PENTREF BAPTIST CHAPEL

The Chapel at the Heart of Newbridge

Newbridge-on-Wye Newsletter
Pentref Baptist Church
March 2026

FROM THE MINISTER

Sometimes, I feel rather inadequate. Like everyone else, I only have a limited amount of energy, time and creative ideas. I don't have a direct line to the dictators and presidents and royals, or unlimited funds to solve the many problems that I would love to see improved – like clean water for all, education for all, safe housing, employment, health, world peace, hope... Things that I am convinced are part of the dream we all have for this world, and which, as a minister, I would claim are part of God's dream for us too.

Whether we take a local or a global perspective, I am sure we can agree that there are things which are utterly heartbreaking and lots of other things that are just inconvenient, mildly annoying or properly infuriating. Life is not perfect. When I encounter things like that, I share them with God. Not because God doesn't know, but because it reminds me that even in those very difficult places, God is with us. I guess I see prayer as an invitation, as opening the door for love, goodness and the power of Someone bigger and wiser and kinder to join us in the mess of life. I think that invitation matters, and I think imagination matters too: Picturing a world that is fair and joyful and free and kind. Dreaming God's dream too.

I can't change the world on a grand scale from one day to the next, but with St David's day coming up as I am writing these words, allow me to remind you of his famous last words: "Gwnewch y pethau bychain – do the little things". When you and I, in our own small ways, work to make our local area prettier, more diverse, more financially fair, more gracious, more welcoming, then I think we're doing more than just kind acts, one at a time. I think we are saying in big bold letters that this is the sort of world we want to see, not just here, but everywhere. These things matter a lot. I think they invite more kindness and I think they help bring that big dream to life.

St David's words in full were these: "Be joyful, keep the faith, and do the little things that you have heard and seen me do." As much as being about believing all the right things (which I do think matters), faith is about trust. About holding onto the awareness and the hope that we are not alone, that God cares and that our community cares, and finding both deep joy and a quiet stubborn strength in that knowledge in a way that fuels us to do those little things which combine to paint a picture of a better world – and maybe give up doing things we know won't help.

May we all find ways of opening the door to goodness and see the buds and the flowers of a much deeper spring all around us. **-Misha**

SERVICES AT PENTREF

Sunday	**1st**	**Mar**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen (Communion)**
			6:30pm	**Quiet Service**
Sunday	**8th**	**Mar**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Taizé Service**
Sunday	**15th**	**Mar**	**10:30am**	**Rev Alison Griffiths**
			6:30pm	**Bring-and-Share Service**
Sunday	**22nd**	**Mar**	**10:30am**	**Rev Steve Wallis**
			6:30pm	**Rev Misha Pedersen: Communion**
Sunday	**29th**	**Mar**	**10:30am**	**Rev Misha Pedersen**
			6:30pm	**Songs of Praise with Rev Ifor Williams & soloist Holly Richards**
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 of April				
Sunday	**5th**	**April**	**10:30am**	**Easter Service with Misha**
			4:00pm	**Easter Egg Hunt for all children**

Everyone is welcome to join us for any of these services, most of which are held around a table in the chapel vestry. We always finish with a cuppa, and a chance to catch up with each other.

THIS MONTH'S DIARY OVERVIEW

What's on at Pentref?					
Date		Morning	Early afternoon	Late afternoon	Evening
Sunday	1	Morning Service		Zoom	Quiet Service
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				Shared Meal
Thursday	12		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	13				
Saturday	14				
Sunday	15	Morning Service		Zoom	Bring-and-Share
Monday	16				
Tuesday	17				
Wednesday	18				
Thursday	19		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	W.I. in vestry
Friday	20				
Saturday	21				
Sunday	22	Morning Service		Zoom	Communion Service
Monday	23				
Tuesday	24				
Wednesday	25				
Thursday	26		Creative Group	Iona Prayers	
Friday	27				
Saturday	28				
Sunday	29	Morning Service		Zoom	Songs of Praise
Monday	30				
Tuesday	31				

The exact times of these events are in this newsletter. If you want more details or have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Misha, or Elsa, our church secretary, using the details at the back of this newsletter.

In Matthew's Gospel chapter 6, Jesus says: Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you.

MARCH COFFEE MORNING: Weds 4th 10:30

Support local charities while catching up with friends and neighbours on Wednesday 4th March in the chapel vestry. If you can, bring a couple of small coins for charity; currently we are collecting for the Farming Community Network. There's always a nice atmosphere and it's great to hear all the laughter and lively conversations across the room.

MARCH SHARED MEAL: Weds 11th at 6pm

This month's shared meal will consist of a variety of hot dishes, bread and cheese, so do come along for a free meal (donations always welcome). We often have some very nice puddings too, donated by some of our attendees. There's normally around 20 of us, of all ages. Do pop along.

VILLAGE DEFIBS

There are two defibrillators around Newbridge – one by the Post Office and another on the Llysdinam road. Do note their location, just in case.

NEWBRIDGE CREATIVE GROUP

The Creative Group meets each Thursday afternoon between 2 and 4 PM. Bring your own project along and enjoy a chat and a cuppa halfway with likeminded folk. For more details, phone Vanessa on 01597 860185.

ZOOM CHURCH

Every Sunday at 4.30pm, a small group of people meet via Zoom. Rev Steve Wallis coordinates the group where people pray together and look at a Bible passage. Contact Steve Wallis on steveoncomputer@aol.com to receive the Zoom details for the meeting. You would be very welcome.

NEWBRIDGE W.I.

Newbridge W.I. meet next time on the 19th March in the chapel vestry, and have been encouraged lately by new members joining them – could you be another new member? Why not come along and find out. The next meeting will revolve around getting ready for the upcoming show, with more talks and excursions to take place in the coming month. Come and add your talents to the mix. We're always proud when our WI does well.

CARNIVAL QUEEN/KING & ATTENDANTS

NEWBRIDGE CARNIVAL COMMITTEE

CARNIVAL QUEEN/KING and ATTENDANTS - 2026

Newbridge Carnival takes place on Saturday 27th June 2026. The Committee would like the children of Newbridge and district to have the opportunity to be this year's Carnival Queen and King.

The Carnival Queen and 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 27th March 2026.

NAME OF CHILD ..... AGE (on 27.06.26) .....

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 27th June 2026 and if possible Llandrindod Wells and Rhayader Carnivals which take place in July 2026. 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 27.06.26).
Please return this form to Newbridge Post Office or Info@newbridgepostoffice.com

We really look forward to the next carnival and want to say thank you and all the best to the committee as they prepare for this community event.

EASTER EGG HUNT

A date for your diaries, if you have children or grandchildren who would like to join us for an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, 5th April, 4pm.

There will be eggs (of course), colouring in and games, music and some light refreshments, so please come and join us.

We exchange plastic eggs for goodie bags and it's free to take part. Small donations always appreciated if you would like. See you there!

Join us at
The Golden Lion
THE GOLDEN LION
NEWBRIDGE ON WYE
Saturday 7th March
Live Music From
Eifion Davies at 9pm
Let's Celebrate Our New Venture Together!

Advance notice for early April:

Friends of the chapel who are based in West Africa will be with us for an extra edition of "Window on the World", where you can learn a little more about their work with anthropology and translation of Scripture in this fascinating part of the world. You will also have the opportunity to experience first hand some of their workshop material which they use to help people explore their views of the world. Who knows what we might learn about ourselves as well as others. Do come and join us at 6.30pm on 1st April at the chapel vestry. Tea and coffee to follow afterwards.

BWCAS

Builth Wells Community Arts

COMEDY DRAMA WITH MUSIC

Fly by night

Play by
Melanie Price

Directed by
Ian Yeoman

HAVE YOU EVER HEARD THE LEGEND OF THE DISSERTH GHOST?

Sat 14 March 7pm & Sun 15 March 3pm
Tickets £12
(or £30 for a family of 4)

Wyseide Arts Centre, Builth
Box Office 01982 552 555

Wyeside

THE NEW INN

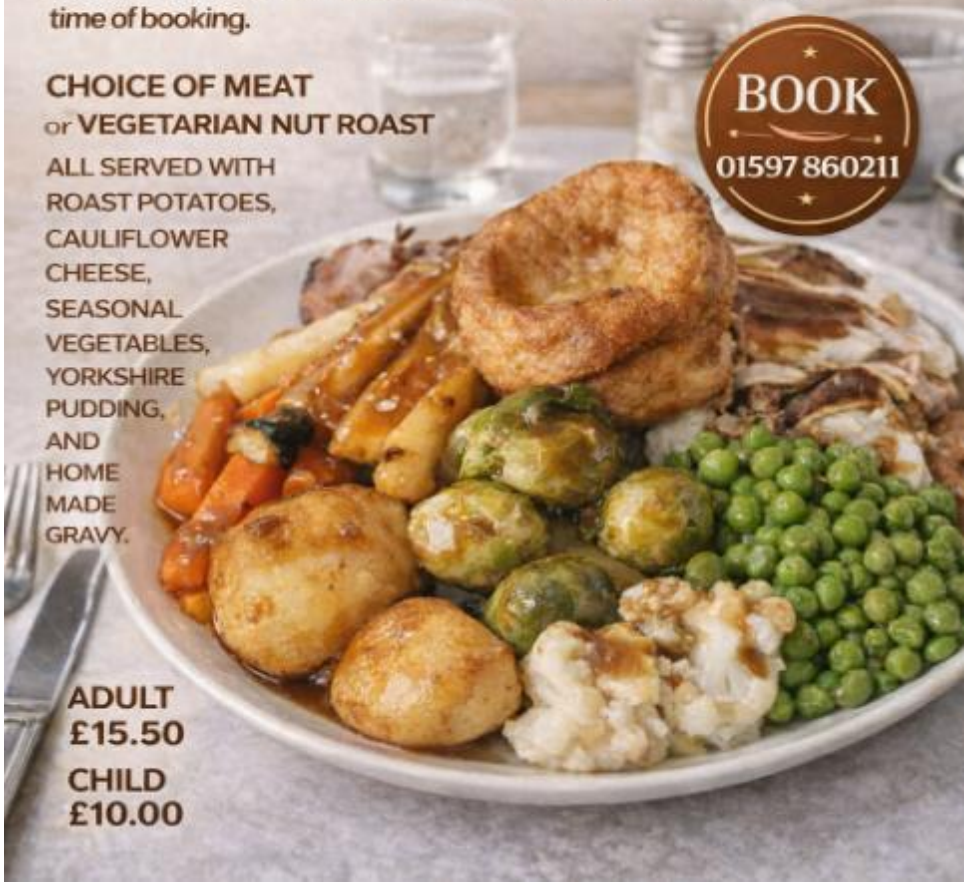
Sunday LUNCH

Enjoy a relaxing & delicious Sunday Lunch here at The New Inn. Service is 1PM-3PM. Please tell us any dietary requirements at time of booking.

CHOICE OF MEAT
or **VEGETARIAN NUT ROAST**

ALL SERVED WITH ROAST POTATOES, CAULIFLOWER CHEESE, SEASONAL VEGETABLES, YORKSHIRE PUDDING, AND HOME MADE GRAVY.

BOOK
01597 860211



ADULT
£15.50

CHILD
£10.00

SPOTLIGHT

Sunday School
but not Sunday School

There is a small group of children meeting at the chapel once or twice a month to learn more about faith while having fun with craft, games and stories. We're always looking for more young people to join our friendly little group, so do come and try it out if you'd like.

The next dates are **8th & 29th March at 10am in the chapel** – come in through the vestry door. We also have our **Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday 5th April at 4pm** in the chapel grounds.

We do a lot of craft – build models, attach stickers, play with glitter and felt tip pens. We make cards for birthdays and those who aren't well. We cut out, colour in and go on treasure hunts, of course. And we pray together, listen to stories and sometimes have competitions.

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. There are always two DBS-checked adults present in addition to this.

We occasionally have a few young teenagers join us too, which is really lovely, so if you are in that age group, do come along with your family.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch, using the details at the back of this newsletter. It would be great to be able to welcome you and your child or grandchild to our little group.
-Misha

By the way: You can still bring stamps to the chapel – there is a box in the vestry. Or send them with a friend. Thank you!

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

April 2026 Edition Deadline: Thursday 19th March 2026
Please send to mishatheminister@yahoo.com