

January/Ionawr  
February/Chwefror 2018

Cylchlythyr/Newsletter

Rhif/Issue 8

# BABELL ZION NEWYDD

Rhiw Babell Pensarn Caerfyrddin SA31 2JQ



*D. M. S. W. 1997*

This newsletter has been digitised as part of a project to archive material relating to Llangunnor so that a record exists for future generations

Thanks to Babel Zion Newydd Chapel for permission to do this



## **Dear Friends,**

Another year in the history of our families, in the history of our church and in the history of the world has gone by and we are honoured to begin a new chapter once again. Our situations in life are all different and yet we are the same. That is what makes the family of the church so special. We are united in our worship from Sunday to Sunday and are privileged to be able to sing His praises, hear His Word and listen to His Word being reflected upon and shared with us. And yet as we start a new chapter in our lives we are constantly reminded by news bulletins that things are not as they should be. There is something wrong with the world and we can all name countries, leaders, issues, problems that point to that very fact. In the book of Genesis we are reminded that Adam and Eve were turned out of the Garden of Eden because of their disobedience. With the birth of Jesus we are reminded that we have a Father who has shown us another way. We don't need to go back to Eden, but we do need to go on to the new city. We are the citizens of the new hope, the new Jerusalem. The way is best described by John Bunyan in his allegory, "The Pilgrim's Progress." Christian meets Evangelist who points him in the right direction as he ventures to escape the City of destruction. As he comes to the Cross his burden falls off his back and he is free. On the stage of life we are like sheep without a shepherd, actors without a director. But in the theatre of life there is a director. He is God with us, Immanuel.

## **The family at Babel Zion Newydd**

As we end the year we are pleased to announce the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Mr and Mrs Alun Evans y Talar on December 28<sup>th</sup>. I wonder what Christmas was like back in 1957 when Sally and Alun got married. It would be good to have their recollections of the times.

The newsletters across the year have marked many special birthdays, receiving into membership and special events but mention must be made on the passing of Mandy. Mandy had borne her illness with great courage and fortitude and her family had been a constant source of support and care throughout the years. Lleucu, Erin and Ffion, just like their mother before them, brought their talents to the Sunday School and to numerous services all under the watchful eye of their grandmother Vi. It has been a difficult year for them all and so we remember them at this time including her sister Ruth and Mandy's partner Huw.

Mrs Nancy Butters is now in Towy Castle Residential Home and we wish her well in this her 102<sup>nd</sup> year. A number of members have been unwell recently and have been unable to come to the services, some being housebound for a while. We wish them all a speedy recovery. The Friendship Centre continues to be busy on a Thursday and we would like to thank all who make it possible to open the door for this worthwhile service.

Thank you all once again for your commitment to the church and to the work in this part of God's kingdom.

Diolch i chi am eich ymrwymiad i'r Eglwys ac i waith y Deyrnas. A gyda hyn o eiriau gallaf ond dyfynnu emyn Nantlais isod sydd yn gofyn i Dduw am roi ei fendith ar y flwyddyn newydd hon. Mae'r emyn Saesneg gan Timothy Dudley-Smith.

Yn dy law y mae f'amserau,  
Ti sy'n trefnu 'nyddiau i gyd,  
Ti yw lluniwr y cyfnodau,  
Oesoedd a blynyddoedd byd;  
Rho dy fendith  
Ar y flwyddyn newydd hon.

Here on the threshold of a new beginning  
By grace forgiven, now we leave behind  
Our long repented selfishness and sinning,  
And all our blessings call again to mind:  
Christ to redeem us, ransom and restore us,  
The love that holds us in a Saviour's care,  
Faith strong to welcome all that lies before us,  
Our unknown future, knowing God is there.

## **NEWYDDION YR AELODAU/ MEMBERS' NEWS**

### **Penblwydd Priodas Diemwnt**

Dathlodd Mr and Mrs  
Alun Evans eu Priodas  
Diemwnt ar Ragfyr 28ain  
2017.

Llongyfarchiadau mawr  
Alun a Sally a phob  
dymuniad da i chi.



### **Diamond Wedding Anniversary**

Best wishes go to Mr and  
Mrs Alun Evans who  
celebrated their Diamond  
Wedding Anniversary on  
December 28<sup>th</sup> 2017.  
Many congratulations.

Mae Heledd Evans  
Glanrhyd yn gweithio gyda'r  
llywodraeth yng Nghaerdydd erbyn  
hyn ac wedi ymgartrefu yno.  
Fel aelod o Gorws Cymreig y BBC mae  
newydd ddychwelyd o Lydaw ar ôl  
taith gorawl lwyddiannus.  
Pob dymuniad da iddi.

Parti Ysgol Sul y Plant

Three of our congregation travel once a  
week down to Pembroke to rehearse with  
the Pembroke Male Voice Choir: Meurig  
and David as choristers and Carole as  
accompanist. They are rehearsing for the  
Thousand Voices Concert to be held at  
the Royal Albert Hall in April.  
All the very best!!

Mae Sion Corn yno rhywle!



# **CHAPEL NEWS/ NEWYDDION Y CAPEL**

## **Christmas Fayre/ Ffair Nadolig**

Our annual Christmas Fayre was held again at the English Baptist Drop- In Centre on November 25<sup>th</sup> and we are grateful to the members not only for allowing us to hold it there but also to the ladies there for making the tea and coffee. Thank you Nan and Carole for arranging it again this year. The sum of £454.58 was raised for chapel

## **Gwasanaeth Golau Cannwyll /Candlelight Carol Service**

Rhagfyr 10fed 2017

Yn anffodus bu rhaid canslo'r gwasanaeth hwn eleni oherwydd y tywydd. As it turned out Carmarthen was not affected by the snow which came to many parts of Wales, mid and north Wales especially, but due to the warnings about icy conditions it was decided to cancel.



## **Plygain Merched y Wawr Caerfyrddin**

Cynhaliwyd y gwasanaeth hwn ar Ragfyr 10fed yng Nghapel Heol Awst ac am y tro cyntaf ers i Babell gymryd rhan doedd gennym ddim parti canu felly fe wnaeth Helen ganu unawd. Mi ganodd 'Drosom Ni' – gwaith Elfed ar dôn D Afan Thomas. Diolch i Carole am gyfeilio sensitif ac i Sian am gefnogi ni'n dwy.

## **Christmas Lunch/ Cinio Nadolig**

A lovely Christmas lunch was had at the Ivy Bush on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December which Sian had organized for us. Following the meal we had an opportunity of thanking two of our elders for long service: Vi Williams as treasurer for many years and Nan Thomas as pulpit secretary for as many years. Diolch yn fawr i chi'ch dwy.



### **Announcing and Preparing the Communion Table**

<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>
Sian/Carole	Carole/Helen	Ian Wilkins and Meurig Rees

## Christmas Eve/Noswyl Nadolig

The Candlelit Communion Service on Christmas Eve is a very special service and prepares the way for the true celebration of Christmas day. We are most grateful to Rev Adelaide for officiating at this service. The fourth Candle of Advent was lit at the beginning of the service by Ian Wilkins and Helen sang a rendition of Adolphe Adam's O Holy Night as we prepared to come to the Communion Table. Carole was at the organ.

## Christmas Day

This year it was the turn of Zion to host the united Christmas Day service and Mr David Folland kindly agreed to lead us in our reflection and prayers. Mrs Janet Griffiths [English Congregational Church], Mrs Pat Morgan [BZN] and Mr Andrew Amery [English Baptists] took the readings and Linda Williams and Helen Gibbon sang the Christmas Lullaby by John Rutter.

## Candlelight Service

December 17<sup>th</sup>

Our own candlelight service was held with guest choir Crescendo taking part. Inspiration for the service was taken from a new book written by Canon Patrick



## Gwasanaeth Golau Cannwyll

Rhagfyr 17fed

chapter he reflects upon Iorwerth Peate's poem Carol y Crefftwr in which the poet depicts each craftsman as having a role in presenting Jesus the child with a gift, from the blacksmith to the potter, the carpenter and the wood turner to the weaver. Mrs Pat Morgan, very sensitively spoke about them all to convey how God, like each of the craftsmen, is able to form and fashion our lives, mould us into shape and direct our lives. A collection was made for the Llamas Street English Baptist Christmas

Day Lunch which came to £100. Thank you to the following for also taking part: Liz Amery, Sian Cassell, Andrew Convery, Helen Gibbon, Trevor Lloyd, Linda Owen, Meurig Rees, Molly Thomas not forgetting Councillor Lee Whatley who was on lap-top duty. The Children of the Sunday School sang a medley of carols in Nativity costume and Ben Thomas read the story of the Wise Men. Last year it was Ellie Mae who took the cup for the best Sunday School attendance. This year with only one Sunday between them it was Ellie Grace who was present for 32 out of a possible 38 Sundays. Well done to both and to all the children for their attendance during the year. They were rewarded with a party on Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup> when Father Christmas made an appearance on a very busy schedule! Diolch hefyd i'r côr o dan arweiniad Mrs Phyllis Hughes am gyfraniad gwerthfawr.

## CHRISTMAS - THE STORY / NADOLIG - Y STORI

For the fourth year running members of the Churches of Carmarthen performed the Story of the Birth of Jesus in the English Baptist Church Lammas Street.

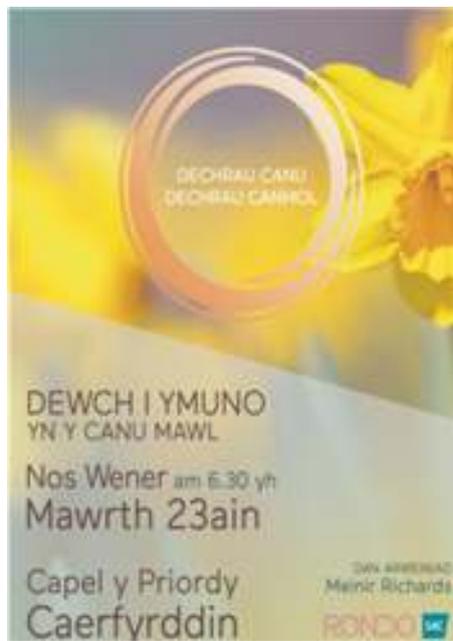
The members there had been busy a few weeks previously erecting the stage and the lighting, the blackouts and the sound system and then actors came together from the different churches to portray the story as told by Mathew and Luke. Schools supported well again:

Pupils came from Llangunnor, Llanddarog, Cefneithin, Richmond Park, The Model, St Mary's, Y Dderwen, Abergwili, and Bro Myrddin.



The Kitchen staff supplied tea and coffee all day, even lunches, and of course there was Cawl on Wednesday when the Drop In is open to the public. Sian enjoys the camaraderie out on the street and on donkey duty while Helen enjoys being one of the villagers on stage. It was a lovely week in the company of members across the English and Welsh chapels of Carmarthen. Roedd hi'n amser bendigedig i ddod i adnabod aelodau eglwysi'r dre ac i wneud cyfeillion newydd. Gweler neges oddi wrth llywydd y pwyllgor Parch Tom Defis drosodd.

Gwasanaeth Dwyieithog Cytun  
Bilingual Service Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>  
of January 10, 2018  
English Congregational  
Church Lammas St.  
Pregeth Gymraeg Alun Lenny  
am 5pm  
"That all may be free"  
'Fel y bo pawb yn rhydd'



Wythnos Weddi am Undod  
Cristnogol/  
Christian Unity Week  
Every Morning 10.30am -  
10.50 am  
10.30 am January 22<sup>nd</sup>  
English Baptists  
10.30 am Tuesday 23 to  
Friday 26 Wesley Chapel

Annwyl Gyfeillion,

Dyma air yn fyr ond yn ddiffuant cyn y Nadolig i longyfarch pawb a fu ynglŷn â'r cyflwyniad, "Nadolig y Stori", am sicrhau llwyddiant y fenter eto eleni. Bu hyn yn gyfle i bobl ardal cylch Caerfyrddin, ac ymwelwyr a'r dre ynhyd a nifer fawr iawn o blant ardal eang, i gael eu hatgoffa o wir neges y Nadolig ac i glywed a gweld yr hanes am ddyfodiad Iesu Grist i'n byd. Cafwyd cyfraniadau amrywiol o drefnwyr yr ysgolion a'r cyhoeddusrwydd, y stiwardiaid, cynorthwyr y set a'r dillad, y goleuadau a'r sain heb anghofio gofaluwr yr asunod a swyddogion y pwyllgor. Diolch am y defnydd o'r capel ac i'r rhai oedd yn darparu lluniaeth. Diolch hefyd i'r cast ac i bawb am bob gweithred a fu'n gymorth ac yn gefnogaeth i'r ymdrech. Yr wyf yn cael fy nhemtio i enwi nifer, ond maddeuwch i fi am beidio enwi neb ond un. Rhaid i ni gydnabod a rhoi canmoliaeth arbennig i Brian am gymryd yr awennau a sicrhau bod yna drefn i'r cyflwyniad a'i fod wedi llwyddo i gael perfformiadau effeithiol. Cawn weld ein gilydd yn y pwyllgor nesaf ac yna yn y noson gymdeithasol yn yr haf.

Pob dymuniad da a phob bendith i chi gyd dros Wyl y Nadolig.

Tom.

### Dyddiadau/Dates

January 22<sup>nd</sup>: 5.30 pm Elders' Meeting  
Ionawr 23ain: 2pm Cwrdd Dosbarth Tŷ Hen  
January 30<sup>th</sup>: Christmas the Story Steering 7pm

**Chwefror 25ed:** Oedfa Gwyl Ddewi Tabernacl  
10am. Eglwys Sant Ioan Parch Dorrien Davies am  
5pm Cymun

**Mawrth 1af:** Cawl a Chwis 7pm gyda Trevor a  
Linda

Ebrill 26/27: Theatr y Lyric: Dau Hanner Brawd  
Drama Gerdd Nan Lewis ac Eric Jones

**Mai 14fed:** Hanes Patagonia with Helen a Gwyn  
Gibbon

Dear friends,

I am sending this short but sincere message to congratulate everybody who was involved in any way with the "Christmas the Story" presentation, on ensuring the success of this initiative again this year. This gave the people of Carmarthen, visitors to the town as well as a large number of children from a wide area, the opportunity to be reminded of the true message of Christmas, and to hear and to see the historical event of Jesus Christ coming into our world. We had a variety of different contributions, schools' organisers and publicity organisers, stewards, people who helped with the set, the sound, lights and costumes, not forgetting those looking after the donkeys and the committee and its officers. Thank you for the use of the chapel and to those who provided refreshments. Thank you to the cast and to everybody for every action and deed that helped and supported this effort. I am being tempted to name a number of people but forgive me for only naming one. We do recognise and extend a special compliment to Brian for taking the reins and ensuring order and for achieving an effective performance. We hope to see you at our next meeting and then at the social evening in the summer.

Best wishes and every blessing to you all over Christmas.

Tom.

**Agor y Gair'**  
Cyfres Newydd o Astudiaethau Beiblaidd  
Cymraeg yng Nghaerfyrddin  
Boreau Mercher, 24, 31 Ionawr 7 a 14 Chwefror  
2018 11.00 tan 12.00

Canolfan 'Yr Atom', Stryd y Brenin, Caerfyrddin

Arweinwyr <sup>[[[SEP]]]</sup> Y Parchedig Peter Cutts a'r  
Parchedig Beti-Wyn James

Croeso cynnes iawn i bawb  
Manylion pellach  
01267 237696 01267 23665

	Blodau/Flowers	Glanhau am y mis/Cleaning for the month
<b>January</b>	Mrs Nan Thomas	Mrs Pat Morgan
<b>February</b>	Mrs Esme Phillips	Mrs Nelda Davies
<b>March</b>	Mrs Julia Edwards	Mrs Janet Davies

## Services for the next three months/Gwasanaethau'r tri mis nesaf

	Pregethwr /Preacher
7/1/2018 2pm	Rev Iestyn ap Hywel <b>Communion / Cymundeb</b>
14/1/2018 2pm	Rev Aled Maskell
21/1/2018 2pm	Mr Hugh Waddell
28/1/2018 10.30am	Mr David Folland
4/2/2018 10.30am	Rev Adelaide <b>Communion / Cymundeb</b>
11/2/2018 2pm	Rev Iestyn ap Hywel
18/2/2018 10.30am	Mr Hywel Hughes
25/2/2018 2pm	Rev Chris Rees
4/3/2018 2pm	Mr Geraint Lloyd
11/3/2018 2pm	Rev Iestyn ap Hywel
18/3/2018 10.30am	Capt Neil Duquenim
25/3/2018 2pm	Rev Iestyn ap Hywel

### **A letter from Dianne Stephenson on behalf of the Lammas Street Centre English Baptist Church re Christmas Lunch**

Dear Friends

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your kind donation from Babel Zion Newydd in respect of the Christmas day Lunch. This event has gone from strength to strength over the years and we believe it serves a real need in our local community. Christmas can be a difficult period for those bereaved, or have no family or do not have the means to celebrate the festival in a traditional way.

I would be grateful if you could emphasise to your members that their generosity has made a real difference and we are indeed grateful for their support.

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda i chi gyd fel eglwys a diolch am eich caredigrwydd ac hefyd eich cefnogaeth.

Yours sincerely

Dianne Stephenson [ Treasurer ]

Editor this month: Mrs Helen Gibbon

Please forward any news/articles to Carole at  
carole@rees8239.freemove.co.uk [01267222573] by **February 18<sup>th</sup>** for the  
March/April issue