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Cylchlythyr/Newsletter

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Rhiw Babel Pensarn Caerfyrddin SA31 2JQ

# BABELL ZION NEWYDD

BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA

2019

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

M. B. W. 1997

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

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

## New Year Message from the Minister

Well, the busy Christmas season is all but over for another year. Members of the chapel were particularly active, as a rich variety of events took place in the lead up to Christmas. The Coffee morning was held once again in the English Baptists' Chapel on 24 November, for which much preparation was required. A 'dosbarth' Carol service was held in chapel on 9 December, where candle light provided an atmosphere conducive to celebrating the advent of the Light of the World. At midnight on Christmas Eve, a Communion service was held to celebrate Christ's birth, but also to remember one of the purposes for his 'adventus'. I am especially grateful to all those members who made these different events possible.

By now most of us will have wished each other a 'happy new year'. However some people might argue that it cannot be a happy new year without our appreciating the real meaning of Christmas. The accounts of the birth of Christ contain different names for the baby born in Bethlehem. Briefly I would like to consider the word, 'Emmanuel', which means 'God with us'. One may only be still, with the Psalmist while considering this name: 'Be still and understand that I am God' (Psalm 46: 10). It is difficult to comprehend the fact that Christ is 'God with us'. His birth from the Virgin Mary is miraculous. Joseph was not his natural father. It isn't a matter of persuading ourselves to believe that this is true, and calling that faith. Faith isn't a matter of believing that which is at odds with common sense; rather it is a matter of God revealing certain things to the person who seriously wishes to believe. Paul states in his letter to the Galatians that faith came to him through a revelation of Jesus Christ, not through any particular man or through education (Gal. 1: 12).

As you are aware, Corey Hampton has been working in the pastorate for four months. It is my intention that he shoulders more responsibility for the visiting of members, so that the pastoral work may be effected more manageably. With this in mind I have chosen Y Babell/Zion Newydd and Y Drindod, Crosshands as two chapels where it is proposed that he take over from me for a period of four months. Following this, visiting duties will be returned to me, and he will proceed to undertake similar work in other chapels in the pastorate. I shall of course still visit members from time to time but during these four months, Corey will be the main pastoral visitor. I trust that this meets with your approval. It will give Corey the chance of getting to know people, which hitherto has not really materialised.

Let the new year be one of discovery, or rather of revelation, so that it may indeed be a happy new year!

Nicholas Bee 30 December 2018.

# **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 24<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 £277.49 was raised for chapel funds.

## **The Turning of the Christmas Tree Lights in Llangunnor/Pensarn**

This was held on Wednesday November 21st and following the short service at the tree presided by the Rev Ceri Davies, refreshments were laid on for the children of the school at Babell Zion Newydd where this year the children were able to visit Santa in his Grotto. Many thanks to Llangunnor Community Council and to the Chair Mrs Sandra Thomas for the kind donation of £100 to the Chapel. Also many thanks in particular to Sian, Maisie and Carole for all their hard work that evening.

## **Gwasanaeth Golau Cannwyll Dosbarth Myrddin / Candlelight Carol**

### **Service**

Rhagfyr 9fed 2018

Cynhaliwyd gawasanaeth y dosbarth yn y Babell Zion Newydd eleni heb i'r tywydd achosi anhawster. Cymerwyd rhan gael aelodau Trinity San Clêr, Cwmbach, Cynwyl Elfed a'r Babell Zion Newydd. Dechreuodd Sian Cassell yr oedfa gyda'r alwad i addoli a chymerwyd y darlleniadau gan Mrs Molly Thomas a Mr J Owen Jones. Cafwyd neges pwrpasol gan y Parch Nicholas Bee ac fe'm harweiniwyd yn ddeheuig mewn myfyrdod ar thema'r oedfa gan Janice Jones Cynwyl Elfed. Cymerwyd y thema o gerdd Iorwerth C. Peate Carol y Crefftwr lle mae'r bardd yn sôn am gyfraniad y crefftwyr i hanes arbennig Iesu: y crochennydd, y saer, y gof, y gwehydd a'r turniwr.

Canodd Côr Tŷ Tawe o dan arweiniad Helen ddetholiad o garolau i gydfynd â'r thema ac fe'm harweiniwyd mewn gweddi gan Mr Kevin Bowen Cwm Bach. Diolch i bawb a gyfrannodd at y noson ac am y baned a'r cacennau blasus yn y festri i ddilyn.

Inspiration for the service was taken from 'Carols before Dawn' written by Canon Patrick Thomas. In one particular chapter he reflects upon Iorwerth C 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 and the potter, the carpenter and the wood turner and the weaver. Iorwerth C Peate was instrumental in the founding of the Welsh National Museum of History at St Fagan's and Mr Dafydd Williams reminded us of that fact before he read the poem and also of our visit as a 'Dosbarth' a few years ago and to the reconstructed church of St Teilo there. A collection was made for the Christmas Day Lunch at the English Baptist Church Lammas Street which came to £106.65

## **New Home**

Rev Mike and Gwen Shephard have now settled in their new home in Cwmffrwd. We give them the warmest of welcomes and hope to see them often at Babell Zion Newydd.

## **Data Protection**

There are new Data Protection forms for us all to sign and Gift Aid Forms should you wish your contributions to be gift-aided. Please see either Helen or Carole.

## **Plygain Merched y Wawr Caerfyrddin**

Cynhaliwyd y gwasanaeth hwn ar Ragfyr 16ed yn Eglwys Crist Heol Awst. Cawsom barti canu ynghyd eleni ac ar ôl ychydig iawn o ymarferion llwyddwyd i ganu "Awn i Fethlem, bawb dan ganu" yn ddigyfeiliant. Yn canu oedd Ffion, Lleucu a Vi Walters, Sian Cassell, Molly Thomas, Carole Rees a Helen Gibbon gyda chymorth Linda Williams o Graig Cefn Parc. Roedd hi'n nosonhyfryd iawn yng nghwmni Corau'r dre sef Seingar, Tonic, Meibion Myrddin, a'r capeli sef Heol Awst, Penuel, y Tabernacl, Priordy, Elim, Eglwys Crist a'r Babel Zion Newydd ynghyd â rhai unigolion.

## **Christmas Lunch / Cinio Nadolig**

Our Christmas lunch followed the Morning Service on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December at the Ivy Bush in the company of our Associate Minister Corey Hampton and his wife Catrin and also Rev Mike Shephard and his wife Gwen. It was good also to have David Shephard and the family with us. Many thanks to Sian for arranging it all.

## **The Children's Service December 23rd**

There was great expectation for the Sunday before Christmas when it was the children's turn to take part with a little help from the adults of the Sunday school. Ellie Mae and Leia Rose carried out their parts beautifully as the star and Mary respectively and who can forget the verse that they learnt

"Y Bobl oedd yn rhodio mewn tywyllwch a welodd oleuni mawr."

Ben had to shoulder two roles, those of Shepherd and one of the three Kings and Ellie Grace was as ever a competent news reporter, both having learnt their scripts well. Many thanks to all family connections for their support, to the narrators Molly and Liz, and to Lee, Sian, and Helen for taking on their different characters. The service was officiated by Rev Adelaide Wheeler Cocks who looks forward to being present with us at the children's service and to carry out the presentation

to the child who has attended the most Sundays in the year. This is a tradition which goes back many years to the "Miss Anthony Bequest" but one which now gives a challenge Cup in memory of the Sunday School Superintendant DT Richards. This year it was Ellie Mae who won the cup. Well done to all children for their faithful attendance and to the loyal helpers.



Many have remarked on the splendid nativity scene donated by Mr and Mrs Gareth Davies Llys Morfa. Diolch yn fawr i chi'ch dau

## **The Children's Tea Party**

The Children's party was held on Friday December 21<sup>st</sup> when we were visited by Father Christmas. He had some lovely presents for the children who sang a couple of the songs they had prepared for the Children's service

## **Christmas Eve / Noswyl Nadolig**

The Candlelit Communion Service on Christmas Eve is a very special service and is popular with the young people who are home for Christmas. This year our Minister officiated at the service. Linda and Helen sang Suai'r Gwynt and the Plygain Parti Canu sang "Awn i Fethlem bawb dan ganu." Rev Adelaide and her family were also present.

## **Christmas - The Story / Nadolig y Stori**

For the fifth year running members of the Churches of Carmarthen performed the Story of the Birth of Jesus in the English Baptist Church Lamma 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 it was the turn of congregation members from across the town to portray the story as told by Mathew and Luke. It is all prerecorded by a narrator and the presentation is in effect a mime, with alternate English and Welsh performances. Schools supported well again from Llangunnor, Llanddarog, Cefneithin, Richmond Park, The Model, St Mary's, Y Dderwen, Abergwili, Laugharne, Canolfan Elfed QEH and St Peter's H20. The Kitchen staff supplied tea and coffee all day with even lunches. Sian as ever enjoyed stewarding on the forecourt on donkey duty while Helen took part as one of the villagers. Once again it was an opportunity to meet up with members across the English and Welsh chapels of Carmarthen and to meet with new. Roedd hi'n amser bendigedig i gwrdd ag aelodau eglwysi'r dre ac i wneud cyfeillion newydd

## **Gwellhad**

Gwellhad buan i Mrs Nesta Davies, Mrs Esme Phillips, Mrs Sally Evans, Mr Ian Davies a Mrs Joan Stephens. Ryn ni'n gweld eich eisiau i gyd. We miss you all at our services. Llongyfarchiadau hefyd i Alun a Sally ar ddathlu penblwydd priodas 61 o flynyddoedd. Mrs Nancy Butters who is in Towy Castle Residential Home is now in her 103<sup>rd</sup> year. We wish all our members who have been unwell recently and have been unable to come to services a blessed new year.

## **Friendship Centre**

The Friendship Centre continues to be busy every Thursday and we would like to thank all who make it possible to open the door for this worthwhile service. We would also like to thank you all for your support throughout the year. It is very much appreciated. We are also indebted to Judith Hammond for giving of reflexology treatments free of charge and to Liz Duffy for the voluntary weekly Tai Chi sessions which occur on the first three Thursdays of the month.

# Reflection

A prayer to reflect upon as we reflect on the year that has passed and look forward to the next.

## Lord I Have Time

I went out, Lord.  
People were coming and going,  
Walking and running.  
Everything was rushing:  
Cars, trucks, the street, the whole town.  
People were rushing not to waste time.  
They were rushing after time,  
To catch up with time.  
To gain time.

Good-bye, Sir, excuse me, I haven't time.  
I'll come back. I can't wait. I haven't time.  
I must end this letter--I haven't time.  
I'd love to help you, but I haven't time.  
I can't accept, having no time.  
I can't think, I can't read, I'm swamped, I  
haven't time.  
I'd like to pray, but I haven't time.

You understand, Lord,  
They simply haven't the time.  
The child is playing,  
He hasn't time right now...Later on...  
The schoolboy has his homework to do,  
He hasn't time...Later on...  
The student has his courses,  
And so much work...Later on...  
The young married man has his new house;  
He has to fix it up...He hasn't time...Later on...  
The grandparents have their grandchildren.  
They haven't time...Later on...  
They are ill, they have their treatments,  
They haven't time...Later on...  
They are dying, they have no..  
Too late!...They have no more time!

And so all people run after time, Lord.  
They pass through life running—  
Hurried, jostled, overburdened, frantic,  
And they never get there. They haven't time.  
In spite of all their efforts

They're still short of time,  
Of a great deal of time.  
Lord, you must have made a mistake in  
your calculations,  
There is a big mistake somewhere.  
The hours are too short.  
Our lives are too short.

You who are beyond time, Lord,  
You smile to see us fighting it.  
And you know what you are doing.  
You make no mistakes in your distribution  
of time to men.  
You give each one time to do what you  
want him to do.  
But we must not lose time,  
waste time,  
kill time,  
For it is a gift that you give us,  
But a perishable gift,  
A gift that does not keep.

Lord, I have time,  
I have plenty of time,  
All the time that you give me,  
The years of my life,  
The days of my life,  
The days of my years,  
The hours of my days,  
They are all mine.  
Mine to fill, quietly, calmly,  
But to fill completely, up to the brim,  
To offer them to you, that of their insipid  
water  
You may make a rich wine  
Such as you made once in Cana of Galilee.  
I am not asking you tonight, Lord,  
For time to do this and then that,  
But for your grace to do conscientiously,  
In the time that you give me,  
What you want me to do.

### **Dates for the Diary**

- Ionawr/January 7<sup>th</sup> : Cwrdd Gweddi Agored / Open Prayer Meeting with Rev Nicholas Bee 5.30pm
- Ionawr/January 7<sup>th</sup>: Elders' meeting 6.15
- Ionawr/ January 20<sup>th</sup> : Wythnos Weddi am Undod Cristnogol/ Christian Unity Week  
Bilingual Service at Christ Church 5pm
- Ionawr 21ain: Cwrdd Dosbarth Bethel Meidrim 7pm
- Ionawr 28ain: Cyfarfod pwyllgor Nadolig y Stori/Christmas the Story Meeting  
7pm
- Chwefror 4ydd: Dau Hanner Brawd 7.30pm Ymarfer yng Nghapel Heol Awst.  
Croeso i aelodau newydd
- Chwefror 17eg: Cyfarfod Gwyl Mawl Medi 6pm Capel y Priordy
- Mawrth 1af: World Day of Prayer in Llanllwch: Cymraeg 10.30  
English 2pm
- Mawrth 4ydd: Nos Lun Cawl a Chwis / Quiz and Cawl with Trevor and Linda

### Announcing and Preparing the Communion Table

January	February	March
Helen / Pat	Nan / Molly	Meurig / Carole

Blodau/Flowers	
<b>January</b>	Helen Gibbon
<b>February</b>	Jackie Evans
<b>March</b>	Maisie Johnson

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

	<b>Pregethwr /Preacher</b>
6/1/2019 2pm	Ven Archdeacon Dorrien Davies <b>Communion/ Cymundeb</b>
13/1/2019 10.30am	Minister
20/1/2019 2pm	Mr Corey Hampton
27/1/2019 2pm	Parch Geraint Lloyd
3/2/2019 10.30am	Rev Adelaide <b>Communion/ Cymundeb</b>
10/2/2019 10.30am	Minister
17/2/2019 10.30am	Rev Mike Shephard
24/2/2019 2pm	Mr Corey Hampton
3/3/2019 10.30am	Mrs Margaret Griffiths Cymraeg
10/3/2019 10.30am	Minister
17/3/2019 2pm	Mr Corey Hampton
24/3/2019 10.30am	Mrs Mary Thorley
31/3/2019 2pm	Gofalaeth yn Llanddarog

Editor this month: Mrs Helen Gibbon

Please forward any news/articles to Carole at [carolerees4@gmail.com](mailto:carolerees4@gmail.com)  
[01267222573] by **February** 18<sup>th</sup> for the March/April issue