



# Penrallt Baptist Church

**Newsletter: November 2022**

## ***How to pray for a new prime minister...***

For some people reading this article, this title could come with an exclamation mark at the end. For others it could come with a question mark at the end. For others it will be received as a 'how to' information guide. Applying the Bible and reflecting on this, I believe that we should consider all 3 of these approaches. God is relevant to every part of our lives — including our politics. There will be a variety of political opinions — many held passionately. I hope we will all agree that we should pray.

Firstly, the exclamation mark. It's been a tumultuous time in Westminster creating a significant amount of instability. Paul writes to Timothy that we should pray for those in authority (1 Tim. 2v1-4) "that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness".

Secondly, the question mark. It's ok and good to question. In our democracy we have more opportunity to speak out than Paul and Timothy had in their times. We are not asked to pray in order to make us politically affirming, sessile and dormant. The prophets and the book of James remind us that we should challenge injustice in society and speak up for the poor and the needy. I welcome that we have our first Asian prime minister. We also have our first Hindu prime minister. We can still pray. The God of the Bible is presented as the only God and the sovereign God. God can work through individuals in authority and through governments whether they acknowledge Him as God or not. Paul and Timothy's government was not Christian when Paul wrote that they should be praying for those in authority. Either way, the government and the prime minister both need our prayers.

So how can we pray? We can pray that government and the prime minister will make good and right decisions. We can pray for wisdom. We can pray that they will remember the poor and needy in our country and overseas. We can pray

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for a continuation of freedom of Christian worship and proclamation of the Bible. We can pray that our generation of children will grow up in a culture where they can express their Christian faith and for it to be respected, valued and celebrated. We can pray that our nation will turn back towards Christian values and will turn to Jesus and his love.

The new prime minister and the whole government is going to need our prayers to direct and guide and help them. They are going to need God and the redeeming power of Jesus. For more helpful info see the Baptist Union website and the website of the evangelical alliance.

Blessings,

*John*

### ***Renew 57***

Anyone and everyone is welcome to come to Penrallt on a Thursday morning, where the Canolfan (rear hall) is open from 10:30am to 12:30pm. Bring a hobby to share with someone else, have a cup of tea or coffee and some toast and a chat. There is a separate prayer space (in a different room) available throughout this time for quiet reflection with optional opportunities to be led in short gentle contemplative prayer in the prayer space at the beginning and the end. This is a place where it is "OK not to be OK". An opportunity to give some attention to our mental and spiritual well-being. Please pray for the team. If you'd like to know more, speak to Adrienne ([adrieferrada@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:adrieferrada@hotmail.co.uk)) or Magnus ([office@penrallt.org](mailto:office@penrallt.org)) or, even better, drop in and see for yourself.



### ***Church Office***

The church administrator, Magnus, can be contacted on [office@penrallt.org](mailto:office@penrallt.org) or 07934 231788 during the church office opening hours (10am – 4pm Monday to Friday, except Bank Holidays). *NB Magnus is often working from home; office hours still apply but you are advised to check before travelling to the building.*

### **Deadline for next month's newsletter: Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

Please send information to Magnus ([office@penrallt.org](mailto:office@penrallt.org)). All items should be submitted by email as early as possible.

## ***Morning Services This Month***

Our morning services continue to be in a hybrid format, in the building and on Zoom. Please see the website for up to date information about services and a link for the Zoom meeting, as well as recordings of past sermons.

**Morning services start at 10:30am on Sundays.** Children and young people go out part way through the service for Sunday school (Primary school / up to 11) or *Deeper* (Secondary school / 11 – 17); crèche facilities are also available for younger children.

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

*Unity and maturity.*

Ephesians 4:1–10. Preacher: Mark Young.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November (Remembrance Sunday)**

*Remembrance.*

Preacher: John Thompson.

This service will include an act of remembrance at 11am.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November (Safeguarding Sunday)**

*A fond farewell.*

Acts 20:17–28. Preacher: John Thompson.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November (Advent Sunday; Communion service)**

*Advent 1: Hope.*

Preacher: Amy Turner.

Communion will be served in a Covid-safe manner to those in the building. Those on Zoom will need bread and wine (or equivalent) to fully participate.

Mark is the minister of the Lighthouse Community Church in Llandudno; John is our minister; Amy works with Gobaith Môn (the subject of last month's [Focus article](#)). The sermons on 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November are part of our ongoing series looking at the early church in Ephesus.

## ***Service Videos***

Since we started broadcasting our morning services during the covid pandemic, we have made recordings of the services available online. These have served, and continue to serve, a useful purpose but we lack the necessary resources (principally time) to produce videos of an acceptable quality to be publicly available. From mid-November the full service videos will no longer be listed on YouTube or our own website. The recordings themselves will still be available; please contact the [church office](#) if you would like a link to them. Videos of sermons will remain directly available and the services will still be broadcast on Zoom.

## ***Evening Services This Month***

Our evening services continue with a varied programme of formats.

**Evening services start at 6pm on Sunday** and take place in the chapel unless otherwise noted, usually lasting around an hour to an hour and a half. Unlike our morning services, they are not recorded or broadcast on Zoom. Also, there will not be an evening service on the first Sunday of the month; instead we continue our fellowship activities in the afternoons (including a walk at Newborough on 6<sup>th</sup> November — see next page for details).

Here is the programme for evening services in November:

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

*No service.*

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November**

Contemporary worship service led by James Goodman.

### **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

Prayer meeting led by Ama Eyo, on the theme of finding rest in the Lord (Matthew 11:28). We invite everyone to come and rest in the Lord by casting their cares on him in prayer.

### **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

A service of Thanksgiving and Remembering, led by John Thompson. This is an opportunity to come together before our God remembering and giving thanks for people who were close to us who have died. There will be tea and coffee and mince pies after the service.

James and Ama are both deacons; John is our minister.

### ◇ **Alpha Away Day**

Our Alpha course continues on Wednesday evenings and we are looking forward to an away day at Princes Drive Baptist Church in Colwyn Bay on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November. Please pray for the guests and team as they prepare for this.

### ◇ **Baptist Leaders' Fellowship**

The Baptist Leaders Fellowship is meeting on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November in Old Colwyn Baptist Church. Refreshments available from 10am for a 10:30 start. Trevor Casey, the Baptist Minister at Rhyl is sharing about their Foodbank and how they are seeking to serve the community. This is aimed at anyone who is helping or leading in any area of church life. All are welcome to come.

## ◇ **Fellowship Walk: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

After the morning service we will have a walk from the main car park at Newborough Forest/Beach to Llanddwyn Island. Meet at 1:30pm for a picnic on the benches in the car park before starting the walk itself. All are welcome. Parents, please note that you are responsible for your own children, especially in or near the water.

## ◇ **Foodbanks**

Bangor Cathedral Foodbank is open 2 – 3pm every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, operating from Tŷ Deiniol (the Diocesan Centre) next to Bangor Cathedral. They are able to give people up to two emergency food parcels without a referral from another service. To find out more please visit [www.bangorfoodbank.org](http://www.bangorfoodbank.org)

Mosaic church also have a Foodbank at Coed Mawr Community Centre, which is open 9:30 – 11 on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings. Contact Christine King on 07734 667011.

## ◇ **Giving**

We take up an offering during our morning services. There is also a donations box at the back of the chapel which you can use if you would like to give financially towards the work of Penrallt, our mission partners and other projects we support. To explore other ways of giving, please speak to Averil ([treasurer@penrallt.org](mailto:treasurer@penrallt.org)) who will be able to advise.

## ◇ **Hardship Fund**

The church has a small fund to help people in need. If you find yourself in financial difficulty or know someone else that is struggling, please speak with Sarah Jackson ([sarah.jackson.home@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.jackson.home@gmail.com)) or John Thompson ([minister@penrallt.org](mailto:minister@penrallt.org)) in confidence. If you are in a position to add to the hardship fund, please speak to Averil Francis ([treasurer@penrallt.org](mailto:treasurer@penrallt.org)).

## ◇ **Homegroups / Contact, Care & Prayer**

We encourage you to join one of our homegroups if you are not already in one, as they are invaluable in helping us to deepen our relationship with the Lord and with one another. There are groups on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings and on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Most groups meet weekly, though some are fortnightly and we have groups meeting in person and groups meeting online (or a combination of the two).

We also have "contact, care and prayer" to enable people to stay connected even if they are not in a homegroup. This is where a member of the pastoral care team would contact you every 3 weeks or-so to ask how you are and if you'd like to receive prayer support. Please contact the [church office](#) if you are not part of contact, care & prayer or part of a homegroup and would like to be.

## ◇ **Kindle Kid's Club**

Starting in mid-November, Kindle is a (free) fortnightly kids' club on Fridays from 6 to 7pm. All primary aged children are welcome and there is a space for parents to stay and chat over a period while the club is on. Dates before Christmas are **18<sup>th</sup> November, 2<sup>nd</sup> December** and **16<sup>th</sup> December**. For more information, contact Becca ([youth@penrallt.org](mailto:youth@penrallt.org)).

## ◇ **Men's Fellowship**

Our men's fellowship group usually meet on the first Monday evening of the month. We will be meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> November at 6:30pm in Canolfan Penrallt for food, games and chat. All men are welcome. Please contact Magnus ([office@penrallt.org](mailto:office@penrallt.org)) if you would like to join the mailing list for future events.

## ◇ **Open The Book**

Cytûn have an *Open the Book* team that goes into Ysgol Hirael to deliver dramatized Bible Stories. Open the Book is an initiative by the Bible Society and is a fun and effective way to have a Christian presence in assemblies at primary schools, especially as it has been agreed by educational authorities. This is also a great way for Penrallt to continue our links at Hirael. Please speak to Magnus ([office@penrallt.org](mailto:office@penrallt.org)), who is a member of the team, if you are interested.

## ◇ **Penrallt on Facebook and YouTube**

We have three Facebook groups:

- *Penrallt* ([www.facebook.com/groups/2402772192](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2402772192))  
a general group for information and social interaction
- *Penrallt Prayer Point* ([www.facebook.com/groups/30262793231755](https://www.facebook.com/groups/30262793231755))  
a private group (as defined by Facebook, i.e. request to join) specifically to share prayer requests and encouragements
- *Penrallt Students* ([www.facebook.com/groups/195300234272943](https://www.facebook.com/groups/195300234272943))

We also have a YouTube channel and a Facebook page (both called *Penrallt Baptist Church*), as well as another Facebook page for our young people:

[www.youtube.com/@penralltbaptistchurch](https://www.youtube.com/@penralltbaptistchurch)

[www.facebook.com/penralltbc](https://www.facebook.com/penralltbc)

[www.facebook.com/penralltyouth](https://www.facebook.com/penralltyouth)

## ◇ **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: Magnus Forrester-Barker (07890 109645); Geoff Moore (01248 410582); Monica Morris (07827 472637), Abi Penney (01766 890624); John Thompson (07931 150697). Please pray for the team.

## ◇ **Prayer Resources**

Send prayer requests, thanksgivings and testimonies to our email prayer diary via [office@penrallt.org](mailto:office@penrallt.org) — use this address, too, to subscribe to the prayer diary, which goes out every week (usually on Mondays). There are also prayer cards in the church porch that you can use to submit items for the prayer diary.

We also have a more interactive Facebook prayer group (*Penrallt Prayer Point*: [www.facebook.com/groups/30262793231755](https://www.facebook.com/groups/30262793231755)). To pray with others, you are welcome to join our weekly Zoom prayer meetings on **Wednesdays at 11:30am** and on **Saturdays at 8:30am**; please contact the church office if you need the connection details for either meeting (also listed at the bottom of our email prayer diary each week). Our monthly prayer meeting takes place in the church building, usually on the third Sunday of the month at 6pm as part of our evening service structure (see *Evening Services*, above, for details).

## ◇ **Soul Sisters (Women's Fellowship)**

Our next meeting is on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 10:30 in the Canolfan, when we will be showing a short film. A warm welcome is extended to all women, including family and friends. We look forward to seeing you there.

## ◇ **Students**

We love to welcome students as part of our church family. If you would like to know more about what activities are available, or if you just want a friendly chat, our student co-ordinator, Becca ([students@penrallt.org](mailto:students@penrallt.org)) would love to hear from you. Also, don't miss our student Facebook group: *Penrallt Students* ([www.facebook.com/groups/195300234272943](https://www.facebook.com/groups/195300234272943))

## ◇ **Tearfund Big Quiz**

Penrallt is joining hundreds of Churches and thousands of people for ONE BIG QUIZ, raising funds to transform the lives of people living in poverty. More details in our Focus article on the next page.

## ◇ **University Remembrance Service**

John will be leading a 15 minute remembrance service on 11<sup>th</sup> November in the inner enclosed courtyard of the university Main Arts building at 10:50am.

## ◇ **Youth: Ignite and Deeper**

Our main youth activities are a Thursday night group called *Ignite* (usually meeting in the Canolfan at 7pm) and a Sunday morning group, *Deeper* (during our morning services). Ignite is open to all, and is a social evening with games and activities. Deeper provides opportunity to find out more about the Christian faith. Find out more on our youth website, [www.penrallyouth.org](http://www.penrallyouth.org), as well as our *Penrallt Youth Facebook page* and *Instagram group*. Contact our youth worker, Becca ([youth@penrallt.org](mailto:youth@penrallt.org)), for more information.

*Focus on...*

# tearfund

## **Tearfund Big Quiz** **A cause for fun — fun for a cause**



Penrallt is excited to be joining other Churches across the country in hosting the Tearfund Big Quiz Night 2022. The Quiz will be held in the rear hall on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm; admission £3 including refreshments.

See this short Big Quiz Night promo: <https://vimeo.com/752620097/301217158b>

Who will be the Mastermind or take home the wooden spoon???

There will be eight rounds with various questions and themes. Please save the date and start chatting to your Church family and friends about putting together teams — solo or smaller numbers are welcome.

Every pound we raise will help empower people to lift themselves out of poverty. Tearfund works in more than 50 countries around the World, working through local partners to help individuals, families and whole communities reach their God-given potential.

If you are unable to attend and would like to donate to this worthy cause, please visit our Just Giving Page: [www.justgiving.com/Averil-Francis1](http://www.justgiving.com/Averil-Francis1)

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Averil Francis via email ([treasurer@penrallt.org](mailto:treasurer@penrallt.org)).