



# Penrallt Baptist Church

## Newsletter for May 2011

"Wheels?" she asked incredulously, her beautiful eyebrows arched in surprise.

"Wheels, within wheels," corrected Ezekiel, vainly trying to mimic the vision with his hands, "and fire, and lightning!"

"And strange creatures?"

"Oh, yes," he replied with enthusiasm, "With these strange faces, and wings, and the wheels following them."

"Here? In the middle of this refugee camp? And no one else saw them?"

Ezekiel sighed. This was harder than he thought it would be. "No, nobody else. But I saw it. And now I know why I'm not meant to take up the priesthood in Jerusalem."

"Well, at least on that score I agree with you. I told you to stop pining after Jerusalem like the others. We're one thousand miles away and we have to sort our own lives out here in Babylon."

"Absolutely. It's not the priesthood. I'm going to be a prophet."

"Lord, have mercy."

"A watchman on the tower bringing this people back to God."

She sat down on the wooden bench that was all the furniture in their modest living room. "You know," she said, "when my father told me he'd arranged a marriage for me with you I was pleased. Really. It was your honesty, and faith and absolute integrity that I admired. And your curls. I always had a soft spot for your curls. Ezekiel the Prophet? These people need someone like you, my love. Whether they'll listen, well that's another matter."

"I thought I could dramatize it a bit. You know. Get their attention."

"Here we go . . ."

"Maybe a clay model of Jerusalem under siege. I could lie in front of it for a year."

"I'm sure your fans will love it. I'd rather you did something more constructive."

"Like?"

"Like getting firewood for me. We have to eat too."

Ezekiel and his wife (sadly, we don't know her name) lived together for only another five years until her death. He, however, went on prophesying for another fifteen years after that. His ministry changed the mindset of a people traumatized and exiled, a thousand miles from home. His book is one of the hardest in the Old Testament to follow and understand, but when you manage to

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

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grasp the scale and influence of this man, you are impressed by his effect on history. Starting at the end of May, Geoff, Roger, Deb, and I will do our best to unpack his message in nine themed sermons. There will be additional *Notes for Theology Students*, and background notes, and also optional questions if any home group wishes to follow the series as part of their study programme. "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you" promises the book (ch.36:26). It's there for the taking.

God bless,  
Peter

**PLEASE NOTE that the evening services from June to August will be starting at 7.00pm.**

## ***SERVICES IN MAY***

*At the evening services from May 15<sup>th</sup> until Pentecost Sunday we will be looking at the Bible passages that link the resurrection of Jesus to the coming of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2.*

### **May 1**

10.30am Speaker: Jonny Hardway  
2.15pm Service in Bontnewydd  
6.00pm Communion Service. Speaker: Andrew March

### **May 8**

10.30am Speaker: Geoff Birch  
6.00pm Speaker: Menna Machreth on the Lausanne Congress 2010

### **May 15**

10.30am Speaker: Geoff Birch ***Discipleship – Power to Serve***  
*John 13:1-17*  
6.00pm Speaker: Roger Borlace ***Thomas: from scepticism to adoration***  
*John 20:19-31*

### **May 22**

10.30am Healing Service. Speaker: Peter Cousins  
6.00pm Speaker: Geoff Birch ***Peter – Comforted, Challenged and Commissioned*** *John 21:1-25*

### **May 29**

10.30am Communion Service, ***"The Spirit Lifted Me Up."***  
***A very surprising birthday party on 31<sup>st</sup> July 593BC and Ezekiel replies to the job advert.*** *Ezekiel 1:1-2:4 and 3:15*  
6.00pm Speaker: Peter Cousins ***"Go into all the world and make disciples."***

## **CHURCH LUNCH**      **May 1**

Please bring enough buffet style food for yourself and one or two others.

### ***SPECIAL DATES IN MAY***

<b>Wednesday 4</b>	10.30 am	Men's prayer meeting followed by coffee in Options
<b>Saturday 7</b>	9.30 am	Wedding of Kirsty Penny and Matt Williams in Penrallt. You are all invited to come to the service and support them.
<b>Saturday 7</b>	all day	AGM of the North Wales English Baptist Union in St. Asaph. See the notice board in the porch for details.
<b>Monday 9</b>	7.30pm	Deacons' meeting
<b>Tuesday 3</b>	7.00 pm	Post-Alpha group resumes.
<b>Tuesday 10</b>	7.30pm	in the church, Youth Committee open meeting (see below)
<b>Sunday 15 – Saturday 21</b>		Christian Aid Week (see below)
<b>Tuesday 17</b>	10.30am	Walking Group (see 'Noticeboard' below)
<b>Saturday 21</b>	7.30pm	Christian Aid Quiz Aid at Penrallt
<b>Monday 23</b>	7.30pm	Special Church Meeting for Church members.
<b>Thursday 26</b>	7.30pm	Sanctuary (in the Twrgwyn Room this month)

#### ***Youth Committee***

Following on from the last Church Meeting, the Youth Committee will be hosting an open meeting at the church on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May at 7:30pm for anyone interested. The only item on the agenda will be the Evaluation of the Full Time Youth Worker Role at Penrallt report and the next steps to take. It is hoped to offer suggestions to the Special Church Meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### ***Deacons***

There will be an election for three deacons at the Special Church Meeting on Monday May 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Neil is circulating church members with further information. In the meantime we encourage prayer that God may bring the right people onto the diaconate. All nominations of people are to be handed to Neil as soon as possible.

#### ***Leading up to Christian Aid Week***

**Wednesday May 4**      Blue Sky Café, Bangor

The Bishop of Bangor will be acting as "barrista", serving Nicaraguan coffee in aid of Christian Aid Week which this year is focused on Nicaragua.

#### ***Christian Aid Week 15 - 21 May***

Penrallt needs a number of collectors for Christian Aid envelopes during the week, and money counters afterwards. Collectors are also needed for the street

collection in Bangor High Street – ½ or one hour slots 9.30 am - 12.30 pm. If you can help with any of these, please contact Sarah Jackson (tel 01248 714799 or e-mail sarah@smjackson.orangehome.co.uk)

***Christian Aid Week events:***

**Monday 16 May:** 12.30 pm (short) Christian Aid Service at Berea Newydd, followed by a bread & cheese lunch

**Saturday 21 May:** 9.30 – 12.30 **Street Collection**, High Street  
10.00 – 12.30 **Coffee Morning** at the Diocesan Centre (between the Cathedral and the Bus Station)

Please note that there will be stalls for cakes, bric-a-brac and plants at the Coffee Morning. Come and find inspiration for your garden at the plant stall – there is usually a great choice. Volunteers to help with the Coffee Morning, please contact Mrs Pat Wright on 01248 362657. Volunteers with an hour or even half an hour to spare for the Street Collection, please contact Sarah Jackson (see above) or Ellie Jones on 01248 600458.

7.30 pm **Quiz Aid at Penrallt.**

£2 per person. Teams maximum 6, (but you don't need to be in a team, just come along and we'll link up all the teamless people). Refreshments will be available for a donation of £1.

Please also note that Aled Ifan, the Youth Worker in Berea Newydd, is trying to organize the young people to volunteer to pack customers' shopping in a local supermarket, while they collect for Christian Aid. Details to follow so that we can go and support them!

## ***NEWS OF PEOPLE***

**Kirsty and Matt** are getting married in Penrallt on Saturday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am (yes, it is that early!) and would love you to all to come to the service to support them.

Our condolences to **Jane Jones** and the family on the death of her father, Campbell, last month in Ceris nursing home, Bangor. He was a very lovely Christian man who graced our services with his presence in recent years. Condolences also to **Joan Beer**, whose sister died on 16<sup>th</sup> April, to **Andrew March** on the sudden death of his nephew, aged 34, and to **Roger Borlace** whose sister-in-law Peggy died on April 18<sup>th</sup> after a short illness. She was a very committed Christian who visited Penrallt when staying here on Anglesey.

Thanks to **Andrew Browne**

We are pleased that Andrew is home from hospital and recovering. In view of his recent ill-health he has decided to hand over the task of sending out our monthly Newsletter to ex-Penrallt people who have moved away. Our many thanks to him for over a decade of service to Penrallt in this and many other things.

### ***Children's Birthdays in May***

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Rebecca Gordon-Roberts; **6<sup>th</sup>:** Guto Evans; **16<sup>th</sup>:** Mark Walker;  
**21<sup>st</sup>:** Nathan Davies

## ***WEEKDAYS***

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

*HG = Home Group*

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Contacts</b>
<b>Tue</b>	8.00pm	HG, Nilgiri	Joan Beer (353874)
<b>Tue</b>	7.30pm	HG, Farrar Road	Magnus Forrester-Barker (371366)
<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>	7.30pm	HG, The Nomads	Jess & Seamus Adams (421185) Susan Cousins (353878)
<b>Wed</b>	8.00pm	HG, Grŵp Cymraeg	Owen & Nia Lloyd Evans (352634)
<b>Thu</b>	10.30am - noon	HG, 76, Ffordd Cynan	Jenny Powley (364292)
<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>	7.30pm	HG, Bangor	Ciara Ní Bhrolcháin (07900 220496)
<b>Thu</b>	7.30pm	HG, A-Team	Freya Bushill (07792 080766)
<b>Thu</b>	7.45pm	HG, Lon-y-Deri	Gill Goodman (355256) Billy Elliott (372568)
<b>Fri</b>	10.30am - noon	Cheeky Monkeys	Joan Rymer (713003)
<b>Sat</b>	8.30am	Prayer Meeting	

## ***NOTICEBOARD***

### ➤ ***Missions Co-ordinator***

Support of our link missionaries is a vital part of Penrallt's ministry, taking attention away from ourselves and focusing us on the wider world. We are blessed with an outstanding group of missionaries on four continents whom we are privileged to serve and support. To ensure that this support does not concentrate on money, but, rather, centres on prayer and personal contact, we have a Missions Group. This is a group which is open to anyone and meets three or four times a year for prayer. The group has coordinator.

We are looking for someone to take over the post of Missions Group Coordinator from Marilyn Birch this summer. The Co-ordinator will be expected to:

- Arrange and lead the Missions' Group prayer meeting once a quarter.



➤ ***Walking Group*** ***Tuesday 17 May*** ***10.30am***

Meet in Brynrefail village at the Caban car park. From the village the walk follows a footpath up over the hill into Padarn Country Park. The path follows above the lake railway to the old slate quarrymen's hospital (now a museum with picnic tables outside, giving a glorious view across to Snowdon). The walk continues down to the lake railway and then across fields to Llanberis following the lake back to Brynrefail. Walk is approximately 5 miles with one stile and some uphill sections but an easy walk back along the lake. Choice of cafés for afternoon tea! Geoff and Marilyn Birch are leading the walk so if there are any queries please telephone 01286 870944 or e-mail gmbirch@ceris.org.uk

➤ ***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 £2342 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.

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 else one of the other members of the Pastoral Care team:

Geoff Birch 01286 870944, Joan Beer 353874, Eunice Smith 713296,  
Judy Stammers 364394, Geoff Moore 410582, Jenny Powley 364292

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

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

**Ó Brolcháin Fact File!****Name: Colm and Catherine Ó Brolcháin  
Knockcroghery, Roscommon, Ireland****Serving with Operation Mobilisation Ireland since 2008.**

Many people still remember our family as we worshiped with you in Penrallt from 1991 to 2000. But here is an over-view for those who want to know more about the new Mission partners you are supporting!!

We are an Irish family and some will know our daughter Ciara who is with you in Penrallt; she is studying in Bangor University. We also have Sinéad sitting her final school exams this year and our son Ruairí who is in his second year of Secondary school.



The Lord has kept me and my family moving from place to place; Dublin, North Wales, Connemara and now Roscommon- 9 homes in 21 years!! My 'career' path has never seemed to run smoothly, my previous two jobs were building our family house and driving school buses.

Now amazingly, these skills can be used in the Lord's service, they are exactly what is needed to work in my present job as Caretaker/ Big Red Bus driver for Operation Mobilisation Ireland. OM Ireland is passionate about seeing lives and communities transformed in Ireland and all over the world. We inspire and equip Irish people to make a real and lasting difference through reconciliation, transformation and mobilisation.

Lacken House, our headquarters where we are based is a constant challenge, as it requires a lot of maintenance; a 10 bedroom house, offices in the large converted stable block and 4 wooden Chalets. With 14 staff there is also a fleet of vehicles to maintain not to mention 5 acres of gardens!



In supporting the evangelical work of the Irish churches I have been to different parts of the country with teams organised and trained by OM Ireland, it has been wonderful to see the Gospel shared in many, many different ways and with all ages. Venues for outreaches have included Rock concerts, Ploughing Championships, Horse fairs to mention just a few.

OM has a 'Global service' team of 8 young adults who are in Ireland for a year and support particular churches for that year with training and support from the OM team. We also have about 8 teams a year of various sizes and nationalities who come for 1 or 2 weeks to share the Gospel through any means possible!...Youth and children's work on housing estates, in schools, drop-in centres and church activities. At Easter and Christmas we run drama events reaching into primary schools. I am usually doing the driving for these events and preparing accommodation for the teams.... fixing the plumbing is my usual task!!

Catherine has her part to play too, she has three main jobs.... In admin where she runs our Dalit Child (India) sponsorship programme and writes all our Thank You letters. She has a role in pastoral support for the visiting female team members and organises the catering for any group under 20 people.

### **Prayer Points**

- Praise for the way God is speaking to the people of Ireland through these outreaches
- A return to health for Andrew Mullins, who has cancer he is 17 months old and is the son of Mike and Aster Mullins, the Irish OM director.
- Pray for the upcoming Youth Golf Camp and a team from Sweden coming to support the work of a church in Kilkenny.
- Pray about coming to join an outreach team- you already speak the language!

**For more information, take a look at our brilliant website....  
[www.ie.om.org](http://www.ie.om.org)**