



Penrallt Baptist Church

Newsletter: May 2019

We find ourselves in a significant time of transition. Timing can be crucial in God's unfolding purpose.

Mordecai said to Queen Esther: "Who knows but that you have come to royal position for such a time as this?" She went on to save her people from destruction.

There are a number of statements in the Gospels that indicate that timing was important in the ministry of Jesus:

Jn. 2:4 "Dear woman, why do you involve me? My time has not yet come."

Jn. 7:6 "The right time for me has not yet come."

Jn. 7:30 'They tried to seize him, but no-one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come.'

Mt. 26:18 "My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house."

Jesus knew that there was a right time for him to accomplish his mission. He realised that he would die at the time of the Jewish Passover, so that we would understand the connection with the sacrificial lamb.

Now we are at an important time in our church's life. We say farewell to our Minister and his family, and thank him for his faithful ministry during these past two years. We have learned some important things from him: for example, the priority of God's Word in our lives. God has not left us to guess what He is like; He has revealed the truth that we need to know. We speak about the Canon of scripture, and the Greek word 'canon' means a measuring stick, or ruler. If we use this Canon to measure and regulate our church's life, then we'll be able to keep in step with one another.

Penrallt Baptist Church, Holyhead Road, Bangor LL57 2EU
Tel: 01248 353355; Email: office@penrallt.org; Website: www.penrallt.org
Office open Mon–Fri 10am - 3pm; Administrator: Magnus Forrester-Barker

Secretary: Neil Rymer, 20 Brynteg, Llandegfan LL59 5TY; 01248 713003; secretary@penrallt.org
Treasurer: Stephen Burrows, 39 Cil y Graig, Llanfairpwll LL61 5NZ; 01248 714048; treasurer@penrallt.org

Freddy quoted the apostle Paul in last month's newsletter: 'Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.' (Eph. 4:3) The early Christians didn't agree about everything. They had some serious disputes, like when Paul told Peter off for his hypocrisy (Gal. 2:14). That's why Paul writes: 'Make every effort'. It won't always be easy to keep the unity of the Spirit, it won't always be effortless. Imagine someone running a marathon race, and coming to a particularly tough hill, with sweat dripping from their face, but determined to carry on.

We are committed to one another. We will love one another, care for one another and work together.

As we look ahead there is much to do. It's a time for thinking and planning together, as we embark on the process of looking for a new minister. We need to be patient and obedient, willing to wait for God's timing. He is more than willing to guide us.

'Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.'
(Ps. 27:14)

Roger Borlace

Induction Service

Freddy's induction service as the Minister of Zion Baptist Church, Tenterden, Kent, will take place on Saturday 8th June at 2:30pm (to be followed by refreshments).

You are warmly invited to attend the induction. If you would like to do so, please contact Elsie Phipps at zionbaptisttenterden@gmail.com by Friday 24th May, stating your name, Church represented and numbers attending.

Services This Month

Arwel Jones is a member of the leadership team at Caersalem in Caernarfon. Revd. John Thompson is the pastor of Llanelwy Community Church. The other preachers and leaders are all members of Penrallt.

5th May

- 10:30am **The Church as a Family / Community** *Ephesians 4:1–6*
Preacher: Arwel Jones
- 6:00pm Celtic Communion Service
Leader: Magnus Forrester-Barker

12th May

- 10:30am Christian Aid Week service, organised by Sarah Jackson.
Exodus 1:15–22
- 6:00pm **Jesus is greater...** *Hebrews 1:1–2:4*
Preacher: James Goodman

19th May

- 10:30am **The Fullness of Christ** *Ephesians 4:7–16*
Preacher: John Thompson
- 6:00pm Café Church: Prayer and a Panad. Organised by Kelly LaTrobe and Neil Rymer.

26th May

- 10:30am Communion Service
The Marriage at Cana *John 2:1–11*
Preacher: Donald Poirot
- 6:00pm **Living godly lives in a pagan society** *1 Peter 2:11–25*
Preacher: Roger Borlace

Dates for Your Diary

Saturdays	8:30am	Prayer meeting in the Twrgwyn Room.
Wednesday 1	10:30am	Men's prayer meeting followed by coffee.
Saturday 11	7:30pm	Christian Aid Week quiz (see below for other Christian Aid Week events).
Tuesday 14	7:30pm	Monthly prayer meeting in the chapel.
Monday 20	10:30am	Church Walk at Malltraeth Cob.
Tuesday 28/Thursday 30		Experiencing God course continues.

Please see later in this newsletter for more about many of these events.

Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid Week this year officially runs from Sunday 12th to Saturday 19th May, but we get under way with two events on Saturday 11th May. The first is an All-Day Breakfast available at Caffi Deiniol in the Deiniol Centre. That evening there will be a Quiz Night hosted at Penrallt, starting at 7:30pm. Entry is £3 per person, teams of 4-6 – you can turn up on the night and join a team. Refreshments will be served.

The main events of the week itself are an Initial Service and Frugal Lunch at Berea Newydd on Monday 13th at 1pm and a Coffee Morning at the Quaker Meeting House on Friday 17th, 10am until 12pm. There will also be a Collection on the High Street from 9am until 5pm the same day.

Throughout the week there will be a House-to-House Collection around Bangor. Please speak to Joan Beer if you are able to help with collecting in the streets allocated to Penrallt, or contact the church office if you would like to volunteer to help with the All-Day Breakfast or the High Street Collection.

Children's Birthdays in May

12th: Oisin Patton

Deadline for next month's newsletter: Sunday 19th May

Please send information to Magnus (office@penrallt.org; 01248 353355). All notices (including alterations to standing information) should be submitted in writing (preferably by email) as early as possible.

Homegroups

Many of our folk meet in small groups during the week for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. We encourage you to join one of these groups if you are able to. *NB groups do not meet every week – please check with the named contact. All landline numbers below have the 01248 area code.*

Day	Time	Group Name	Contacts
Mon	7:00pm	Delta	Brian Wheatcroft (602516) Pat MacKenzie (670948)
Tue	10:00am	Nilgiri	Joan Beer (353874)
Tue	7:30pm	Tyddyn Isaf (Menai Bridge)	Magnus Forrester-Barker (717570)
Wed	7:30pm	Nomads	Pat & Roger Borlace (713146)
Thu	10:30am	Llanfairpwll (am)	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
Thu	7:30pm	Llanfairpwll (pm)	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
Fri	10:30am	The Lydias	Freda Birchall (371316) Lesley Jackson (680330)

◇ **Church Lunch**

Please note that there will be no church lunch in May as it was brought forward to celebrate Freddy's final Sunday with us at the end of April.

◇ **Church Walk**

Monday 20th May 10:30am

This month's walk is led by Roger and Eve Malone. It is a linear walk from Malltraeth Cob to Holland Arms garden centre in Gaerwen. All flat and good underfoot, suitable for trainers, about 5 & 1/2 miles. Park up at the last car park in Newborough forest on the left heading north on the A4080. Walk along the cob towards Malltraeth, turn right at the end and walking alongside the canal on the right. Path leads across the wetlands to A5. At A5, turn right towards Gaerwen, and coffee at Holland Arms garden centre. Roger will take 3-4 drivers back to the car park for their cars. Bring a packed lunch, and Twitchers should bring their binoculars. For more information please contact Roger and Eve on 01248 431296.

◇ **Monthly Prayer Meeting**

Tuesday 14th May 7:30pm

Our monthly mid-week prayer meetings, for the whole congregation, usually take place in the chapel and last about an hour. The next two meetings after this one will be on Wednesday 12th June and Thursday 11th July.

◇ **Pastoral Help**

If you have issues of concern about your own or someone else's welfare, please contact a member of the Pastoral Care team: Adrienne Ferrada; Gwen Hicks (353648); Geoff Moore (410582); Lawrence Moss (713793); Helen Thomas (600174); Roshni Verghese (07967 320048).

◇ **Pray for Penrallt Every Day**

We believe in prayer and encourage people to pray. You can send prayer request to our electronic diary via office@penrallt.org (there are also prayer cards in the church porch that you can fill in). Better still, you can receive the prayer diary straight to your inbox every Monday (or occasionally later in the week) by emailing the office now and requesting to be put on the list. For more immediate and interactive sharing of prayers, search on Facebook for *Penrallt Prayer Point* and send a request to join our group.

◇ **Rough Sleepers**

We do not recommend giving money directly to the rough sleepers in Upper Bangor. You will find labelled envelopes in the porch for a gift that will buy meal vouchers which are distributed to the homeless by the Cathedral; this certainly would be a more meaningful form of help.

◇ **Sunday Afternoon Services**

On the first Sunday afternoon of the month we usually take a short service at a local residential home. From June onwards we will be going to Haulfre (in Llangoed, near Beaumaris) every month. The services start at 2:15pm and last roughly half an hour. *Please note that there is no service in May.*

Focus on...



Christian Aid Week: 12-18 May

All Mums Should Live

Tenneh's story

Tenneh plays with her precious baby Ansumana. She blows raspberries on his belly. Lifting her baby up high she beams with joy. Tenneh gave birth to Ansumana three months ago. Thankfully, he's a happy, bouncy baby. But Tenneh has loved and lost another baby before.

When Tenneh's labour started during her first pregnancy, there was no health centre in the village. Her mum took her to a traditional birth attendant. For the two days of her labour, Tenneh was in agony. She fell unconscious and was bleeding heavily. With very little medical training, the birth attendant was way out of her depth.

In the days and months after her labour, Tenneh felt very weak and her baby wouldn't breastfeed. Tragically, her baby died when he was three months old.

'That day I will never forget,' she recalls. 'I felt sick like I've never been sick before. If God would not have saved me, I would not be alive today.'

New hope

Through our partner RADA (Rehabilitation and Development Agency), Christian Aid saw how difficult the situation in Sawula village was and began working to ensure that mums and babies have fullness of life.

RADA has been working locally to help vulnerable women access healthcare, improve hygiene with simple interventions like handwashing and, with your support, build a bigger, better health care centre.

Thankfully, when Tenneh was pregnant a second time, things had changed for good. This time, she had nurse Judith by her side. With her expert love and care, Judith helped Tenneh deliver her baby safely.

Tenneh said: 'During my second labour, I was scared. But nurse Judith was with me, assuring me of everything. When I delivered, I felt so good.'

'With the coming of Judith, so many lives have changed,' Tenneh continued. 'We know that with Judith, as long as we see the light at the end of the tunnel, we'll be OK.'

Thanks to nurse Judith and the medical training you helped provide, Tenneh could hold her beautiful baby boy in her arms.

A health centre for all

The community in Sawula dream of having a health centre that can meet their needs. The current health centre is the size of a small bedroom. Operations, deliveries and baby checkups all happen in one single room with only two delivery beds.

Nurse Judith works around the clock to meet the needs of mums and young children who come to the clinic. But the need is great, and sometimes she's forced to send people away.

When women come to the clinic at night, there's no light for Judith to use. So she has to ask her patients to bring a torch to see by.

In addition to this, there are often not enough drugs at the clinic. Judith sees diseases like malaria and typhoid, especially in children. She has to go on a motorbike or sometimes walk for three hours to collect drugs.

'I need help,' nurse Judith says. 'Women are dying from childbirth, children under five are dying, because of poverty. Please help us.'

For Tenneh, and many mums like her, a new health centre would be like a dream come true: 'We'll dance for three days when we have the new health centre,' she says.

With your support today, we could work alongside Judith's community to build a bigger, better health centre to help more mums like Tenneh give birth safely.

Christian Aid Week brings Christians together with a common purpose to achieve something incredible. Can your church come together to raise £300 this Christian Aid Week?

A gift of £300 could provide a delivery bed for a new health centre giving mums a safe place to deliver their babies. We need your support now, more than ever.

With every envelope, every Big Brekkie, every click. Every one of us can help deliver babies safely.

This Christian Aid Week, 12-18 May, Penrallt is holding a quiz night on Saturday 11th May, helping with the bucket collection in Bangor High Street on 17th May and participating in the house-to-house collection throughout the week. Please speak to Joan Beer if you can help with the house-to-house collection.

For more information: www.christianaid.org.uk