

Ionawr/Chwefror
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Cylchlythyr/Newsletter

Rhif/Issue 20

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 Babell Zion Newydd Chapel for permission to do this

Llangunnor Network
*Preserving and Promoting
Llangunnor*

Rev Nicholas Bee writes:

New Year Message

Well, I hope that you have all had a restful time with family and/or friends during the course of the past fortnight. I have been particularly busy but did I manage to spend Boxing Day recumbent in front of the wood burner in the house my family rented in Tregaron. Much fun and laughter was had by all! New Year's Eve was spent sipping champagne with two friends in Cefneithin, which was an improvement on last year when I was in bed, shattered by 9pm. Oh the joys of the post Christmas recess! As usual, the lead up to Christmas in Babell Zion Newydd witnessed the usual luncheon gathering, which I unfortunately missed for the second year running, together with a host of different services. The service by candle light was followed by the Children's service before Rev Adelaide and Corey led the Communion Service on Christmas Eve. A sincere thank you to all who took part, and who decorated the chapel with much festive aplomb!

Indeed, much time and energy was spent celebrating Christmas, with its primary message of good news and great joy. This provokes the question of how things might seem to us if Jesus Christ had not come into the world. The other day, I came across this short story which provides a definite answer for us: A preacher had fallen into a deep sleep the night before Christmas and he dreamed that Christ had not been born to the world. In his dream he looked around his house where there were no cards to be seen, no decorations, no Christmas tree and no holly. He went out into the street where there was no church to be seen with its tower pointing to the heavens. He returned and sat in his study where he realised that every book referring to Christ had disappeared. Such was his sadness that he was overcome by despair.

At that precise moment the door bell rang. A young girl was standing there in tears and she asked the preacher to go with her to her home where her mother was gravely ill. The preacher hurried there in the company of the child. Having sat down beside the bed he opened his Bible to read some verses of comfort but there was no New Testament to be had in his Bible; it finished with the last book of the Old Testament. He had no Gospel to read, no hope for the future and no salvation to offer, which caused him to bow his head in despair and to cry bitter tears.

Two days later, the preacher stood beside the open grave of the poor mother and began her funeral service. Again, there were no words of hope to offer to the mourners, no mention of the joyful resurrection, merely 'ashes to ashes, dust to dust'...with its long, eternal farewell. Jesus Christ had not been born in this preacher's dream. Suddenly however, he roused from his sleep with the sound of the Church bells, as he heard the choir practising in Church in readiness for the Nativity.

Adeste Fideles,

Laeti triumphantes....

O deuwch, ffyddloniaid,

Oll dan orfoleddu....

O! Come all ye faithful,

Joyful and triumphant...

The New Year

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.

I am your next chance at the art of living.

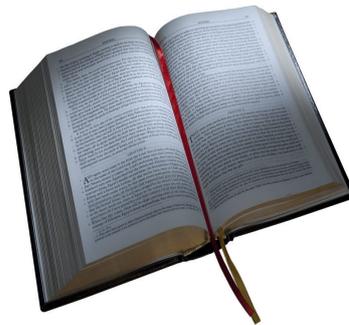
I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months.

All that you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination.

All the good that you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have - - these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, "Behold, I make all things new."



CHAPEL NEWS/ NEWYDDION Y CAPEL

The Children's Service December 22nd

This year all Sunday School members, children and adults took part in the Christmas Story with Ellie Grace taking the part of Mary, Ben the part of Joseph and Ellie Mae and Leia Rose the little angels accompanying Liz as the chief angel. Lee took the role of the innkeeper who kindly gave Mary and Joseph the use of the stable and this year we were fortunate to have a manger made by Mr Gareth Jones Llys Morfa. The story focused on the arrival of



the shepherds played by Molly, Sian and Helen.

Mrs Catrin Hampton got us all writing our individual prayers on golden stars which were then hung on [according to Catrin and others!]the rather under- decorated Christmas tree. It soon came to life. Catrin also brought her own miniature Christmas tree and with the help of Ellie Grace the whole tree became decorated with illustrations from the Story.

Sian presented the annual prize for the best Sunday School attendance which this year was shared between Ellie Mae and Ellie Grace.

Sunday School will restart on January 12th at 10.30am. Please spread the word and invite your friends or your friends' children to come along for an hour of delight.

Gwasanaeth y Dosbarth yng Nghapel Bancyfelin

Eleni, yn lle cwrdd yn y Babell Zion Newydd gwahoddwyd ni i ymuno gyda Cana, Priordy a Bancyfelin yng Nghapel Bancyfelin. Dechreuodd y Daith i Fethlehem Ger y Wenallt ac yna aethom ymlaen yn un dorf fawr i aros wrth ymyl Coeden Nadolig y pentref, yna ar Sgwâr y Pentref ac yna cyrraedd Ysbyty Werndale. Oedi ymhob man i glywed darlleniad a chanu carol cyn symud i fewn i'r capel lle wnes i ddarllen o Efengyl Ioan yn absenoldeb ein Gweinidog. Rhoddodd plant yr Ysgol Sul eitem ac fe ddaeth Sion Corn ar ymweliad gyda sachaid o anrhegion i'r plant. Cawson ddanteithion bendigedig gyda phaned o de. Diolch i'r Parch Beti Wyn am ein gwahodd ac am yr awyrgylch hyfryd wrth i ni gwrdd i fyny a chyfeillion o bob man. Ac yr oedd y tywydd yn ffafriol!

Gwasanaeth Plygain Merched y Wawr

Tro Penuel oedd hi i letya'r gwasanaeth hwn eleni ac yr oedd y llawr yn llawn corau a gwrandawyr o dref Caerfyrddin a'r cylch. Dewisodd parti'r Babell Zion Newydd ganu emyn o eiddo Hedd Wyn ar dôn newydd 'Ysgwrn' gan Dilys Thomas Abergele: 'Dyma'r dydd y gwelwyd Iesu'. Aelodau'r parti oedd Vi Williams, Molly Thomas, Nelda Davies, Lleucu, Erin a Ffion Walters, Bethan Charles, Carole Rees a Helen Gibbon gyda chymorth Linda Williams o Graig Cefn Parc. Noson hyfryd arall pan glywyd carolau hen a newydd gan gorau'r eglwysi a chapeli a chorau'r dre.

Llangunnor Network Christmas Party



This event was held on Saturday 7th December, bringing people together for a few hours at what was a busy time of the year. This was well supported by the community and they were met with an abundance of delicious buffet food. The children who attended were not disappointed either, as Santa had taken time out from his very busy schedule to make a flying visit. A good time was had by all.

CHRISTMAS THE STORY December 9th - 14th

This year the churches of Carmarthen once again presented the Christmas Story as a gift to the people of Carmarthen at the English Baptist Church Lammas St. Sadly the weather wasn't particularly friendly but that did not dampen the enthusiasm of those taking part. There were a few "newbies" in the cast and for some members of the "audience," was the first time seeing the performance. A lot of work went into transforming the front of the



worship area which brought the whole story to life. A huge congratulations to all those involved

Christmas Eve Service

This year's service was led by Corey Hampton and Rev Adelaide was present to lead us in the sacrament of Holy Communion. This candlelit service has always been well attended and the serene atmosphere lends itself to a time of quiet reflection on the true meaning of Christmas.

Christmas Lunch

It was lovely to see so many members and friends of Babell Zion Newydd attend our Christmas Lunch at the Ivy Bush – some of whom even dressed for the occasion in their Christmas Jumpers!! We extend a huge thank you to Sian for organising this again this year

Clwb SBARC

The club for children Years 3-6 continues to flourish and is now held at Babell Zion Newydd from 5.45- 6.45 every Thursday. Under the leadership of Catrin the children take part in many activities with Corey providing the games and volunteers providing the refreshments. If you would like to give of an hour on Thursday please give your name to Catrin.

Friendship Centre

There continues to be a warm welcome at the Friendship Centre on Thursday. Pat has supplied us with gorgeous sponges and a variety of cakes, for which we are extremely grateful. However, if anyone would like to help Pat in this respect please speak to Pat.

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

Dear Friends

On behalf of the Lammas Street Centre I would like to thank you very much for your kind donation towards our Christmas Day Lunch.

Diolch yn fawr iawn am eich cefnogaeth a'ch cyfraniad.

Yours sincerely/Yn gywir

Phil Stephenson [Chair]

Gair gan Nigel Davies

Annwyl ffrindiau,

*Wrth i ni agosáu at ddiwedd y flwyddyn a diwedd fy nghyfnod fel Swyddog Maes M.I.C., carwn fynegi fy niolchgarwch didwyll am eich cefnogaeth i mi yn bersonol ac i'r gweithgareddau a drefnwyd dros nifer o flynyddoedd. Rwyf wedi mwynhau fy nghyfnod yn y swydd yn fawr iawn, a dw i'n teimlo bod yr amser yn iawn i mi gamu o'r neilltu a rhoi cyfle i berson iau i gymryd drosto, a chyflwyno syniadau newydd a fydd yn datblygu'r dystiolaeth Gristnogol ym mesg yr ifanc yn ein sir. Bydd yr atgofion yn aros yn fy nghôf a bydd y cyfeillgarwch a ddatblygwyd dros gyfnod hir yn parhau i'r blynyddoedd sy'n dod. (Yn ddiweddar gofynwyd i mi wneud fideo yn y gyfres, "**Ffydd Yn Y Gwaith**", i Eglwys Bresbyteraidd Cymru ble rwy'n cael cyfle i son rhywfaint am waith M.I.C., ac os hoffech ei gweld cliciwch ar <https://vimeo.com/379776609>).*

Jack Newbould has been appointed successor to Nigel as Young People's Field Worker for the Annibynwyr, Presbyterians and Baptists in Carmarthen and surrounding area. We thank Nigel for his work with children and young people. It is through his hard and persevering work that Clwb Sbarc along with another 5 clubs in Carmarthenshire has come into being and under the leadership of Catrin is going from strength to strength. We hope to be able to meet Jack very soon. If you have time please take advantage of the video clip above to watch Nigel and to learn more about him. The video is in English as well as in Welsh.

Agor y Gair'

Cyfres Newydd o Astudiaethau Beiblaidd Cymraeg

Boreau Mercher ☐

26 Chwefror

4,11,18 Mawrth

11.00 tan 12.00

Canolfan 'Yr Atom', Stryd y Brenin, Caerfyrddin Arweinydd: Parchedig Beti-Wyn James

Croeso cynnes iawn i bawb

Announcements and Preparing Communion Table Cyhoeddi a pharatoi Bwrdd y Cymun

January	February	March	April
Carole & Meurig	Helen, Nan & Molly	Sian, Vi, Lynn	Pat & Ian



Flowers/Blodau

January	Mrs Helen Gibbon
February	Mrs Janet Davies
March	Mrs Marian Evans



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

	Pregethwr / Preacher
05/01/20 10:30am	Rev Mike Shephard Communion / Cymundeb
12/01/20 2pm	Parch Geraint Lloyd
19/01/20 10:30am	Minister
26/01/20 10:30am	Mr Corey Hampton
02/02/20 10:30am	Rev Adelaide Wheeler-Cocks
09/02/20 10:30am	Rev John Graham
16/02/20 10:30am	Rev Nicholas Bee Communion / Cymundeb
23/02/20 10:30am	Mr Corey Hampton
01/03/20 10:30am	Family Service
08/03/20 2pm	Parch Geraint Lloyd
15/03/20 10:30am	Rev Nicholas Bee Communion / Cymundeb
22/03/20 10:30am	Mr Corey Hampton
29/03/20 10:30am	Sul yr Ofalaeth – Capel Soar – Rev Mike Shephard
05/04/20 10:30am	Rev Brian Lewis

For the Diary/ Ar gyfer y Dyddiadur

January 6th: Prayer meeting

January 14th: Cwrdd Dosbarth yn Trinity San Cler 7pm

January 20th Elders' Meeting at 5:45pm

February 3rd : Christmas the Story Steering meeting at English Baptists 7pm

Chwefror 23ain: Cyfarfod Gwyl Mawl Medi yn Penygraig 6pm

March /Mawrth 2ail: Cawl a Chwis 7pm gyda Trevor a Linda

Please forward any news/articles to Helen at
helengibbon1@btinternet.co.uk by **February 16th** for the March issue