



# Penrallt Baptist Church

**Newsletter: April 2019**

It's been two years since I wrote my first article for our monthly magazine. In it I reflected on my induction service here at Penrallt, and I shared the Bible verses from Psalm 133:

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in **unity**! It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on Aaron's beard, down upon the collar of his robes. It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the Lord bestows His blessing, even life forevermore."

**Unity** is what the United Kingdom needs as we face the challenging times of Brexit. **Unity** is what the Church needs to serve Christ.

The apostle Paul in his letter to the church in Ephesus said, "*Make every effort to keep the **unity** of the Spirit through the bond of peace*". (Ephesians 4:3)

But how can we be united in our local church when we are all different? How can churches be united?

Yes! We are all different, but **unity** is possible, for as one scholar puts it, "*Despite their outward denominational differences, all true Christians are spiritually united by regeneration in their belief that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone, in Christ alone, and their **commitment to the absolute authority of Scripture***".

A few weeks ago I sent a letter to Neil, our Church secretary, in which I explained that for many months I had been torn between my desire to serve Penrallt and my concern for my family. Therefore, I had decided that the current situation cannot continue (the constant trips to London due to my daughter Allison's health). Also, I informed him that I had accepted the calling of Zion Baptist Church in Tenterden, Kent, to be their next minister.

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Penrallt Baptist Church, Holyhead Road, Bangor LL57 2EU  
Tel: 01248 353355; Email: office@penrallt.org; Website: www.penrallt.org  
Office open Mon–Fri 10am - 3pm; Administrator: Magnus Forrester-Barker

Minister: Rev. Freddy Farias-Palacios, 13 Bryn Eithinog, Bangor LL57 2LA; 07506 710694; minister@penrallt.org  
Secretary: Neil Rymer, 20 Brynteg, Llandegfan LL59 5TY; 01248 713003; secretary@penrallt.org  
Treasurer: Stephen Burrows, 39 Cil y Graig, Llanfairpwll LL61 5NZ; 01248 714048; treasurer@penrallt.org

As Penrallt enters into a period of Interregnum, my prayer will be for **unity** of the Spirit as a result of your commitment to the absolute authority of the Bible. Since the first Sunday I preached at Penrallt, I have tried to be faithful to the Scriptures, and I will continue to be as I go to serve our Lord Jesus Christ in another church.

The Word of God is what helps us to get closer to our God and to one another, and to bring others into the Kingdom of God. Here are some verses from 1 Peter 1:22-25:

Now that you have purified yourselves by **obeying the truth** so that you have sincere love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, **through the living and enduring word of God.** For,

“All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever.”

And **this is the word that was preached to you.**

I am profoundly grateful to God and to you all for my Church Ministry at Penrallt. I have enjoyed being part of the leadership team and am thankful for the opportunities you have given me during my time here. God has been so good in leading us and reaching people during this time. I trust it will continue. God is faithful to us. It has been a joy and a privilege to serve the Lord with you.

*Freddy*

## ***Services This Month***

Our minister, Freddy Farias-Palacios, will be the preacher at all services except where otherwise noted below. Roger Borlace and Donald Poirot are both members of Penrallt.

### **7<sup>th</sup> April**

- 10:30am **In the twinkling of an eye** *1 Thess. 4:13–18;*  
Preacher: Donald Poirot *1 Cor. 15:51,52*
- 6:00pm Communion Service  
**A Chosen People** *1 Peter 2*  
Preacher: Roger Borlace

### **14<sup>th</sup> April (Palm Sunday)**

- 10:30am **The Entry of the King** *Luke 19:28–44*
- 6:00pm **Hope in the Word of God** *Psalms 119:73–80*  
(Lessons from Psalms #23)

### **21<sup>st</sup> April (Easter Sunday)**

- 7am Cytûn Easter Service at Roman Camp, followed by breakfast at Penrallt
- 10:30am Baptismal Service *Luke 24:1–12;*  
**The Resurrection of Jesus Christ** *John 20:19–29*
- 6:00pm God's Word is Faithful** *Psalms 119:81–88*  
(Lessons from Psalms #24)

### **28<sup>th</sup> April**

- 10:30am Communion Service  
**God's Calling** *Ezekiel 1:3*

This will be Freddy's final service with us before he moves to Kent. After the service will be church lunch (brought forward from next week). ***There will be no evening service today.***

## ***Dates for Your Diary***

<b>Saturdays</b>	8:30am	Prayer meeting in the Twrgwyn Room.
<b>Monday 1</b>	7:30pm	Church members' AGM.
<b>Wednesday 3</b>	10:30am	Men's prayer meeting followed by coffee.
<b>Saturday 6</b>	3pm	Tea party for Marian's 100th Birthday.
<b>Sunday 7</b>	2:15pm	Service at Haulfre residential home in Llangoed (near Beaumaris).
<b>Thursday 11</b>	<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Monthly prayer meeting in the chapel.</b>
<b>Monday 15</b>	10:30am	Church Walk at Brynrefail (Llanberis).
<b>Friday 19</b>	11:30	Cytûn Passion Play and Walk of Witness, starting in Bus Station Garden.
<b>Tuesday 23/Thursday 25</b>		Experiencing God course continues.

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

## ***Congratulations***

Marian Massey will be 100 on April 5<sup>th</sup> and we are having a bring and share tea party in Penrallt Church Hall from 3pm on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> with all her friends to celebrate with her as she embarks on her next century. Please let Neil and Joan know if you can come.

## ***Cytûn Easter Events***

Cytûn (Churches Together in Bangor) will be meeting together for events on Good Friday (19<sup>th</sup> April) and Easter Sunday (21<sup>st</sup> April).

This year's Good Friday event will focus on a dramatic presentation of the passion narrative, taking place at several locations around Bangor. Meet at 11:30 for 11.45 in Bus Station Garden for initial service & Act 1 of Passion Play; walk to Cenotaph opposite Pontio for Act 2; then walk down High Street to Debenhams for Act 3 and final service.

On Easter Sunday we will, as usual, have a service (lasting around half an hour) at the top of Roman Camp, followed by breakfast together at Penrallt.

## ***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.*

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Group Name</b>	<b>Contacts</b>
<b>Mon</b>	7:00pm	Delta	Brian Wheatcroft (602516) Pat MacKenzie (670948)
<b>Tue</b>	10:00am	Nilgiri	Joan Beer (353874)
<b>Tue</b>	7:30pm	Tyddyn Isaf (Menai Bridge)	Magnus Forrester-Barker (717570)
<b>Wed</b>	7:30pm	Bryn Eithinog	Freddy Farias-Palacios (07506 710694)
<b>Wed</b>	7:30pm	Nomads	Pat & Roger Borlace (713146)
<b>Thu</b>	10:30am	Llanfairpwll (am)	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
<b>Thu</b>	7:30pm	Llanfairpwll (pm)	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
<b>Thu</b>	7:30pm	Ogwen Valley	Brian & Kate Wheatcroft (602516)
<b>Fri</b>	10:30am	The Lydias	Freda Birchall (371316) Lesley Jackson (680330)

## ***Children's Birthdays in April***

11<sup>th</sup>: Sam Adams            14<sup>th</sup>: Isabelle Capper  
27<sup>th</sup>: Poppy & Tess Bendall-Jones

◇ **Church Lunch**

*Sundays 7<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> April*

As usual, there will be a (free) bring and share lunch after the morning service on the first Sunday of the month. This month we will also have a church lunch on the last Sunday to celebrate Freddy's final service with us (this will be instead of a lunch on the first Sunday of May). For each of these, 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 Office**

Please note that the office will be closed between Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, as well as the Good Friday and Easter Monday bank holidays.

◇ **Church Walk**

*Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April*

This month's walk is led by Geoff and Marilyn Birch, who write:

"Part of this walk has been done before, but not all of it. Park in the road to the right of Penllyn Bridge, Lake Padarn, Brynrefail. Meet at 10:30am and bring a packed lunch. The walk will be approximately 5 miles and will be mainly on good surfaces – no fields. We will be walking along the old Caernarfon Road to Llanberis which entails a short stiff climb near the beginning, but hopefully the views will be worth it. Lunch break will be beside the lake followed by a gentle walk alongside the lake back to our cars. Caban Car Park is not available to us because of new restrictions. If anyone needs facilities, please come to our house (Ceris, Brynrefail) by 10:15am."

For more information contact Geoff and Marilyn on 01286 870944.

◇ **Monthly Prayer Meeting**

*Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April 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 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

### ◇ **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](mailto: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**

We usually visit local residential homes on the first Sunday afternoon of the month, alternating between Haulfre (in Llangoed, near Beaumaris) and Plas Garnedd (in Llanberis). The services start at 2:15pm and last roughly half an hour. This month we will be going to **Haulfre** on **6<sup>th</sup> April**.

***Deadline for next month's newsletter: Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April.***

*Please send information to Magnus ([office@penrallt.org](mailto:office@penrallt.org); 01248 353355). All notices (including alterations to standing information) should be submitted in writing (preferably by email) as early as possible.*

*Focus on...*

**Catherine & Colm Ó Brolcháin**  
**Working with OM Ireland**



Dear Penrallt,

Now we are in our eleventh year serving with Operation Mobilisation in Ireland we thought it would encourage you to review what we can see the Lord doing in this country as we look back over those years. We see Him multiplying small, vibrant communities of Jesus followers in many towns, and as a 'para-church' organisation we have many more opportunities to support these young, small churches. Annually, we train and send out 8-10 Gap year young adults in pairs or threes to 'bed in' to a church for 10 months serving as the church decides. Furthermore, we have six families settled and serving long term in six different small churches around Ireland. You can imagine we're sure, how helpful it is to Pastors and churches to have a full time family coming to serve with their own financial support and the prayers of each family's supporters for the ministry of each church.

The ministry of the Big Red Bus continues to be used by God to reach people in the towns it visits weekly, it also serves as a base for local believers to learn, practice and engage in evangelism. Colm absolutely delights in 'getting the bus out there'! He now relies almost totally on the local body of Christ to supply manpower as we have lost all our recruited potential team members due to the new Irish Visa regulations for people with non EU passports; 4 families and 2 singles.

Catherine has been particularly busy with pastoral care, needing to help some of our team with conflict issues (yes, it happens in Christian organisations too) and visiting the single girls based around Ireland on our gap year programme.

We are always delighted to visit you in the Autumn and we really appreciate the link Penrallt has established between us, the Lydia ladies and the Missions committee, we are so thankful for your prayers. Go mbeannaí Dia sibh! May God bless you all!

*Colm & Catherine*

