

# West Kilburn Baptist Church Profile



## History

The church was built in 1865. The aim of which was to provide a place of worship for the people of Queen's Park Railway. WKBC is situated between Queens Park and Kilburn Park Stations.

The church is adjacent to South Kilburn Estate which is now a mix of owner-occupied high-end flats and social housing.

It is next to Queens Park which is predominantly owner-occupied and very expensive homes. The area is called the Queen's Park Conservation area and the Manse is located in this area.

It is also close to the Mozart Estate which is predominantly made up of social housing and has a high population of unemployed youth, some of whom are involved in gangs.

Over the years, the area has changed from being an area with mainly families of Afro-Caribbean and White British, young people, deprivation, issues with gangs, poor schooling and poor housing to good and outstanding schools, better housing, a big Muslim population and the influx of the more affluent people. The issue of poverty and the needy are very real and so are the issues with gangs but it is believed that due to the rebuilding of new housing, families were moved out of the borough, as well as out of London, and this has dampened the gang issues.

The affluent people of Queen's Park, those on the Estates, the very needy families, the young people who have lost their way, and the Muslims in the neighbourhood are all on our doorstep.

We have a real mission field on our doorstep.

Over the past 60 years there have been three pastors and a period of interregnum. Pastor Larmour was a London City missionary and served as Pastor for many years followed by Bill McIlroy in 1968/9 and left in 1981 to take up the role of Pastor in Balham. We were without a Pastor for about five years. Paul Pease became Pastor in 1984 until 1997 and moved to Hook. There was then a period of interregnum for eight years without a pastor until the appointment of Peter Law.

WKBC was with the Baptist union for many years, but is now affiliated to the FIEC.

## WKBC cultural context

We are a multicultural group with approximately 40.5% black Caribbean, 37.6% African, 16% white British, and 5.6% of other groups including Iranian, Indian, Filipino and mixed heritage.

With regards to age, most of the members are over the age of 60 with 49% being 60 years and over, 30% are 40 to 59 years of age, 20% are 18 to 39 years of age and none under the age of 18.

There are two young men who are at University though not members, but there is nothing provided for that age group. There are five young people in the Bible class ages 11 to 16 and they are all children or grandchildren of members.

There is a very small Sunday School

Approximately 33% of the members are male and of that number, nearly 44% are over 60 years old. Of the 66% who are women, 50% of that number is over 60 years old.

About a third of the members are in owner-occupied accommodation and the same number either have been or are in professional/management professions.

Currently as a church we do not adequately reflect our local community.

## WKBC at a glance

Founded in 1865

69 members

Approximately 50/60 attend each Sunday

A Sunday School currently about 10 attending +5 in Bible Class

Ministry to children and young people and Coffee Morning mostly attended by seniors. There was ministry to ladies which has stopped owing to low numbers

Annual holiday club for youth

'Congregational' government, overseen by the Pastor and Leadership Team

A youth worker

The Church owns the building and the Manse

Affiliated to the FIEC

## Other churches

WKBC have had close links with Kensal Rise Baptist, Donnington Evangelical, Kilburn Evangelical, Kensal Evangelical, Stonebridge Evangelical and St. John's Wood Baptist Church. St Luke's C of E and Fernhead Road Methodist Church are close-by.

## Our Vision

*"We are a multicultural group of ordinary people, who love Jesus, and are being transformed through hearing God's Word by His Spirit and therefore we are striving to love and serve each other, and our neighbours in North West London and beyond"*

LOVING JESUS AND SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

## Our Values

*[These are being developed at this time.]*

## Basis of Faith

### 1. GOD

There is one God, who exists eternally in three distinct but equal persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. God is unchangeable in his holiness, justice, wisdom and love. He is the Almighty Creator; Saviour and judge who sustains and governs all things according to his sovereign will for his own glory.

### 2. THE BIBLE

God has revealed himself in the Bible, which consists of the Old and New Testaments alone. Every word was inspired by God through human authors, so that the Bible as originally given is in its entirety the Word of God, without error and fully reliable in fact and doctrine. The Bible alone speaks with final authority and is always sufficient for all matters of belief and practice.

### 3. THE HUMAN RACE

All men and women, being created in the image of God, have inherent and equal dignity and worth. Their greatest purpose is to obey, worship and love God. As a result of the fall of our first parents, every aspect of human nature has been corrupted and all men and women are without spiritual life, guilty sinners and hostile to God. Every person is therefore under the

just condemnation of God and needs to be born again, forgiven and reconciled to God in order to know and please him.

#### 4. THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

The Lord Jesus Christ is fully God and fully man. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin, and lived a sinless life in obedience to the Father. He taught with authority and all his words are true. On the cross he died in the place of sinners, bearing God's punishment for their sin, redeeming them by his blood. He rose from the dead and in his resurrection body ascended into heaven where he is exalted as Lord of all. He intercedes for his people in the presence of the Father.

#### 5. SALVATION

Salvation is entirely a work of God's grace and cannot be earned or deserved. It has been accomplished by the Lord Jesus Christ and is offered to all in the gospel. God in his love forgives sinners whom he calls, granting them repentance and faith. All who believe in Christ are justified by faith alone, adopted into the family of God and receive eternal life.

#### 6. THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit has been sent from heaven to glorify Christ and to apply his work of salvation. He convicts sinners, imparts spiritual life and gives a true understanding of the Scriptures. He indwells all believers, brings assurance of salvation and produces increasing likeness to Christ. He builds up the Church and empowers its members for worship, service and mission.

#### 7. THE CHURCH

The universal Church is the body of which Christ is the head and to which all who are saved belong. It is made visible in local churches, which are congregations of believers who are committed to each other for the worship of God, the preaching of the Word, the administering of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, for pastoral care and discipline, and for evangelism. The unity of the body of Christ is expressed within and between churches by mutual love, care and encouragement. True fellowship between churches exists only where they are faithful to gospel.

#### 8. BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

Baptism and the Lord's Supper have been given to the churches by Christ as visible signs of the gospel. Baptism is a symbol of union with Christ and entry into his Church but does not impart spiritual life. The Lord's Supper is a commemoration of Christ's sacrifice offered once for all and involves no change in the bread and wine. All its blessings are received by faith.

#### 9. THE FUTURE

The Lord Jesus Christ will return in glory. He will raise the dead and judge the world in righteousness. The wicked will be sent to eternal punishment and the righteous will be welcomed into a life of eternal joy in fellowship with God. God will make all things new and will be glorified forever.

# Leadership Team

This Team currently consists of three leaders. The Pastor would automatically be part of the leadership team. The Leadership Team, appointed by the members, and accountable to the members, serves the church by providing oversight of the church's affairs, including; pastoral care, preaching and teaching ministry, mission and outreach programmes, and the management of the church's business

The pastor would be expected to take the lead in training the next generation of church leaders.

Servant leadership has been the theme and working as a team is essential.

There are a number of teams; each run by a team leader.

Oversight and review of the teams is the responsibility of the leadership.

## Our eleven principles for team ministries

1. Teams exist for serving the Lord
2. Each team seeks to achieve the common purpose of the church
3. Each team has a reason for existence which is also its specific aim and all involved should remember this aim so that they will know the reason why they are serving
4. The team leader is a key person in effective working of the team. They are responsible for organizing, maintaining and developing the team. For this reason no leader in WKBC should feel unsupported in their ministry and is advised to have a person working in a support role with them.
5. Team members are very important for the success of the team and need to have a passion and a gift for a particular team service so that they serve willingly.
6. Flexibility is essential. Each team ought to meet at least twice a year to review their service and make any changes that is needed.
7. Each team will give a report on a rota basis to the whole church. This will make for unity as everybody hears about that particular team service; it will also make for expansion as prayer requests and needs are made known and hopefully responded to.
8. Each team and its leader come under the oversight of the Leadership Team, and are required to keep the Leadership Team informed of developments and changes in their team.
9. In agreement with the Leadership Team, a new team may start at any time and will serve according to the above eight principles.
10. Every October/November there will be a special service of dedication of the teams to the Lord's service.
11. The wisdom of the above 10 principles and the whole practice of working in teams is itself open to the 'view-do -review' policy and must be continually examined by the Scriptures. The Bible as our final authority, and all matters of doctrine and practice are subject to it.

The above was taken from **the 'Teams in Action'** at WKBC booklet.

## Currently the following teams exist:

1. Leadership Team: **Ray, Jeff** and **Clifford**
2. The Care Team: **Josh** with **Liz** helping during the lockdown
3. The Treasury Team: **Ray**
4. Youthwork: **Jen**, Dorette and Yvonne
5. Music Team: **Nick, Mike** and **Ray**
6. Sunday School Team: **Liz**, Alexandra, Annalee, Patience, Dan B, and Lucia as stand-by
7. Refreshment Team: **David**, Jen T, Helena, Uche, Yvonne, Nancy, Sue, Gloria and Liz
8. Housekeeping Team: **Yvonne**, Lucia & Liz, Dan & Uche and Gloria & Geoffrey
9. Coffee Morning Team: **Liz** with Lucia
10. Audio Team: **Mona** and **Neeva**
11. Land and Building Team: **Jeff** and Ray
12. Stewarding/Welcome Team: **Liz**, Sue, Helena, Josh, Mona, Roseline, Blessing, Stephen and Lucia.
13. Saturday Ladies Team: **David**
14. Admin Team: **Liz**, Nick, Mike, Neeva, and Annalee
15. Prayer Team/Prayer Chat: **Liz**

**Recent additions:** (these may not be teams but are responsibilities which need reviewing)

1. GDPR: **Ray, Liz** and **Nick**
2. Safeguarding: **Jen** and Yvonne
3. Website: **Nick**
4. IKnow software: **Nick**

**Other:** Missionary Team was **Annalee** and **Bob Sidey**.

Evangelism team which was led by **Andrew Gordon** included visiting the flats, tract table in the car park/tract distribution and follow up with contacts and annual stand at Queen's Park Day. This work mainly ceased with the departure of Andrew and **Antoine**.

## Membership

"Membership of WKBC is open to adults of the age 18 and over who profess the Christian faith in accordance with the Basis of Faith and have satisfied such other requirements as have been specified in the Church Rules" -(Church Constitution under discussion)

## Sunday worship

The morning service starts at 11 am and a time of prayer precedes the service. Sunday School and Bible Class takes place during the service. The Lord's Supper is normally taken on the Morning of the first Sunday in the month and the evening of the third Sunday in the month.

## Style of worship

There is a mixture of traditional and contemporary songs assisted by a small band.

## Preaching

It is expected that the Pastor and other suitably gifted members will preach.

## Music

We have an audio team responsible for recording the services. We also have a small group of musicians who are mainly guitarists and we do not have a dedicated pianist.

## WKBC NEWS

This is a weekly newsletter which details activities of the week, items for prayer and praise, testimonies, book reviews and most recently instalments of Pilgrims Progress.

Once a month there is an extended version of the WKBC news.

## Midweek meeting

There is a regular Wednesday prayer and Bible study meeting. There was a practice of a monthly prayer meeting devoted to missions.

## Sunday School

There are currently five Sunday School teachers but this is an area of real prayer as nearly all the Sunday School teachers are over 60 and some have indicated they may not be able to continue. As mentioned above, the numbers are low and not consistent. This too is an area for prayer.

## Creche

This is available during the morning service for children up to the age of three.

## Youth clubs

There are two youth-clubs: Club 714 and K121 which are on a Thursday and Friday respectively. This ministry is evangelistic, introducing the young people to the Lord Jesus as Saviour and Lord of their lives.

The younger club 714, has on average 9 children attending and the older club K121, has on average 3 children attending.

Currently, the workers are all over 60 years of age.

## Mission Impossible

This is an annual halfterm event seeking to share the gospel of our Lord with the young people and their friends.

The work of children and young people; Sunday School and Youth Work is an area for prayer.

## Missions

We currently financially support Alison and Slavko, Robert and Theresia, the London City Mission, Charles and Ann, and Luke and Heidi.

Once a year we have both the Open Air Mission and Christian Answer working with and from the church. We also receive Open doors, Barnabas Fund prayer-letters, but are not actively involved with them.

## Management and Church governance

These will be specified in the church constitution and handbook, which are being developed as we are presently converting to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

## Buildings

The Manse, (which is in the Queens Park Conservation area) and the church building are owned by the church. The church is in the process of buying the freehold of the land.

Financial reports to be added?

## Local Amenities

### Education

There are five 'Good' OFSTED-rated primary schools that are either within walking distance or a very short bus ride from the Manse or the church. Two of them are Church of England

schools, one is an Academy sponsored school and the others are Foundation schools. There is also the Islamia Primary school and a small Independent school.

There are seven secondary schools, five of which are within walking distance or a short bus ride and are rated 'Outstanding' by OFSTED. Of the five, two are Catholic schools, one is a C of E school and two are Academies. The two 'GOOD' schools are an Academy and a Foundation school.

## Healthcare

St Mary's Hospital, St Charles', Willesden Centre for Health and other hospitals are in the borough or share the same Trust. There are a number of doctors' surgeries, clinics, dentists and pharmacies in the area.

## Transport

Queens Park, Brondesbury Park and Kilburn Park Stations are all close by. There is a wealth of public transport - rail, tube and bus within walking distance from Manse or WKBC. All these travel to the West End, Brent Cross, Westfield, Portobello Market, local shopping areas such as Kilburn High Road. Kensal Rise and the Harrow Road.

## Shopping

Salisbury Road is littered with many restaurants, coffee shops, bars and a number of small supermarkets. The same is true for Kensal Rise. Shopping places mentioned above offer a variety of experiences.

## Leisure

There are a number of leisure facilities in the area including; Queens Park, Gladstone Park, Willesden Sports Centre, Paddington Recreation Ground and Roundwood Park. There are also cinemas close by at Westfield shopping centre, Salisbury Road, The Tricycle theatre and cinemas in the West End. The local library is a three-minute walk from the Manse and the church.