

*PENTREF
BAPTIST
CHAPEL*



The Chapel at the Heart of Newbridge



The Road to Emmaus – by Phyllis Miller

The Newbridge-On-Wye Newsletter
Pentref Baptist Church
April 2024

The internet tells me that in 1914, an 18-year-old Newport lad snuck onboard Sir Ernest Shackleton's ship "Endurance". Stowaway Perce Blackborow hid in a locker until it was too late for the ship to turn around, at which point he emerged. He was, allegedly, told by Shackleton himself that when supplies ran out, clandestine travellers would be eaten first, to which he is supposed to have replied: They would get more meat off you, Sir! He was put to work in the kitchen and survived the experience (minus a few toes) when the ship was crushed in pack ice near Antarctica.

The Bible tells me that shortly after Jesus' tomb was found empty, two people were walking towards their home village, about as far from Jerusalem as Beulah is from Newbridge. The village was called Emmaus. The two travellers, possibly Mr and Mrs Cleopas, were talking about all that had happened when a stranger caught up with them and began asking what they were talking about. They told him, not knowing that the person who was walking along with them was in fact Jesus: "Don't you know? Are you the only one who hasn't heard??" It's a bit of an "He's behind you"-moment, as of course, Jesus knows better than anyone what had happened. After all, it was he who was crucified and his tomb that was found empty. Jesus, still incognito, explains what the old prophecies had said and then ends up going into the house with them as it's getting dark. There, he blesses and breaks the bread, as an echo of that last supper from just a few days prior where he said: "This is my body". I suppose it really was the clandestine traveller who was sacrificed first. Only as the bread sits broken in Jesus' hands do they recognise him, saying "Well, it really did seem like our hearts were burning within us when he explained Scripture to us, didn't it?". Jesus vanishes and these two followers of Jesus run back to Newbridge umm Jerusalem, to tell the other disciples all they've seen, only to find, they've seen him too. You can see a painting of these three walkers on the front page, created by Phyllis Miller.

The story of the Emmaus journey reminds me of how, whether we are aware of it or not, Jesus travels with us through life. God is always there, offering us Godself as a gift. Always there, whispering to us something of God's grace, goodness, and longing to be with us. Sometimes, it's almost as if we wake up and realise that God was there all along.

I pray for you that you would have such an experience and that you will find in it echoes of God's love which loves, and loves, and never quits. And I pray that in this community, whatever our faith and convictions, we would be good travelling companions for each other: Caring, calming, creating, communicating, crossing borders and bother to meet in new places. **Misha**

SERVICES AT PENTREF



Sunday	7th	April	10:30am	Rev Misha Pedersen (Communion)
			6:30pm	Reflective Service
Sunday	14th	April	10:30am	Rev Andrew Wyton
			6:30pm	Taizé Service
Sunday	21st	April	10:30am	Rev Andrew Wyton
			6:30pm	Bring and Share Service
Sunday	24th	April	10:30am	Rev Misha Pedersen
			6:30pm	Communion Service
<i>Every Sunday afternoon, there is a Zoom service at 4:30. For details please contact Rev Steve Wallis via steveoncomputer@aol.com</i>				
First Sunday in May				
Sunday	5th	May	10:30am	Rev Misha Pedersen
			6:30pm	Evening Service

Everyone is very welcome to join any of these services. If you have any questions, please contact the secretary: elsa.harflett.eh@gmail.com.

It'd be great to see you!

What's on at Pentref?					
Date		Morning	Early afternoon	Late afternoon	Evening
Monday	1				
Tuesday	2				
Wednesday	3	Coffee Morning			
Thursday	4		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	5				
Saturday	6				
Sunday	7	Morning Service		Zoom Service	Reflective Service
Monday	8				
Tuesday	9				
Wednesday	10				Shared Meal
Thursday	11		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	12				
Saturday	13				
Sunday	14	Morning Service		Zoom Service	Taizé Service
Monday	15				
Tuesday	16				
Wednesday	17		The Chosen		
Thursday	18		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	19				
Saturday	20				
Sunday	21	Morning Service		Zoom Service	"Bring and Share"
Monday	22				
Tuesday	23				
Wednesday	24				Window o-t World
Thursday	25		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	26				
Saturday	27				
Sunday	28	Morning Service		Zoom Service	Communion
Monday	29				
Tuesday	30				

The exact times of these events can be found in the newsletter. If you would like more details or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the minister or the church secretary.

You can find our details on the back of this newsletter.

It's always lovely to see everyone who comes to help make these events what they are.

NEXT COFFEE MORNING 3rd APRIL 10:30



The monthly Coffee Mornings give everyone the opportunity to enjoy tea, coffee and some cake, and a chance to chat to friends and strangers alike, while supporting a local charity. The next Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday **April 3rd 10:30 am till noon**, where we will collect for our next cause: It would be great to see you there.

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL 7 PM

WINDOW ON THE WORLD GIVES UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES ON LIFE, TRAVEL, JOYS AND SORROWS BY LOCAL SPEAKERS. EVERY LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7PM



JANET RUSSELL, RHOSGOCH
"SEEDS OF FAITH"



NEWBRIDGE-ON-WYE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Newbridge WI normally meet on the third Thursdays of the month at 7pm in the chapel vestry. On the 18th of April, Marianne Lewis will speak on the topic of "Flooding Llanidloes Reservoir". More details from Lyn Davies on 07393 602896.

18 th April	Marianne Lewis "Flooding Llanidloes Reservoir"
16 th May	Andrew Tweed "The Turin Shroud"
20 th June	Bob Burson: The man who would marry a mountain
18 th July	Garden Party
15 th August	Brecon Canal boat trip
19 th Sept	Ray Rand: Blood Bikes
17 th October	Craft with Yvonne
21 st Nov	Bronwen Jenkins
19 th Dec	Christmas Party

SHARED MEAL 10th APRIL



The next shared meal will be on Wednesday the 10th of April at 6 PM. This time we'll be serving cottage pie.

Last time, we had 22 people there, enjoying lasagne and puddings, with an age spread of around 90 years! We even had a birthday cake with candles and sparkles, which was greatly appreciated by someone who had recently had a birthday.

We hope to see you there and that there will, once again, be puddings aplenty. Thanks to all those who cook, serve, clear, and contribute to the nice atmosphere.

At All Saints:

The normal format for All Saints is that there is a service on the 1st Sunday of the month at 11am. You can get more details from Rev'd Lance Sharpe whose mobile number is 07938 762570.

Congratulations

...to Mrs Williams, the new head teacher at Newbridge-on-Wye Church in Wales Primary School. We wish her all the best!

As we look forward to the next Newbridge-on-Wye Carnival, here is the application form for this year's King/Queen and Attendants to be returned to the Post Office before 17th April.

NEWBRIDGE CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

CARNIVAL QUEEN/KING and ATTENDANTS - 2024

Newbridge Carnival takes place on Saturday 29th June 2024. The Committee would like the children of Newbridge and district to have the opportunity to be this year's Carnival Queen or King.

The Carnival Queen or King will be randomly chosen and if you wish for your child to be included in the draw, please complete this application form.

Names will be randomly chosen on Friday 17th April 2024 and then announced by Mon 20th April 2024.

NAME OF CHILD AGE (on 29.06.24)

Queen/King: YES/NO

Attendant; YES/NO

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT (please sign)

Contact telephone/e mail

Please note: the Carnival Committee will fund your child's outfits, but we would ask that you are available for the Carnival on Sat 29th June 2024 and if possible Llandrindod Wells and Rhayader Carnivals which take place in July. Parents/responsible persons should be available to accompany their child during the carnival procession and some pre carnival planning.

Minimum age 8yrs for Queen/King and 5yrs for Attendants (on 29.06.24).

Please return this form to Newbridge Post Office or Info@newbridgepostoffice.com

OPEN DOORS PRAYER GROUP

There is a meeting of the “Open Doors” prayer group on the 23rd of April at 2:30 in the St Francis Centre at Holy Trinity to pray for persecuted Christians and watch videos from around the world. You are very welcome to join them for prayers and refreshments if you would like.

Open Doors create a list each year of the places around the world where it is most dangerous to be a Christian. This “World Watch List” currently has North Korea, Somalia, Libya, Eritrea, and the Yemen at the top, followed by Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, Iran, and Afghanistan. Freedom of speech and religion are hard to come by in these and many other places. The videos shown at the group gatherings contain a lot of hope as well as things that are challenging.

One recent prayer video explores the situation in Cameroon where Boko Haram tries to destabilise Christian communities by killing the breadwinners in the family, leaving widows traumatised and vulnerable. Work is ongoing to provide support groups and improve literacy where women and girls are now often not able to get an education.



NEED SOME SPACE?

We are delighted to be able to offer the use of the chapel and vestry to other groups and individuals, so if you need somewhere to have a meeting or a choir practice, please enquire about availability and our very reasonable prices by using the contact details for the secretary or the minister at the back of this newsletter. We have comfortable seating for around 40 people in the vestry, kettles, microwave, fridge – just about everything you need for a cosy meeting or enjoyable activity.

DEFIBS AROUND NEWBRIDGE

The village defibrillator is on the side wall of the Post Office. Another defibrillator has been placed on the hill at Llys dinam, next to a gate a bit further up than Cefn y Maes. If you ever need to use them, a voice will guide you through the process.

STAMPS AND COLLECTIBLES



If you would like to support the **Bracken Trust** with your used stamps, please bring them to the chapel where there's a collection box waiting – or give them to someone who's going. Many thanks in advance for your donations which will help provide advice and care to people affected by cancer.

OLD BATTERIES?

The school has a box for used batteries in the lobby, which you are welcome to use. Thank you for recycling as much as you can.

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NEWBRIDGE CREATIVE GROUP

**Thursday Afternoons
2:00pm – 4:00pm**





You are invited to a Feedback Event following our recent visit to Uganda.

**St. Francis Centre
Holy Trinity Church
Llandrindod Wells
7pm, Saturday 20th April**

**Ugandan craft sales,
cakes and refreshments
from 7pm.**

Presentation 7.30 - 8.30

For more information phone:
01597 851817 01982 551860



Africa Greater Life Mission UK
Registered Charity
Number 1115766

IONA PRAYERS

After the Creative Group on a Thursday afternoon, a small group gathers for Celtic prayers in the chapel vestry. A few candles, a couple of quieter songs, a Bible reading and a page or two of structured prayers which we



read out in turn. This is followed by an opportunity for those who wish to say how their week has been. A really lovely half hour together to tune into a more peaceful rhythm.

Why not come and join us?

THE CHOSEN

We have started watching The Chosen together again. It is a modern multi-season series about the life of Jesus. We watch it on Wednesdays, normally twice a month. Please come along – the next date is 17th April at 12:30 – there's a sandwich available if you'd like one.

WOOF, WOOF!

We have received the appeal below from the Community Council:

To all dog walkers

It has been noticed that there is an increasing amount of dog waste in our village recently.

Please ensure that you clean up after your pet and do not leave their waste on the pavements, grass, verges, fields or wooded areas around the village.

*Llanyre Community Council
March 2024*

At the chapel, we've had a couple of "parcels" left on the doorstep recently, so we wanted to make you aware that there is a black bin at the chapel. It is on the side of the toilet block, not far from the outside tap. Feel free to use it for such little bags.

Each Sunday a small group of people from across the country meet on Zoom for a service. We share communion twice a month.

The service is slightly different from a traditional service in a chapel. We aim to get to know one-another and to share with and pray for each other.

WHAT WE DO

- * We pray together.
- * We read the Bible together.
- * We discuss together – trying to hear what God might be saying to us through the passage.

WHAT WE DON'T DO

- * There is no singing of hymns.
- * There is no music.



ALL ARE WELCOME TO COME AND JOIN US

This service may be particularly helpful if you are stuck at home for any reason or if your chapel only meets occasionally.

Easter Competition

There was a small competition at the Easter Egg Hunt to create the best Easter decoration. We really liked them all, but especially the following chicken stood out as a creative, slightly rustic contribution. Thanks to all who created sheep with googly eyes, chickens with long red legs, dinosaurs, colourful drawings of the empty tomb, and decorative eggs.



Easter at Pentref



SPOTLIGHT

*Sunday School
but not Sunday School*

Fun and playful 'Sunday School' at 10am normally on the 2nd and last Sundays of the month. All children welcome to join us.

We play games, dress up and dramatize one of the great stories from the Bible. We also sing songs with actions, do a bit of craft and write our own prayers. We want things to be fun, engaging, and practical, so sometimes, we will go outside too. We really hope your child or grandchild would want to join us. We currently have 3-4 children joining our small group and we really want more friends!

The next dates are: **14th April, 28th April and 5th May at 10am in the chapel** – come in through the vestry door.

14th April: Jesus is back. Is he hungry? Well, the disciples struggle to understand that Jesus is not a ghost, so he asks them if they have something to eat. It's not the only time he eats with his followers...

28th April: Someone is travelling along the road in a chariot. They are on a very long journey... It would have been easier in a campervan! As they are going along, they are reading the Hebrew Bible. What are they reading and what does it all mean? Suddenly, someone joins them...

5th May: Music is one way we can express our joy and thanks to God. Do you play an instrument? Our hearts are a sort of instrument too. God plays a tune on the strings of our hearts, called "love". What does it sound like?

It's always better with friends, so if you know of a primary school aged child who would like to come, please bring them along so they can see whether they like it. Children need to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

JESUS SAYS: "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, will live, even if he or she dies."

Hello there! I'm Misha, the minister at Pentref Baptist Chapel. Please get in touch if I can be of help in any way. Life as well as faith, humdrum or crisis, there isn't anything too big or small.



If you'd like a chat or need support, please don't hesitate to contact me and we can arrange a visit to your home or a meeting in a neutral location if that suits you better.

I'm happy to pray for you, your family, or any concerns you might have – simply send a message, give me a ring, or drop a note in. Likewise, if you would like us to pray together, I'd be delighted to do so.

If you or a relative are going into hospital and would like a pastoral visit, please let me know and we can arrange that, or where it is not possible, I can help liaise with my chaplain colleagues in the NHS to make sure you have the support you need.

Please do not hesitate to drop a note through the letterbox at The Manse (next to the chapel) or to send an email, text, or WhatsApp message if we can help. All messages will be treated with discretion.

Tel: 07432 530983 or 01597 821581

Email: mishatheminister@yahoo.com

If you would like to include an event in future issues, please contact either Misha (minister) or Elsa (church secretary).

mishatheminister@yahoo.com

elsa.harflett.eh@gmail.com

You can also find us on the internet at:

www.newbridgebaptistchurch.co.uk

or on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/pentrefnewbridge

May 2024 Edition Deadline: Thursday 18th April 2024

Please send to mishatheminister@yahoo.com