



# Penrallt Baptist Church

## Newsletter for April 2012

The Jerusalem weathergirl smiled as she faced the camera. "And the forecast for this Passover is good. Clear skies, no wind and top temperatures of 18<sup>0</sup>, that's 64<sup>0</sup> Fahrenheit. Enjoy the holiday. Good night."

In the gloomy depths of the UI (Universal Insurgency), the commander smiled as he watched the prisoner groan, and then sob with pain. Tomorrow was going to be a good day. A Good Friday, in fact. His chief aides cheered and passed a bottle of champagne around the room.

The Jerusalem weathergirl smiled as she faced the camera. "The weather today is set to be good with the chance of some cloud. It will be dry for the executions. Top temperatures of 19<sup>0</sup>, that's 66<sup>0</sup> Fahrenheit. I'll be back at midday for the next update."

The commander watched as the prisoner staggered under the weight of his cross and fell. A bystander was ordered to carry it for him to the hill. The commander glowered slightly as a flash of recognition seemed to flash between the prisoner and his cross carrier. There was a feeling that something was slipping from his grasp. The name "Simon of Cyrene" disappeared from the databank. Then his expression brightened as the whip fell across the prisoner's back. His aides laughed and shouted abuse.

The Jerusalem weathergirl smiled as she faced the camera. "Freak atmospheric conditions are to blame for this extraordinary blanket of cloud which has turned day into night. Someone asked me if it's a sign of the end of the world (she laughed loudly). No, just extreme pressure fluctuation. Current temperature is 14<sup>0</sup>, that's 57<sup>0</sup> Fahrenheit. Feeling chilly with the possibility of rain."

The commander watched in growing concern as, under the blackened sky one of the condemned turned to the prisoner who whispered "Today you will be with me in paradise." The commander turned red and screamed "Liar!" His aides nodded a murmured agreement before talking anxiously among themselves in muted tones.

The Jerusalem weathergirl smiled as she faced the camera. "We're all relieved to see the weather return to normal after that dreadfully dismal day. The slight earthquake which shook the city at three o'clock caused

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**Minister:** Revd Peter J. Cousins, 135 Penchwintan Road, Bangor LL57 2YG (01248 353878)

**Secretary:** Neil Rymer, 20 Brynteg, Llandegfan, Menai Bridge LL59 5TY (01248 713003)

**Treasurer:** Stephen Burrows, 39 Cil y Graig, Llanfairpwll, LL61 5NZ (01248 714048)

**Church Office:** 01248 353355; **Email:** office@penrallt.org; **Website:** <http://www.penrallt.org>

some panic, but the only major damage seems to be in the graveyard and the temple. Otherwise everything is back to normal. A clear night. Top temperature of 10<sup>o</sup>, that's 50<sup>o</sup> Fahrenheit. I'll be back tomorrow at 6."

The commander stood transfixed with horror as the words "It is finished" echoed around his brain. His aides stood silently as far from him as possible, looking at the ground. They had lost the prisoner. They had lost the war.

The Jerusalem weathergirl smiled as she faced the camera. "This Sunday promises to be bright and warm. After the drama of the last few days we can expect a change. Top temperatures of 25<sup>o</sup>, that's a whopping 77<sup>o</sup> Fahrenheit. I'll be back at midday for the next update."

The ex-prisoner stood outside the empty tomb in the warmth and smiled as he saw the women approaching in the early-morning sun.

God bless you,  
Join us to celebrate the new dawn of Easter.  
**Peter**

## ***SERVICES IN APRIL***

### **April 1**

10.30am Healing Service: ***Behold the Lamb of God:*** *Mark 10:32-34; 11:1-10*  
2.15pm Service at Bontnewydd  
6.00pm Communion Service. Roger Borlace  
***The true marks of the people of God*** *Mat 15:1-39*

### **April 8 Easter Sunday**

10.30am Service for all ages. Theme: ***Fixing What's Broken***  
6.00pm ***Have You Heard?*** *Luke 24:13-35*

### **April 15**

10.30am Mark Young *Psalm 139*  
6.00pm ***Follow Jesus*** *Mat 16:1-28*

### **April 22**

10.30am Pulpit Exchange: Hywel Meredydd  
6.00pm Baptismal Service

### **April 29**

10.30am The Discipline of Scriptural Meditation  
6.00pm James Goodman ***Transfiguration*** *Mat 17:1-13*

### ***Our Preaching Team for April:***

*Peter Cousins* is Penrallt's minister. *Mark Young* is a teacher and is studying for a degree in Theology. *James Goodman* is a member of Penrallt, who works in the Office of Programme Management in Bangor University. *Hywel Meredydd* works for Tearfund and is minister of the Cildwrn church in Llangefni, a Welsh-speaking congregation that was founded by the great Welsh revival preacher Christmas

Evans. Hywel and Peter are swapping pulpits for this Sunday, so Peter and a team from Penrallt will be taking the services in Capel Cildwrn (in Welsh).

### **CHURCH LUNCH**

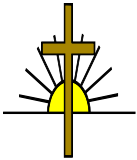
We will host a church lunch on **Sunday April 1<sup>st</sup>** . Please bring enough buffet style "finger food" for yourselves and one or two others.

## **EASTER ACTIVITIES**

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY (5<sup>th</sup> APRIL)**

**7pm** in the hall, not the chapel

**Maundy Thursday Fellowship Communion** consisting of eating together a light soup, bread and cheese meal and then sharing a Communion Service, staying around the tables. The event is organized and led by Geoff and Marilyn Birch



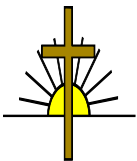
### **GOOD FRIDAY (6<sup>th</sup> APRIL)**

**11am** **CYTUN (Churches Together) Walk of Witness** down the High Street, starting at St. John's Methodist Church

**5-7pm** in Penrallt

**Journey to the Cross - pointers to faith at Easter time**

Wander around a series of encounter points in the quietly spiritual atmosphere until you reach the cross. It takes about 30 minutes to go round. Hot cross buns and coffee in the hall afterwards. This is a good event to suggest to friends.

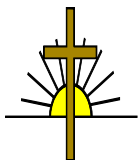


### **EASTER SUNDAY (8<sup>th</sup> April)**

**7am** **CYTUN Service on Roman Camp**, followed by breakfast in Penrallt.

**10:30am** All-age style service.

**6pm** Evening Service.



### **Faith Café**

Faith Café will resume on Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup> for four weeks. It takes place after the evening service and is for students and young adults. Starting around 7:15 pm it is an evening of chat, interviews, music and discussions.

## **SPECIAL DATES FOR APRIL**

<b>Monday 2</b>	7:30pm	Church AGM
<b>Wednesday 4</b>	10:30am	Men's Prayer Meeting.
<b>Thursday 5</b>	7:00pm	Maundy Thursday Fellowship Communion Service
<b>Friday 6</b>	11:00am	Walk of Witness on the High Street
	5-7pm	Journey to the Cross
<b>Sunday 8</b>	7:00am	Churches Together service on Roman Camp followed by breakfast

**Saturday 21** North Wales English Baptist Union AGM. Speaker: Rev. Dr. Pat (Patricia) Took (this year's President of the Baptist Union). More details to follow; she is an excellent speaker so mark it in your diary now.

**Tuesday 24** 7:30pm Missions Meeting at Sarah Jackson's

**Saturday 28** 5:00pm Saturday Session for Musicians at the Collis's (see "Noticeboard")

### ADVANCE NOTICE

Christian Aid Week: **13-19 May** If you can help with the house-to-house collection, or counting the money afterwards, please contact Susan Cousins – tel 353878.

## WEEKDAYS

**Please check with the contact people when there are meetings this month.**

*HG = Home Group*

Day	Time	Details	Contacts
<b>Tue</b>	8.00pm	HG, Nilgiri	Joan Beer (353874)
<b>Tue</b>	7.30pm	HG, Tyddyn Isaf, Menai Bridge	Magnus Forrester-Barker (717570)
<b>Wed</b>	10.30am	Men's Prayer Meeting	Peter Cousins (353878)
<b>Wed</b>	2.00pm	Carers' Home Group	Carol Morris (716953)
<b>Wed</b>	7.00pm	HG for young adults, Bangor	Danielle Fifield (07849935707)
<b>Wed</b>	7.30pm	HG, The Nomads	Jess & Seamus Adams (421185) Susan Cousins (353878)
<b>Wed</b>	7.30pm	HG, Bethesda	Jon & Deb Stammers (602868)
<b>Wed</b>	8.00pm	HG, Grŵp Cymraeg	Owen & Nia Lloyd Evans (352634)
<b>Thu</b>	10.30am	Post-Alpha Bible Study	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
<b>Thu</b>	7.30pm	HG, Llanfairpwll	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
<b>Thu</b>	7.45pm	HG, Talwrn	Gill & James Goodman (751074)
<b>Fri</b>	10.30am - noon	Cheeky Monkeys	Joan Rymer (713003)
<b>Fri</b>	10.30 – 12.30pm	HG, 6 Maes y Dref	Anne Collis (353173) anne@collis66.freemove.co.uk
<b>Sat</b>	8.30am	Prayer Meeting	

## NEWS OF PEOPLE

Our condolences to **Wyn Morgan** on the death of his mother at the end of February and to **Wendy Lemon** on the death of her father at the beginning of March. **Nancy Jones** is now permanently in Plas Garnedd Residential Home in Llanberis and would love a visit from you. **Joyce Ryan** has had an operation for a broken hip and is still in hospital. **Marilyn Birch** has also had a fall and has broken a rib.

## ***Children's Birthdays in April***

**4<sup>th</sup>**: Natalie Gordon-Roberts; **11<sup>th</sup>**: Samuel Adams; **25<sup>th</sup>**: Dominic Hearth;  
**29<sup>th</sup>**: Jonah Matwick

## ***NOTICEBOARD***

### ➤ ***Gift Day***

On April 1<sup>st</sup> our sister church, the Welsh language Penuel Baptist Church in Bangor, will be celebrating its bicentenary with a special service at 5:30pm. Our minister will be taking part in the service and presenting a cheque for £10,000 on behalf of Penrallt. All are welcome to the service.

### ➤ ***Men's Prayer Meeting***      ***Wednesday 4 April***      ***10.30am***

The men will meet for prayer as usual, followed by coffee in Options.

### ➤ ***Men's (Ginger) Beer & Skittles Evening***      ***Saturday 21 April*** ***7.30pm***

A chance to chill out and play skittles, darts and pool.

### ➤ ***Walking Group***      ***Tuesday 17 April***      ***10.30am***

A circular walk of 6 miles near to Llanddona on Anglesey giving good views of Red Wharf Bay. Some uphill walking at the start but can be taken slowly!

From Beaumaris centre take the B5109 on your left then take the second right lane signposted Llanddona. On arrival at the village look for the "Owen Glyndwr" public house on your left and continue straight ahead signposted Traeth/beach. Keeping to the right, continue down a steep hill to the bottom where the road then follows the coast, the car park is a little way on your left.

Paul and Ruth are leading the walk — any queries telephone 01248 490581 or e-mail [paul.hebblethwaite@virgin.net](mailto:paul.hebblethwaite@virgin.net)

### ➤ ***Pastoral Care Course***

This will begin on Saturday **21<sup>st</sup> April**. It is aimed at all those who would like to improve their pastoral skills. We are especially keen for leaders of home groups, CU cell groups etc. to do the course. It follows the Pastoral Care Foundation Course of the Association of Christian Counsellors and will be facilitated by Dr. Paul Hebblethwaite. For further information and an application form please see Judith Stammers (01248 364394)

*Dates:*

**Saturday April 21** at the Coach House (lifts will be arranged)  
Morning and Afternoon

**Tuesday April 24** at Penrallt 7pm – 9:15pm

**Tuesday May 1** at Penrallt 7pm – 9:15pm

**Saturday May 5** at Penrallt 7pm – 9:15pm

**Tuesday May 8** at Penrallt 7pm – 9:15pm

**Tuesday May 22** at Penrallt 7pm – 9:15pm

**Saturday May 26** at the Coach House (lifts will be arranged)  
Morning and Afternoon

### ➤ ***Saturday Sessions***

All members (and prospective members) of the three Penrallt worship bands are invited to the first of our monthly get-togethers. The aims of these sessions are

- for the musicians to get to know one another better both socially and spiritually

- to integrate new members into the team
- for us to focus on God and have the chance to worship together outside the pressures of a Sunday service
- for the more experienced among us to be able to encourage and support the newer members of the team.

The first one will be on SATURDAY 28TH APRIL at 5pm at the Collis's, 6 Maes y Dref, Bangor. It will include food! Contact Deb Stammers for more details: [jonanddeborah@btinternet.com](mailto:jonanddeborah@btinternet.com).

➤ ***Petition in favour of collective worship in schools***

The Evangelical Alliance of Wales asks you to take a minute to read their petition on protecting collective worship in schools in Wales, which is now on the website of the National Assembly of Wales. Currently, Christian children and young people, as well as those of other faiths, have their right to practise and manifest their faith in school protected by law, with schools being required to provide collective worship. This, however, is coming under attack from the British Humanist Association who are calling for collective worship to be abolished, stating that it is extremely unpopular. This petition will, among other things, show that collective worship does matter to a great many people. Click on the following link to open it and read it and, if you agree with it, to sign it - [https://www.assemblywales.org/epetition-list-of-signatories.htm?pet\\_id=694](https://www.assemblywales.org/epetition-list-of-signatories.htm?pet_id=694).

➤ ***Penrallt on Facebook***

100 people are signed up to Penrallt's Facebook site. Join us.

➤ ***Homeless in Bangor***

We do not recommend giving money to the homeless. Instead, £5 in one of the brown envelopes from the table in the porch of the church (placed in the offering) will buy a hot meal for them through the St. Mary's Hostel scheme. So far Penrallt has contributed £3340 to the fund.

➤ ***The Prayer Room...***

...is open before and after the service for quiet prayer. Penrallt is a place of prayer, so make use of this sacred space.

➤ ***Pray for Penrallt Every Day***

Sign up to receive our prayer diary by e-mail every Monday morning by sending your request to: [office@penrallt.org](mailto:office@penrallt.org).

If you have some subject for prayer, either send it in by e-mail, or fill in one of the pink cards, which are available in the porch, and place it in the visitors' cards box or give it to Peter or Magnus.

➤ ***Pastoral Help***

If you have pastoral concerns please contact Peter or one of the other members of the Pastoral Care team:

Geoff Birch 01286 870944      Pat Borlace 713146,      Eunice Smith 713296,  
Judy Stammers 364394      Geoff Moore 410582

***Deadline for next month's newsletter***      Sunday 22 April

Please send information to Gwyneth  
([gwyneth@brindley-wales.com](mailto:gwyneth@brindley-wales.com) or 352682)