PENTREF BAPTIST CHAPEL

The Chapel at the Heart of Newbridge

"At Pentecost, tongues of fire separated and came to rest on them" Acts 2 v3.
Artwork by: Vanessa Wallis

The Newbridge-On-Wye Newsletter
Pentref Baptist Church
June 2025

This past week, I've been thinking about places where we discover the goodness and beauty of life. There's the encouragement of kind people, friends or strangers or the moment the world turns slightly pink, and you realise a gorgeous sunset is unfolding. There's the moment a child smiles, a hug finds you, a card drops through your letterbox, or someone finds time to listen. Or you open the car door and a busy little spider darts off, with 8 perfect little legs… Not for everyone, I know, but I do appreciate the diversity and life of the most ordinary places and in small mundane ways.

The way I see the world makes it what you might call a 'magical' place, though 'magic' isn't a good word, really. What I mean is, it's a place of wonder, of amazement, of surprise, meaning, joy and sparkles. For me, there is a little echo of God in the glossy red of a ladybird, in the vastness of the night sky, in the owl in the yew tree and the kindness of strangers. At my best, I am aware I'm in a world where the Divine is never far away.

The world seems out of kilter. Wars and increasing totalitarianism, natural disasters, family feuds and my own grumpiness at times… While we can do our best to not make matters worse and can pray and work for a better future, perhaps the first thing we can do is to live in our own immediate contexts with an awareness of the sacred in the little things that we encounter. I think this works whether you have faith or not – we are wired to notice special moments however small and every-day they may be.

Another way is to be aware that you, too, are part of this sacredness of life, that you have a special dignity, that there is 'something more', something beautiful, which also lives in you, an echo of something untainted, something deeply real. One prayer I join in with most mornings states that goodness is "planted more deeply than all that is wrong".

Certainly, none of us is perfect. On my own, I can't fix what is broken inside me, I can't sort out my own selfishness, I can't put meaning into my own world past a certain point, but I have a strong sense of encountering someone who *can* heal, forgive, transform, and add depth. At Pentecost we remember that rather than me pulling myself up by my bootstraps, by trusting in Jesus, I can have deep friendship, even to the point of sharing the same Spirit and mindset as Christ. A whole new closeness that grows from within and makes me value new things and see new horizons – a "new heart". Many, especially young men, have become curious about this lately, so if you are too, you are in the good company of many who have started exploring Jesus. At this time, we can all join with a very ancient prayer of the Church: "Come, Holy Spirit. Show us Jesus. Make us new." I pray that for myself, for you, and for the whole world at Pentecost. **-Misha**

SERVICES AT PENTREF

Sunday	**1st**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Paul Smethurst (Communion)**
			7:00pm	**Sankey, Franksbridge Chapel**
Sunday	**8th**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Taizé Service**
Sunday	**15th**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Alison Griffiths**
			7:30pm	**Songs of Praise, Howey Chapel**
Sunday	**22nd**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Andrew Wyton**
			6:30pm	**Rev Ifor Williams, Communion**
Sunday	**29th**	**June**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Evening Celebration**
Rev Steve Wallis hosts a weekly Zoom service with communion twice a month. It's on Sundays 4:30pm. Details: steveoncomputer@aol.com				
First Sunday in July				
Sunday	**6th**	**July**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Evening Service**

THIS MONTH'S DIARY OVERVIEW

Date		Morning	Early afternoon	Late afternoon	Evening
Sunday	1	Morning Service		Zoom	7PM Franksbridge
Monday	2				
Tuesday	3				
Wednesday	4	Coffee Morning			
Thursday	5		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	6				
Saturday	7				
Sunday	8	Morning Service		Zoom	Taizé Service
Monday	9				
Tuesday	10				
Wednesday	11				BBQ Shared Meal
Thursday	12		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	13				
Saturday	14				
Sunday	15	Morning Service		Zoom	7:30PM Howey
Monday	16				
Tuesday	17				
Wednesday	18				
Thursday	19		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	WI in vestry
Friday	20				
Saturday	21				
Sunday	22	Morning Service		Zoom	Communion
Monday	23				
Tuesday	24				
Wednesday	25				Window o-t World
Thursday	26		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	27				
Saturday	28				
Sunday	29	Morning Service		Zoom	Evening Celebration
Monday	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.

VILLAGE DEFIBS

If you ever need to use the village defibrillator, it's on the side wall of the Post Office. There is another on the hill at Llysdinam, next to a gate a bit further up than Cefn y Maes. A voice will guide you through the process, so don't be afraid to use them if needed – you could save a life!

NEXT COFFEE MORNING: 4th June 10:30

June 4th 2025 10:30 am till noon. Come along and support local charities by donating your coins and chatting to friends at our coffee morning, which takes place every 1st Weds of a month from 10:30 till noon.

We always have a lovely crowd and plenty of cake, biscuits, coffee, tea etc. It'd be great to see you as we collect for local causes and make a little difference while having an enjoyable morning in the company of friends. Do pop along.

SHARED MEAL – BARBECUE – 11th JUNE 6PM

Come along to the chapel vestry and chapel grounds for the next shared meal on **Wednesday 11th of June at 6pm** where friends of the chapel will create a BBQ feast, ready for you to tuck in. We are pre-cooking items ready to go on the grill, so do come along and enjoy baked potatoes, sausages, burgers and much more. You can drop-in anytime, but if you know you are coming, give us a heads-up by getting in touch with Misha.

NEWBRIDGE CREATIVE GROUP

This group, which is open to all, is facilitated by Vanessa Wallis.

A friendly group of people meet in the chapel vestry every Thursday afternoon between 2 and 4 PM and enjoy the company of other creative men and women – and a cuppa and biscuits halfway through!

There is plenty of space for laughter, sharing and making space for the craft or art project you have been wanting to finish. Why not join? For more details, phone Vanessa on 01597 860185.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Congratulations to Newbridge on Wye WI for winning the Rose Bowl competition at the WI County Show. They will now go on to represent Powys Radnor WI at the Royal Welsh Showground. Huge well done!

Newbridge WI meet at the chapel vestry at 7pm on the third Thursday of every month. Next month our speaker will be Yvonne Glover West, who will be giving a slideshow and talk about her visit to Poland.

All women over the age of 18 are welcome to come along. We have some great activities planned for the rest of the year, including day trips to Aberglasney Gardens and the Royal Mint. Interested? Message or call Lyn on 07393 602896.

EVENTS, IDEAS OR NOTICES?

Don't forget that you, too, can get your event in this newsletter if you want. A lot of us use Facebook etc, but not all of us do for various reasons. The newsletter is delivered to all households in the village and freely available at NOW Post Office and Shop, so it is a good way to get your message out to the local community. See the back of the newsletter for details.

ZOOM SERVICE

Stuck at home? Chapel not meeting this week? Fear not, because every Sunday at 4.30pm, a small group of people meet on Zoom to talk about a text from the Bible and to pray together and you are more than welcome to join. There is also an opportunity twice a month to take communion together. Rev Steve Wallis coordinates the group which has participants from this area and further afield. It is a service where you can share your thoughts and listen to others, but with no singing, nor a long sermon.

If you are interested in joining, please contact Steve Wallis on steveoncomputer@aol.com to be added to the list so you receive the Zoom details for the meeting. You would be very welcome.

OPEN DOORS

A small group of people meet monthly in the St Francis Centre in Holy Trinity Church, Llandrindod, to pray and get updates from the persecuted church around the world. This is a time for some sobering information about the difficulties faced by some people because of their faith in Jesus, but also a time to hear about hope, faith and joy. Sometimes we act by writing cards used to encourage especially children who find themselves displaced or fearful, and of course we pray together – and share a cuppa.

There is room for everyone at the meeting, whether you are comfortable speaking your prayers or you prefer to pray quietly. The next meeting will be on the 24th of June at 2:30 PM. Do join if you're free.

You can read more about the charity at https://www.opendoorsuk.org/

I want to come to Jesus, when I am pure and whole,
I want to come and find him when I've a peaceful soul,
I want to fix a few things, and sort my nagging doubt,
I want to be a saint first, and then I'll seek him out.
I want to know the right words; be sure of how I feel
but I can only come as me, just as I am – and real.

Easter Egg Hunt Craft and Colouring Competition.

Judged by members of the Sunday School.

Adult Entries – Shared Winner.

Charlotte with a nice freehand drawing.

Thank you for all the lovely entries!

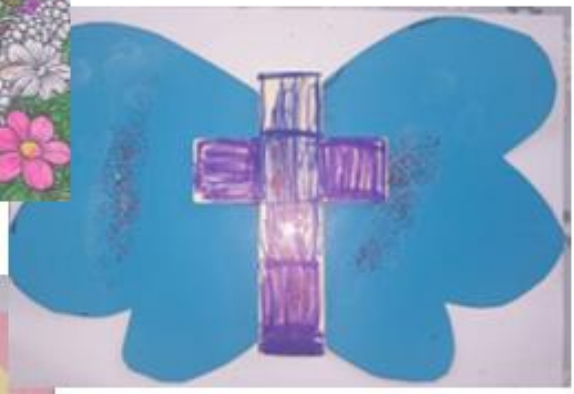
And Clare's lovely colouring in.

Please can all winners get in touch with Misha to get their prizes. Thanks!

Older children 1st Prize

Sofia with a lovely Easter basket.

The panel agreed that an amazing amount of detail had been filled in during the time available.



Younger Children's Entries

Winning entries: Easter Chicken and Cross: Llinos

Shared 2nd place with angels: Lilly & Kara

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

WEDNESDAY 25TH JUNE 6:30PM

WINDOW ON THE WORLD GIVES UNIQUE PERSPECTIVES ON LIFE, TRAVEL, JOYS AND SORROWS BY LOCAL SPEAKERS ON THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH.
ALL WELCOME AT PENTREF CHAPEL NEWBRIDGE-ON-WYE.

SARAH JONES SHARES HER FASCINATING EXPERIENCE OF WALKING THE SPANISH CAMINO.

Window on the World is our series of talks given by people who have seen the world from an unusual or novel perspective and are willing to share their views and experiences with folk like you and me.

Come along. It's free but we always appreciate it if you are able to donate a few coins to the upkeep of the chapel.

Refreshments will be provided – tea, coffee, biscuits etc all await you, along with an interesting talk.

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 want things to be fun, engaging, and practical, so we colour in, sing, act, create things and sometimes go outside. We really hope your child or grandchild would want to join us. A handful of children join our small biweekly group and we really want more friends!

The next dates are **8th and 29th June at 10am in the chapel** – come in through the vestry door.

We do a lot of craft – build models, attach stickers, play with glitter and felt tip pens. We make cards, cut out, colour in and go on treasure hunts, of course. And we pray together and listen to stories.

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 will need to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch, using the details at the back of this newsletter. It would be great to welcome you to our little group.

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, nothing's 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, that'd be lovely.

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

July 2025 Edition Deadline: Thursday 19th June 2024
Please send to mishatheminister@yahoo.com