Anglican Family Newsletter, Easter 2008, and then in the Summer 2008 issue of SHARE magazine and is reproduced here with permission

AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEST



In a series of Elementary School tests children were asked questions about the old and new testaments. The following statements about the bible were written by the children. They have not been retouched nor corrected. Incorrect spelling has been left in.

1. In the first book of the bible, guinessis. God got tired of creating the world so he took the sabbath off.
2. Adam and eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was joan of ark. Noah built and ark and the animals came on in pears.
3. Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.
4. The jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic genitals.
5. Sampson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a jezebel like delilah.
6. Samson slayed the philistines with the axe of the apostles.
7. Moses led the jews to the red sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.
- 8, the egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, moses went up to mount cyanide to get the ten commandments.
9. The first commandments was when eve told adam to eat the apple.
10. The seventh commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery.
11. Moses died before he ever reached canada. Then joshua led the hebrews in the battle of geritol
12. The greatest miricle in the bible is when joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.
13. David was a hebrew king who was skilled at playing the liar. He fought the finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in biblical times.
14. Solomon, one of davids sons, had 300 wives and 700 porcupines.
15. When mary heard she was the mother of jesus, she sang the magna carta.

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH SEPTEMBER 2008

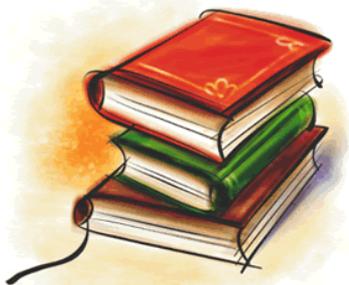
At the end of John's Gospel there is a verse, which appeals to me very much.

“Now there are many other things Jesus did,
If they were all written down one by one,
I suppose that the whole world could
Not hold the books that would be written”

Not a particularly religious verse you may think, but the appeal for me lies in the fact that I love books. When June was alive she would steer me away from book shops, saying, “You've got a book at home, you don't need any more!” Now I send for books by post and can't resist book stalls and book shops.

Why am I revealing my secret vices to you? Because the ability to read and having ready access to books is one of the countless things we take for granted. How difficult life must be for those who cannot read. They miss out on so much apart from the difficulty they have in completing forms or official documents. Reading opens up new horizons. I am one of those peculiar people who would far rather read a book than watch television, and every night I need at least half an hour for a book before I settle down to sleep.

John Wesley once described Methodists as “a reading people”. It may well have been that in his day people listened while things were read to them because they may not have been able to read for themselves. Being able to read is a great privilege that we should thank God for. May we always continue to be a “reading people” and make the most of the vast array of books that are available to us.



Bill Cox

**CHURCH
DIARY**



Tue	2	10-12noon 8.00 pm	Coffee and Chat Time for Prayer
Weds	3	7.30 pm	Circuit Welcome Service Stoneleigh <i>for Margaret Adams as Superintendent and Paul Timmis as a new minister in the Circuit</i>
Fri	5	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	7	10.30 am 6.30 pm	All Age Worship led by Valerie Ashcroft Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	9	10-12noon 8.00 pm	Coffee and Chat Time for Prayer
Weds	10	7.45 pm	Midways Group - Welcome Back Informal Evening with a Bring & Buy Stall
Thurs	11		Leadership Meeting (73 Southway)
Sat	13	7.30pm	Rafiki's "Evening of Entertainment" at Worcester Park
Sun	14	10.30 am 3.00pm	Communion Service led by Rev Paul Timmis Strawberry Tea welcome for Rev Paul Timmis and family
Tue	16	10-12noon 7.30 pm 8.00 pm	Coffee and Chat Men's Supper Club Time for Prayer
Thurs	18		Finance & Property Meeting
Fri	19	12.30 pm	Luncheon Club
Sun	21	10.30 am	Praise Service led by Rev Paul Timmis
Tue	23	10-12 noon 8.00 pm	Coffee and Chat Time for Prayer

		8.00 pm	Preachers' Meeting at Stoneleigh
Weds	24	7.00 pm	Circuit Meeting at Raynes Park
		7.45 pm	Midways Group - <i>Roy Ellis</i>
Thurs	25		Finance & Property Meeting
Sun	28	10.30 am	Morning Service led by Bill Cox
		6.30 pm	Bible Study led by Rev Paul Timmis

Please refer to the Website (www.martinway.org.uk) or Weekly Notice Sheet for any additional information

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We wish all of those who celebrate a birthday this month a very

Happy Birthday

and especially to:

Abigail Fuwa on 15th September

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**PUZZLE
CORNER
ANSWER**

**Bible Crossword
Answers from the
July/August
Newsletter**

O	V	E	R	P	A	S	S		E	G	G	S
W				A		D	E	L	A	Y		A
E		D	I	S	D	A	I	N	E	D		I
D	E	A	L		E		D		S	E	A	L
		U		E	D	G	E	S		V		
B	E	G	A	N		R		W	H	O	R	E
U		H		D	I	A	N	A		T		V
T	I	T	H	E		I		R	A	I	S	E
		E		D	A	N	C	E		O		
L	O	R	D		M		R		S	N	O	W
A		S	O	M	E	T	I	M	E	S		O
M				V	E	N	O	M		L		E
B	L	U	E		D	W	E	L	L	E	R	S

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 4th October 6.30pm
Barn Dance and Harvest Supper

Tickets available soon : Adults £6
Under 16's £3



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HELP NEEDED

Young People are an important part of Martin Way and the future of our Church. *HELP IS NEEDED IN TWO IMPORTANT AREAS:*



The JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB is **URGENTLY** in need of volunteers to continue operating in September. We have only 4 leaders at present; we need a bank of at least 6 in order to cover for absences. If you can spare even one or two evenings a term please talk to Pete,

Anne, Jo or Abby so that we can plan you in and avoid having to close some weeks.

FROGS CLUB: We are managing at present, but only just. Please consider whether you have time to spare on a Wednesday, either in the morning between 9.15 and 12 noon or 1.00 to 3.30pm. It is not an onerous task, mainly providing refreshments and washing up as well as putting out or tidying the toys. This activity is a great outreach in the community and it would be a shame if we had to close some weeks.

Items for the **October Newsletter** should be with Andrew Fox,
(email: roife@hotmail.co.uk) by **Sunday 20th September** at the latest