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August 2021

Cylchlythyr/Newsletter

Rhif/Issue 37

# BABELL ZION NEWYDD

Rhiw Babell Pensarn Caerfyrddin SA31 2DJ



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**Thanks to Babel Zion Newydd Chapel for permission to do this**

**Llangunnor Network**  
*Preserving and Promoting  
Llangunnor*

# **A message from Corey (all the way from Tennessee)**

Annwyl gyfeillion | Dear friends.

Greetings from Tennessee, USA. We hope that you're all keeping well and enjoying the summer sun in tropical Wales! Catrin, Peris, and I are having a lovely time visiting family and friends, and we're so grateful to you for encouraging us to come. Over the past month, we've had the opportunity to visit dear friends who pastor a church in Colorado, missionary friends in Illinois before they return to Southeast Asia this month, and Peris has gotten to know his auntie, uncle, and grandmother very well. We're also pleased to have heard many updates about the work on the chapel building and are very excited that we'll be meeting together again in September. It will be so lovely to see you all and to introduce Peris James to you in person. I'm reminded of Paul's words in his letter to the Philippians: I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus' (1:3-6). Gyfeillion, mae'n gyffrous iawn i feddwl am yr hyn sydd gan yr Arglwydd ar ein cyfer. Mae Ef wedi cychwyn gwaith arbennig ynom ni a dw i methu aros i weld yr hyn mae am wneud trwyddom ni. Boed bendith yr Arglwydd arnoch i gyd, ac fe welwn ni chi eto yn fuan iawn.

Corey Hampton

## **Parchedig / Revd Emyr Williams**

Mewn oedfa rithiol yng Ngymdeithasfa'r De a gynhaliwyd yn Llanddarog ar Orffennaf 29fed dan lywyddiaeth y Parch Marcus Robinson fe ordeiniwyd Emyr yn Weinidog. Y Parch Ian Sims draddododd y bregeth a'r siars ac fe gafwyd gair o gymeradwyaeth gan Parchg Ddoethur Rosa Hunt ar ran Coleg y Bedyddwyr, Caerdydd lle fynychodd Emyr y cwrs. Dymunwn yn dda i Emyr yn y Weinidogaeth ac estynnwn ein llongyfarchiadau gwresog iddo.

## **Charity Walk**

We wish Meurig well for the Alzheimers Society Marathon walk on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Here are the details for donation purposes:

[www.justgiving.com/fundraising/meurig-rees](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/meurig-rees)

## **Congratulations**

Warm congratulations to Libby Jones, a past member of Babell Sunday School on achieving a First Class honours Degree in Micro Biology from the University of Manchester. We wish Libby well for the future.

# Rev Mike Shephard writes....

## GETTING AWAY FROM IT ALL

I frequently speak of the need to seek out the solitary places of life and to 'listen to the silence.' To commune with nature, to glory in one's surroundings, to meditate, quietly, on the meaning of existence contributes, as few things do, to the health of body, mind and soul. It is in such moments, too, that we ask those deep questions and, now and then, find an answer to them.

*Just when we are safest, there's a sunset-touch,  
A fancy from a flower-bell, some one's death,  
A chorus from Euripides –  
And that's enough for fifty hopes and fears  
As old and new at once as Nature's self,  
To rap and knock and enter in our soul.*

We no longer write letters these days. We send one-line texts or short emails. Seldom do we put our very self into our correspondence or commit deep thoughts to paper. It is consequently impossible to imagine writing to a relative, as did Baron von Hugel, and speaking of those 'deeper' things. Here is part of a letter written to his niece: "I want to prepare you, to organize you for life, for illness, crisis and death . . . Live all you can – as complete and full a life as you can find – do as much as you can for others. Read, work, enjoy – love and help people – do all this. Yes – but remember: Be alone, be remote, be away from the world, be desolate. Then you will be close to discovering the depth at the heart of the universe."

It is one thing to offer such counsel to others, particularly in my weekly musings for the Welsh Ambulance Service. It is all too easy, though, to forget one's own advice and to deserve the rebuke, 'Physician, heal yourself.'

My wife and I have purchased a small campervan. It is fourteen years old but is in good condition with low mileage. It came with an awning and after receiving tuition from friends skilled in these things we wanted to erect it ourselves. When we attempt such things, we usually have 'domestics' and, finding the task beyond us, abandon the idea and return home where we await further instruction. This being the case we decided not to travel far, choosing a camp site at Rhandirmwyn, a village to the north of Llandovery.

We succeeded in attaching the awning to the van with this relatively easy task taking us over two hours to complete. We managed to remain on speaking terms so that represented a successful outcome. We even laughed at our mistakes. The only problem was that we tied the awning to the vehicle and did so in a manner that made it unwise, for the duration of a three-night stay, to separate one from the other. We did not see this as problematic as we enjoy walking. We could also use public transport to venture further afield.

We quickly discovered that there is no bus service connecting Rhandirmwyn to the outside world. Upon arrival we were given a leaflet containing the information that the nearest bus stop was SEVEN MILES AWAY! If we wanted to contact a surgery that was also seven miles distant. There was a pub – but no shops of any description. There was taxi but given the lack of a mobile phone signal ordering one could be difficult for those of us without WIFI. In short, we were isolated, cut off and, very much alone.

It is here that hypocrisy came into play. For the first time in our life, we were cut off from the modern trappings of civilization and were dependent upon our own resources. Rhandirmwyn is as remote as one can be in Wales and those craving solitude would have a taste of heaven. Instead of welcoming it I found myself resenting it and began, within minutes of our arrival, to imagine the improvements I would make if were warden of the camp. I would place pressure upon the ‘powers that be’ to reinstate a daily bus service. If that were not possible, I would organize a camp bus to transport guests to and from town. Surely improvements could be made to the mobile signal. And why not have newspapers delivered to the site – albeit at a charge for delivery. If I was in charge, I would organize things very differently! There would be no end to the changes that I, in imagination, could implement.

It is a small world and, by coincidence rather than design, two friends, Shirley and Andrew, arrived at the site one day after us. It was so lovely to see them and to share news and memories over a bottle or so of wine. They are experienced campers, and this was their fourth visit to Rhandirmwyn. I was surprised to learn that having parked-up their camper-home they do not move it again until they leave. This was “from choice.” They could not see the sense of staying in so lovely a location and then travelling elsewhere in search of enjoyment or indeed, of amenities. “Why not enjoy the location and learn its secrets.” For our friends it was the lack of mobile phone signals and newspapers and bus service that proved attractive. This was an opportunity to relax; to switch off; to enjoy solitude. It was a chance not ‘to do’ – but ‘to be.’

And, of course, they were right. They had learned a lesson that I had once learned but had, somehow, forgotten. I had obviously needed to be reminded of it again.

Please allow me, in closing, to recommend the camp site at Rhandirmwyn. Book a few days there. Enjoy it. Rediscover the art of ‘doing nothing.’ Experience solitude. Be alone. Let me know how you get on.

Mike Shephard

Elders’ Meeting/Cyfarfod Blaenoriaid

The next Elders’ Meeting will be held on Tuesday August 31<sup>st</sup> at 6pm

Cyfarfod blaenoriaid nesaf am 6pm ar Awst 31ain 2021

## **Revd Mike Shephard's tribute at Trevor Lloyd's funeral**

Trevor asked me, some time ago, to conduct his funeral service. He stipulated that when the time came there should be no eulogy. I replied "Tough!" There was no way that I would allow him to leave this world without celebrating his life. I won the argument!

### **HOW WILL WE REMEMBER TREVOR LLOYD?**

#### **AS A PERSON OF IMMENSE CHARM**

He had charisma and it drew people to him. He made people feel very special. He had a genuine interest in their stories and wanted to hear them.

#### **AS A MAN WITH A WONDERFUL SENSE OF HUMOUR**

My wife did not know what to make of him at first. She hails from N Wales and Trevor took delight in mimicking the accent. She didn't know whether to be annoyed or to laugh. The laughter won! I loved the story, told as if his mouth was full of plum stones, about the visitor who asked if there was a B&Q in Bala. The local replied, "Well now; I know there is a B in Bala. But there is no Q in Bala." I could keep you here all day recounting his stories

#### **AS A WONDERFUL ICE BREAKER**

He had that rare gift of bringing people together and of helping people form friendships that would not otherwise have been made. One thinks of the 'race-days' he organized in his garage. One recalls the quiz nights at Babel Zion Newydd and elsewhere. He organized things meticulously and, together with Linda's help, made so many occasions memorable.

#### **IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO THINK OF TREVOR WITHOUT HIS TEDDY BEARS**

There was a child in Trevor Lloyd and we loved him for it. These bears have sat in supermarket trolleys. They have sat around the table in restaurants.

They have been strapped to adult backs and experienced the Isle of Man TT circuit. They have been photographed looking out of train windows and undertaking many other adventures. They have been part of that process of ice-breaking and of friendship forming – referred to already and we can imagine the smiles and conversations that these bears precipitated. My grandson tells me that Teddy Bears have souls. I think Trevor would have agreed with that sentiment. Having known Trevor, I think I agree with it too.



#### **AS A MAN OF DEEP FAITH BUT WHO HAD A QUESTIONING APPROACH TO BELIEF**

This is a facet that Trevor and I shared, and I was always grateful for his encouragement. It will be difficult for me to take services at Babel Zion Newydd, particularly in the early months as Trevor will not be there. He will have left a huge void in the church and in our hearts.

Trevor, in short, will be remembered as a man who was much loved and our thoughts today are with the family, with Linda and, indeed with all friends who mourn the passing of a very special person.

*'The above are the headings used. They are not a full record of what was said. I can say that Trevor was a man whom I very much admired and of whom I was very fond. The tribute came from the heart'. MFS*

## **A hope for the coming season of Harvest**

when we shall once again open the doors of the chapel building to worship together and to extend invitations to others to come, just as King David was glad when he was given that invitation to go to the Lord's House. Indeed not only was he glad, he was excited about going to worship. We can go further and see that he was not only glad for himself but also for those who saw the need to invite him to go into the House of the Lord. And David's prayer? Peace. That one word 'peace'. The peace we need in our families, in our friendships, in our daily lives and in the world. Let us too be glad to go into the House of the Lord to give thanks and to pray for peace which is so badly needed in those countries today where there is huge discord and strife and people desperate for justice.

### **Psalm 122 David's Psalm**

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the Lord's house."

And now we are here standing inside the gates of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is a city restored in beautiful order and harmony. This is where the tribes come, the tribes of Israel, to give thanks to the Lord according to his command. Here are the kings of Israel sat to judge their people.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

"May those who love you prosper. May there be peace inside your walls and safety in your palaces."

For the sake of my relatives and friends I say to Jerusalem, "Peace be with you."

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God I pray for your prosperity.

### **Salm 122. Salm Dafydd**

Yr oeddwn yn llawen pan ddwedon nhw wrtho i, "Gadewch i ni fynd i dŷ'r ARGLWYDD."

Y mae ein traed yn sefyll bellach o fewn dy byrth, O Jerwsalem!

Mae Jerwsalem yn ddinas wedi ei hadeiladu i bobl ddod at ei gilydd ynddi. Mae'r llwythau yn mynd ar bererindod iddi, llwythau'r ARGLWYDD. Mae'n ddyletswydd ar bobl Israel i roi diolch i'r ARGLWYDD.

Dyma ble mae'r llysoedd barn yn eistedd, llysoedd barn llywodraeth Dafydd.

Gweddïwch am heddwch i Jerwsalem:

"Bydded llwyddiant i'r rhai sy'n dy garu. Bydded heddwch o fewn dy furiau, a diogelwch o fewn dy gaerau."

Er mwyn fy mhobl a'm ffrindiau, Dywedaf: "Bydded heddwch i ti."

Er mwyn tŷ yr ARGLWYDD ein Duw, ceisiaf ddaioni i ti.



## Sunday Worship / Oedfaon y Sul

The hope is to be able to open on September 5<sup>th</sup>. If not, services will continue on Zoom. We shall be in touch with all members and friends in good time. Please note that when services resume the times will alternate between morning and afternoon. The first and third Sundays of the month will be at 10.30 and the second and fourth Sundays will be at 2pm. This will be to coincide with Corey's ministry in the pastorate. The regulations in relation to Covid-19 have changed over the last few months and there is now no legal limit on the number of people who can meet indoors or outdoors. Therefore there is no restriction on attendance at worship. In Wales it is still a requirement to wear face covering in chapels and churches and the Presbyterian guidance at present is to agree with Welsh Government which states "*maintaining physical distance between individuals and between groups remains an effective management measure in sites where different groups of people mix.*" If there are more details to come they will be shared with us.

Gwasanaethau Cymraeg yn ddigidol dan ofal Parchg Beti - Wyn. Anfonir y ddolen Youtube atoch bob nos Sadwrn. Youtube link will be emailed every Saturday	Trwy Awst 10 y bore
United service at English Baptist <b>10.30am</b> Mr John Birch	22/08/2021
United service at English Baptist <b>11am</b> Mr Martin Dalling	29/08/2021
BZN Mr Corey Hampton <b>10.30am</b>	05/09/2021
BZN Mr Hugh Waddell <b>2pm</b>	12/09/2021
BZN Rev Mike Shephard <b>10.30am</b>	19/09/2021
BZN Corey Hampton <b>2pm</b>	26/09/2021

### **Garage Sale in aid of Macmillan**

at

**14 St Anne's Avenue, Cwmffrwd, SA31 2NA**

**Every Sunday from August 29<sup>th</sup> – September 26<sup>th</sup>  
10am -1pm**

**Private viewing, if requesting another day, by appointment any time in  
September.**

**Please contact Linda Owen on 07704 624365**

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

Did you know that there are 66 books in the Bible: 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.

A quick way to remember!  
 There are 3 letters in Old and 9 in Testament. Put them together and you have 39.  
 There are 3 letters in New and 9 in Testament. Multiply them and you have 27. Add them together and you have 66!

Now the only thing left is to memorise them all in the order in which they come.  
 Here is an illustration to help you find 20 in the above wordsearch.



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The old cupboard in the vestry has been given a facelift thanks to Rosemary and with a little help from Llyr and Tomos, the carpenters, it has been relocated to its new home in the new block.

