

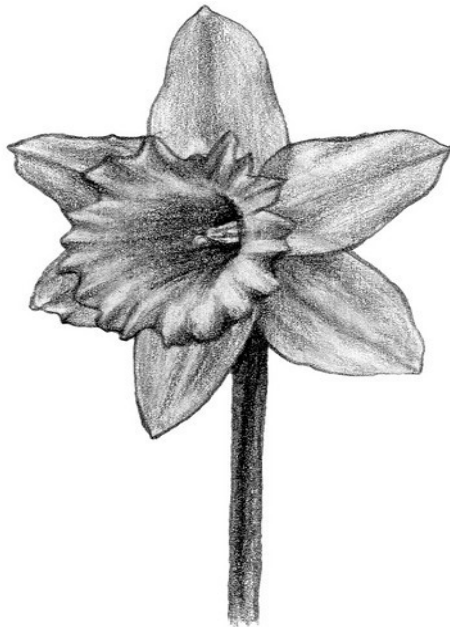


[www.nkmethodist.org.uk](http://www.nkmethodist.org.uk)

Charity No 1134870

# Circuit News

## Spring 2015



## **GRAVESEND METHODIST CHURCH & COMMUNITY CENTRE**

The weekend of 17/18 January was very special for GMCCC.

On Saturday and Sunday evenings we had 330 people fill the church. Firstly, on the Saturday we were hosts to the African Children's Choir, where amongst all the singing, dancing and infectious enthusiasm, £2,600+ was raised to help children in Africa. We challenge anyone to come out of these concerts not wearing a smile!! This was the next to last performance of their year's world tour and they have now returned to Uganda. Thank you to the host families who provided B&B & Christian Love to the choir and their chaperones.

Secondly, the celebrations continued as we hosted the Churches Together in Gravesham Annual Service for Christian Unity. This inspirational service, included the dedication of 16 new Street Pastors with the Mayor & Chief of Police contributing along with other civic figures.

We continue to raise funds for our C21st Project and the next event is a Fiddle & Faff concert. We would love to see you on the night when a great time is anticipated. We have even sold a ticket to Rev Tony Graff!! (Fiddles husband). Saturday 21st February 7.30pm. Tickets £5 in advance or on the door.



Beatrice Morey—older members of the circuit may recall that Gordon and Beatrice Morey were well respected members at Gravesend for many years. Gordon passed away some years ago but Beatrice died recently aged 98. To mark Beatrice's Christian life, there will be a memorial service at GMCCC at 3.30pm on Sunday 22nd February and you are all invited to join this celebration of her life.

**“GMCCC is not large enough!”** Not a statement which we normally associate with churches in the 21st century. However, it was the case last Christmas—Mayfield Grammar School come to us every Christmas for their upper school carol service. Rev Noreen addressed the students and teachers—all 600+ of them—and the school made music, a choir sang and readers read out the Christmas story as well as a World War I tribute. Oh—and we haven't told you the sex of the students.....a clue would be the sweet perfume which always lingers in the church once they have left!



.....**And finally**—Friends will know that we have been planning to undertake building improvements for the last 4+ years. Our C21st Project is split into 3 phases, with phase I aiming to make our halls and rooms to the rear of the church better for our community work. Unfortunately, there have been some recent set backs, but we are still hopeful that some works will start in February or March 2015. Please will you keep this project and the community work we undertake in your prayers (Foodbank, Street Pastors, help for the homeless, support for parents & families etc.) **Thank you and God Bless. [www.gravesendmethodistchurch.org.uk](http://www.gravesendmethodistchurch.org.uk)**

## **SPITAL STREET METHODIST CHURCH**

In September we welcomed Deacon Jane Paine to work alongside Velma at our church and The Brent. We continue to support the Family Centre by providing beddings, towels etc, for which they are extremely grateful. Small change continues to be placed in our Water Aid jar and its amazing how the pennies mount up. The lead up to Christmas was very busy. We held a coffee and cake morning to support "Breakthrough Breast Cancer". This was well supported and raised £330. On the 1st Sunday in December we welcomed 5th Dartford Scouts who, for a number of years have held their annual Church Service at Spital Street and its great to see so many Beavers, Cubs and Scouts filling the church. For many years we have also hosted an Ellenor Lions "Light of Love" service which this year was led by Rev Velma Campbell. Westgate Primary School arrived en masse to hold their Carol service and on the Saturday following they joined with members from Dartford churches to sing carols in the town centre, afterwards we provided tea/coffee etc. for those needing warmth and refreshment. Once again the lunch club team provided a Christmas Lunch for approximately 40 people. We shared in a 30minute service before the lunch and there was a great deal of laughter as crackers were pulled, jokes were related and the highlight was when two of Father Christmas's "helpers" arrived to give everyone a gift.

At the time of writing we, along with other churches in the area are involved in the Cold Weather Shelter for homeless in the town. Our church is presently being used on a Wednesday evening.

Spital Street was refurbished in 1989 and in 2014, due to the new Regulations had a modern Fire Alarm system installed. We are presently working through a list of other jobs we need to action to comply with the Regulations.

**Thank you Father, for your unfailing love and provision for us.**