



Penrallt Baptist Church

Newsletter: June 2019

What is a church made up of? Well Christians is surely the answer.

I am often confronted by my non-believing friends about the failures of the Church (not ours specifically). I direct them to the Bible to read about Jesus' life and teaching and not to throw away Christianity by judging Christians. Apparently Gandhi was known to say "If all Christians practiced what they preached, there would be no other religion in the world."

One of my favourite verses from the Bible is Luke 22:32 when Jesus predicts Simon Peter's denial of him:

"But I have prayed for you Simon, that your faith will not fail. And when you turn back to me, you must strengthen your brothers."

Jesus chose Simon, who he renamed Peter, as the rock on which to found his church and yet he knew that he was fallible. Jesus predicted that Peter would deny that he knew Him in his hour of need, yet He prayed for Simon Peter and wanted to use him. It is this incredible grace of Christ which I find so compelling.

After the resurrection, Jesus met Peter and asked three times "Do you love me?" and each time, after Peter's positive reply, Jesus commanded "look after my sheep."

Jesus was strong, loving and his incredible grace gives us hope that we too might be of service even in our frailty.

So welcome to Penrallt, a group of Christians striving to follow Jesus. The old adage "what would Jesus do?" isn't a bad starting point as we try to find the way.

Julia Morgan

Services This Month

Revd. Peter Cousins is a former Minister of Penrallt, now retired. Revd. John Thompson is the pastor of Llanelwy Community Church and is our Moderator during our current pastoral vacancy. The other preachers and leaders are all members of Penrallt.

2nd June (Ascension Sunday)

- 10:30am **Exalted to the highest place** *Philippians 2:9–11*
Preacher: Magnus Forrester-Barker
- 6:00pm Communion Service
This Was Not Done in a Corner - a very public moment
Preacher: Peter Cousins *Acts 1:1–11*

9th June (Pentecost Sunday)

- 10:30am **Jesus cleanses our hearts** *John 2:12–25*
Preacher: John Thompson
- 6:00pm Pentecost Praise service at Bangor Cathedral with the other churches of Cytûn (led by BCC/Hope). No service at Penrallt.

16th June

- 10:30am Fathers' Day family service led by Wendy Lemon.
- 6:00pm **The Cost of Love** *1 Corinthians 13*
Preacher: Joan Beer

23rd June

10:30am **Nicodemus: You must be born again** *John 3:1–8*
Preacher: Neil Rymer

6:00pm **Jesus our great high priest** *Hebrews 3–5*
Preacher: James Goodman

30th June

10:30am Communion Service
Going Through Discouragement
Service led by the Pastoral Care Team

6:00pm **Live in harmony with one another** *1 Peter 3*
Preacher: Roger Borlace

Interim Moderator

We are pleased to announce that Revd. John Thompson, the Minister of Llanelwy Christian Fellowship, will be serving as our Moderator during the current pastoral vacancy. In addition to chairing members' and deacons' meetings, John will be preaching at Penrallt roughly once a month and will be in the office at times during the week. Usually this will be on Wednesday mornings but the day and time will vary, so please contact either John (moderator@penrallt.org, 07931 150697) or Magnus (office@penrallt.org, 01248 353355) in advance if you would like to arrange a meeting. Please avoid contacting John on Saturdays, except in case of serious emergency, as this is his day off.

Dates for Your Diary

Saturdays	8:30am	Prayer meeting in the Twrgwyn Room.
Wednesday 5	10:30am	Men's prayer meeting followed by coffee.
Sunday 9	12:15pm	Church members' meeting in the chapel, following the morning service.
Monday 10	7:30pm	Deacons' meeting.
Wednesday 12	7:30pm	Monthly prayer meeting in the chapel.
Saturday 15	9:30am	Bible Unzipped at Rhos-on-Sea URC.
Monday 17	10:30am	Church Walk at Aberconwy.
Tuesday 25/Thursday 27		Experiencing God course concludes.
Saturday 29	1pm	Wedding of Martha Lewis and Edward Cunningham.

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

Children's Birthdays in June

17th: Thomas Howie

20th: Bradley Jones

27th: Harvey Lemon / Ben Warnock

Deadline for next month's newsletter: Sunday 23rd June

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	7:30pm	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)

◇ **Bible Unzipped**

Saturday 15th June 9:30am

This is a theological learning community that meets monthly on the third Saturday morning at Rhos on Sea URC Church. Bible Unzipped is entirely free though donations towards costs are welcome. For more information, please speak to Roger Malone or Magnus Forrester-Barker.

◇ **Church Lunch**

Sunday 2nd June

As usual, there will be a (free) bring and share lunch after the morning service on the first Sunday of the month. Please bring enough buffet-style food for yourself and one or two others. Visitors are very welcome (and are not expected to bring food).

◇ **Church Walk**

Monday 17th June 10:30am

This month's walk is led by Roger and Pat Borlace. Meet at 10:30 in the car park opposite Aberconwy School. Wear walking shoes and bring sandwiches and sun cream. Don't be put off by the word 'mountain'; it's only a hill really! For more information, contact Roger and Pat on 01248 713146.

◇ **Monthly Prayer Meeting**

Wednesday 12th June 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 Thursday 11th July and Tuesday 13th August.

◇ **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**

Sunday 2nd June 2:15pm

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.

◇ **Wedding**

Andy and Jennie Lewis's daughter Martha is getting married at Penrallt on Saturday 29th June at 1pm. Andy and Jennie would be really grateful to anyone who might be able to help with setting up on Friday 28th June or with tidying up after the wedding on Saturday afternoon. If you are able to help, please let Billie Elliott know.

Focus on...

Liz & Sergio Vilela

Serving with BMS World Mission



Liz and Sergio are located in Beira, Mozambique. They are working alongside the Mozambican Baptist Convention where Sergio is helping to build capacity in mission training for nationals. Liz and Sergio met in Brazil whilst Sergio was a mission worker with YWAM. After marrying, they worked in Brazil for a year before being called to work in England. They spent three years as youth pastors at Saffron Walden Baptist Church, which is now their sending church. Liz and Sergio had always felt a call to mission overseas, so when their time at their church ended, they sought opportunities to work with BMS. They moved to Mozambique in 2013. They have two children, Chloe and Joshua.

Liz is involved in Pepe, a pre-school initiative started by BMS. The initiative is currently being run by churches in 60 disadvantaged areas across the country, with more starting this year. Over 3,500 children from poor backgrounds are learning basic lessons like colours, numbers and the alphabet in creative, interactive ways, preparing them for a good start in school. They are also introduced to stories about Jesus, so are growing in their knowledge of him, too.

The Vilela family were on holiday in Brazil when Cyclone Idai struck Beira. By God's grace, the BMS team there were all kept safe. Although water did enter the Vilela's home, the damage was not severe. Since returning to Beira, Liz and Sergio have been involved in organising and doing some relief work as well as getting back to normal with their Church life, home school/nursery, etc. Sergio, along with team leader Carlos, and Rachel the BMS Relief Coordinator have been busy giving food kits to those most in need in the Baptist Churches, from money that was donated to the Baptist Convention of Mozambique (CBM). Sergio, along with daughter Chloe, also helped distribute food to families of a rural PEPE.

Liz and Sergio say "We give thanks to God for all that He is doing in the lives of the people here after such an awful event, and the way he has united people from all over the world to help others."



For more information see:

www.bmsworldmission.org/people/liz-and-sergio-vilela/

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