



NEWYDDION BRO YSTUMANNER NEWSLETTER

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GRATITUDE Sue Whitehouse

In a Christian cafe in Wellington (Shropshire) is a small framed embroidered panel. It reads "Gratitude makes what we have, ENOUGH".

The establishment is known as The Gratitude Cafe; it operates a "pay-it-forward" system whereby you can buy an extra coffee, cake or whatever to be given to a person in need. Roger and I visit fairly often en route to afternoon classical concerts in Birmingham; it is a short walk from Wellington railway station and the coffee and cakes are good.

But it's the whole concept of gratitude that sets the place apart. The little panel reminds us to recall our gratitude in prayer before we eat, and

the sense that it's our thankfulness, our response, that turns "what we have" into "enough", is heartwarming.

I was reminded of it recently when reading the Gospel passage about the Feeding of the Five Thousand. One of the best known stories of Jesus! The disciples brought to Jesus a boy who had just a few bread rolls and a couple of fish; Jesus gave thanks, blessed the food and gave it out - and it became enough, and more! At the same time Jesus got the crowd to sit down in groups. He wasn't starting one of those agonising group exercises you get at a conference or workshop - he was actually getting people to sit and eat and talk.

I've noticed, during the recent heatwaves, that people have been more inclined to stand around and talk; this has been heartening to hear. Far from the usual meteorological moans, I've heard "ooh, loving this sunshine", "nice, innit?" and "ah, thank God it's a bit cooler, we need this rain". The gratitude has been real.

A lady I met in Neptune Road just the other day was standing watching bees and butterflies in their dozens enjoying the scent and purple flowers of a buddleia. "Oh" she said, "this is amazing". When I observed "indeed, God is good and gives us lovely things to see" she said "He is, isn't he - we should thank him more often".

Our places of worship, with their little enclosures of nature and spaces slowly returning to green after the rain, serve as a quiet but constant reminder that God gives. He gives us each other; He gives us time and space to enjoy, and our senses to enjoy it with. And He never stops giving, granting, blessing.

Therefore, maybe we could find it in our busy lives never to stop saying thank you - to each other and to our mighty God who takes our gratitude and transforms it constantly into "enough" and into more and greater gifts.

Labyrinth walk

I accepted the invitation to walk a labyrinth at the vicarage on Thursday July 30th.

It was sunny and warm and so quiet, (I had it all to myself).

I was totally absorbed once I started making sure to stay on the right path and following the route to the centre before I stopped to see how far I had come. Lots of life's lessons to be learned from that labyrinth.

Also feeling of lightheadedness. I sat in the Pilgrims Poustinia afterwards, quiet, peaceful and calm just taking in the complexity of the labyrinth.

Thank you for the invitation.

Helen Williams

School Pastors

What would you do if you found someone in Church who was “spiced” out?

What would you do if you found someone in Church who was on “high” or on a “come down”?

These are just some of the questions that we, as prospective School Pastors, hope will be answered for us as we complete our final training session, “Addictions and Substance Misuse” which will be delivered by Adferiad. The courses that they offer online are simply superb and are FREE. I am currently working through them all, but missed the one on vaping which will be repeated. This is so important as there is now a Vape Shop directly opposite the railway station.

Then it's the big day for us - The Commissioning Service at Tywyn Baptist Church at 7pm on Wednesday, September 9th. We are fortunate that the Lord Lieutenant of Gwynedd, Edmund Seymour Bailey, has agreed to attend, together with other dignitaries from the police and the Council. We await to hear from the High Sheriff and Liz Saville Roberts.

Please come along and support your School Pastor team. We are here to offer care, support and help and a listening ear to the students at the end of a school day.

KEEP THE DATE.

Fiona Covington-Mann

Yes, But-

As part of my training to become a School Pastor, I have worked my way through the Church in Wales' Module A on Safeguarding. It has left one awkward and quite large question in my mind.

Why is the Church following the Social-Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 in setting out its procedures and our responsibilities instead of starting with guidelines of its own which exceed the legal requirements in the Act? If you work through the Module, you will not meet a Bible reference until Section 3. Surely, if we believe that people are made in the image of God, and that Jesus Christ died for all, then these fundamental statements ought to be our starting point, and we should be assessing the Act to check whether it measures up to the Christian way of dealing with people, not creating a document to meet the Act's requirements.

I am not suggesting that we are casual about the Act, simply that it should not need to be our starting point. In 1 Corinthians ch. 6, Paul takes his readers to task for resorting to civil courts to settle disputes between them. Are not we, who are to judge angels, capable of sorting these things out for ourselves? And cannot we, who have the Bible, centuries of Christian tradition, our enlightened reason and our Christian experience (the "Wesleyan Quadrilateral") come up with something richer and more caring to the individual than the civil Act?

Let's take this even further. In Romans ch.13, Paul tells us that all the commandments are summed up as "Love your neighbour as yourself".

School Pastors Commissioning Service



Tywyn Baptist Church

**Wednesday 9th
September 2026
7pm**



**Warm Welcome to All
Croeso Cynnes i Bawb**



St Michael's
Llanfihangel y Pennant
Friday 25 September
3.00 pm
Celtic Evening Prayer
to celebrate the
Patronal Festival

MELODY
MAKERS
CONCERT

*St Cynon's Church
Fairbourne*

followed by light refreshment

Entry £5.00



Coffee Morning

SATURDAY 5TH SEPT.
10.00 - 12.00
COFFEE & CAKE

**ST PETER AD VINCULA
PENNAL**

Verse 10 says “love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law”. Paul is referring to the Law of Moses, but is it not equally true of the law of the land?

I await hearing from the Diocese and from readers!

Max Birchenough.

Regular events

Crafts for Giving - Our regular meetings continue with a "knit and natter for giving" on Monday 14 September, 2pm-4pm in the Glass Room at St Cadfan's Church, Tywyn. Hot drinks and biscuits provided - dogs welcome so long as they don't act like cats and chase balls of yarn around! Come and bring a friend or two! Sue Whitehouse 07789 442 035.

Golden Girls are planning to re-start their Get Togethers on Friday 30th October. Venue to be confirmed nearer the date.

Croeso dydd Mercher -“ Welcome Wednesdays will be re-starting on Wednesday 7th October, from 2 to 4pm in St Cadfan’s Glass Room. We’e looking forward to welcoming everybody back!

Wandering emails

Roger Whitehouse’s new email address is rmwhitehouse81@gmail.com. If you expect emails from him, please ensure this is in your list of safe addresses - and meanwhile check junk mail

Non-arrival of newsletters - some are being blocked en route but please add my addresses to your safe list (see above and back page).

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

St Peter's Church, Aberdyfi

Our Family activities month have attracted many visitors and some great feedback .

We also welcomed mostly local families to our “God Made the Sun” Messy Church event.

Babies to Teens and accompanying adults enjoyed stories songs crafts and refreshments

We look forward to our next session in the October half term . Next summer we will celebrate 10 years of Messy Church and we thank God for its blessings.

One visitor to Messy church was Emelia our latest and youngest Church congregation member having just been baptised here by Rev Christina last Sunday .

We hope to have Bro Dyssyni choir entertaining us in October - Watch this space -. And we are looking forward to hosting Duo Serenity later this month .

Worship on the Wharf every Sunday at 6pm continues to be a welcome August tradition of shared fellowship with Riverside Chapel and a great opportunity to share faith with visitors to the village and locals in a very pleasant spot where Gods creation can be admired and praised.

Alison Sayes



Abergynolwyn

As I write we are all looking forward to one of the highlights of the year in the Village; the Abergynolwyn Show to be held on Saturday 29th August. St David's Church will, once again, have a table selling both excellent bakery and books.



Please do come along and support this wonderful event.

We have been delighted to welcome holiday visitors to our Services and to discover how many people visit the Church during the day, leaving messages and prayers in our book beside the votive corner.

We have two Services scheduled for this month; Holy Eucharist on the 6th September and Morning Prayer on the 20th September. We look forward to welcoming as many as possible.

Our Congregational Meeting is due to be held on Wednesday 23rd September at 6pm.

Janet Wright

*Help me Loving God
to care enough to listen,
to be curious enough to look,
to be selfless enough to take action".
Mary Fleeson*

ARTHOG

Our August service was a joyful celebration of Caneuon Mawl, Songs of Praise, where six members chose a favourite hymn and each one explained to the congregation the reasons for their choice. Many thanks to Rev George Williams who led the service and to Carole Kind for her able accompaniment to the hymns, three of which were sung yn Cymraeg and three in English. Two holiday makers from France arrived just as we finished; they were sorry to have missed the service but were glad to join us for refreshments and conversation.

Throughout the summer, we have had a steady stream of visitors to St Catherine's, often holiday-makers, who frequently leave messages and



prayer requests, always grateful that the building is open. Most weeks a few of us go in to pray for the names and requests recorded.

Our next service will be on September 20th, led by Reverend Ruth.

Catherine Horton

St Cynon's Church, Fairbourne

Hopefully an update with pictures of our Centenary service will be in the October issue.

On Monday 14th September at 7 pm, Fairbourne's very own Melody Makers will be giving a concert, with songs from their varied repertoire. This event will be in St Cynon's followed by refreshments.

£5 a ticket- what a bargain!

Looking forward to October, and another date for the diary! This time it will be the Machynlleth Wind Band . This concert will also be in the church on 8th October at 7 pm

As always if you know of anyone who would like our prayers or any pastoral support, please do get in touch.

Rev George

St Celynin's Church, Llwyngwril

August has been a busy month with many visitors in the area. We have been pleased to welcome them to our village and church. The church is opened most days to welcome visitors and to give them some respite from the heat,

We hold three services a month; an All Age Service on the first Sunday, Holy Communion on the third Sunday



and a 5.00pm evening service at the old church in Llangelynnin on the fourth Sunday. All are warmly welcomed.

On the 2nd August the two daughters of Alicia Kreft, Tallulah and Polly, were christened. Alicia spent her childhood in the village and it was nice to welcome her and her family back. The service was taken by Rev. George Williams.

On 8th August at the old church Llangelynnin the blessing of the marriage of Rachel and Tom Medlicott took place and again Rev. George Williams officiated.

Ann Hackney



St Peter ad Vincula, Pennal

We are very pleased to be able to have work done on the maintenance of the East Wall - work that has been waiting to be done for some time while the inside of the wall was being repaired.

We have continued to have our Sunday services and have enjoyed welcoming our regular Summer visitors back. We are very grateful to Rev Kath and the Ministry Area team for helping us,

Another successful Coffee Morning was held. The September gathering will be on the FIRST Saturday - Sept 5th - not the second .

We now look forward to the Pennal Show which hopefully will not be too weather-affected.

And we continue to hold Alan Fisher and Heather Taylor's family in our thoughts and prayers



St Cadfan's Church, Tywyn

I have referred to our Visitor's Book on occasion before, but a recent entry amused me somewhat. A family whose knowledge of architectural history is clearly lacking thought the white rendered Norman arches and columns of St. Cadfan's reminded them of Hispanic buildings in the South-Western USA, as seen in spaghetti westerns. Very Clint Eastwood, they thought.

There is, however, a serious thought arising from this misreading. As church architecture and its development over centuries is clearly a closed book to some people, that is also true of almost everything we do in our churches, and of what we believe. The visible language of church buildings, which we hope speaks of God's majesty and otherness, obviously does nothing of the kind to some. And the language of the Bible, the creeds, and the liturgy is probably just as unintelligible to them as well. In short, we have a major interpretation problem in helping people to understand what the Gospel is all about. Do we need to have more simple display material in our churches? Time to think and discuss!

In the meantime, life at St. Cadfan's goes on much as usual. We are heartened by the number coming to our coffee mornings as well as to services. We are clearly meeting a need.

Max Birchenough.

New Altar Cover

A special "thank you" to Linda Birchenough, our Sacristan, for making a new blue cover for the altar in St Matthew's Chapel.

Roger Whitehouse

Services in September

Regular Weekday Services

Wednesdays 10.30am Holy Communion St Cadfan's, Tywyn
(September 16th–Followed by Prayers for Healing and Wholeness)

Sunday 6th September– 14th Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	All Age Worship	St Celynnin's, Llwyngwrl
10am	Holy Communion	St David's, Abergynolwyn
10am	Morning Worship	St Peter ad Vincula, Pennal
11am	Morning Worship	St Cynon's, Fairbourne
11.15am	All Age Worship	St Peter's, Aberdyfi
11.15am	Holy Communion	St Cadfan's, Tywyn

Wednesday 9th September

7pm Commissioning of School Pastors, Baptist Church, Tywyn

Sunday 13th September– Education Sunday

10am	Holy Communion	St Peter ad Vincula, Pennal
11.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Aberdyfi
11.15am	Morning Worship	St Cadfan's, Tywyn

Sunday 20th September– Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

9.30am	Holy Communion	St Celynnin's, Llwyngwrl
10am	Morning Worship	St David's, Abergynolwyn
11am	Holy Communion	St Cynon's, Fairbourne
11.15am	Morning Worship	St Peter's, Aberdyfi
11.15am	Holy Communion	St Cadfan's, Tywyn
3pm	Holy Communion	St Catherine's, Arthog

Friday 25th September

3pm Celtic Sung Evening Prayer St Michael's, Llanfihangel-y-Pennant

Sunday 27th September –17th Sunday after Trinity

10am	Morning Worship	St Peter ad Vincula,Pennal
11.15am	Holy Communion	St Peter's,Aberdyfi
11.15am	All Age Worship	St Cadfan's, Tywyn
5pm	Evening Prayer	Llangelynnin Old Church

We look forward to welcoming you to our churches!

NOTE: Llanegryn church is still closed for major repairs.

September Dates for your Diary

Sat 5	10.00-12.00	Pennal Coffee Morning	St Peter ad Vincula Pennal
Wed 9	7.00 pm	School Pastors Commisioning Srvce	Tywyn Baptist Church
Mon 14	2.00 - 4.00pm	Crafts for Giving	Glass Room, St Cad- fan, Tywyn
Mon 14	7.00 pm	Melody Makers Concert	St Cynon, Fairbourne
Wed 23		Abergynolwyn Congregational Meeting	
Fri 25	3.00 pm	Patronal Festival, Celtic sung evening prayer	St Michael Llanfihangel y Pennant

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[w] also Worship leader

Newsletter

Many thanks to those who got information to me early for
September!

The last time for the October newsletter is midnight Friday 19th
September. Early submissions always most welcome. My email addresses
are mvgover@hotmail.com or mvgover@gmail.com.