## **Being Part Of A Bigger Community**

Simon Cooper June 7, 2011

At 43LG we did something different for our evening service last Sunday. We went to join Askew Rd Church in Hammersmith (Methodist & United Reformed) for the rededication of their building which has just had a £1.2 million pound refurbishment. We heard about the building's history and about the long journey that was taken to get to the point of carrying out the works. I could relate.

It was good to see our congregation (about 25 attended) being part of Jesus' and True Parents' larger family. Kathleen Moloney and some of the band performed and she introduced the music ministry team congregation very well, with the local MP, the mayor, and the Methodist London district leader sitting right behind her and about 160 people in front of her. They had a sound system that was being used for the first time, so Reamonn did a good job working together with their sound guy to trouble shoot any sound hiccups.



Singing: Hosanna in the highest

A Reverend Andrew Prasad, from an Indian background, gave a short and good sermon introducing some Hindu wisdom for the congregation.

Naison, the church's minister, and his wife were warm and embracing hosts as always. I met Naison through his son who was in Damon's class at school for a couple of years.

I could see our congregation really enjoyed and benefited and learnt from the whole experience. I could write a list of things if I had the time. But basically it's good to get out.

After there was a lovely spread that everyone enjoyed.

A big congratulations to Askew Road Church for successfully modernising their church building and a big thank you for the warm atmosphere and spirit that we could share in. There really is a v authentic sense of a church family that exists to love and serve the local community in Askew Road Church.

AND lastly a Big thank you to the 43LG mini bus that helped a great deal in the rainy weather to get the band there and also later our congregation.

Here is a clip from one of the local choirs that came to sing: "Thank you Jesus, since I lay my burden down..."



Naison Hove the minister (a man with a big heart) from Askew Road Church, and myself