

Penrallt Baptist Church

Newsletter for October 2011

I expect we all enjoy the "where were you when you heard?" kind of reminiscing. It all seems to have kicked off with the assassination of John Kennedy. The speed with which the news and images flashed around the world was something new to us all. It has been followed by the twin towers of 9/11 and other lesser, but memorable events that are forever highlighted in our cerebral memory banks. One that sticks out in my mind was the tragic death of Ayrton Senna one Sunday lunchtime at the Monza circuit in Italy. I had led morning worship at the new church that Susan and I were planting on a housing estate on the periphery of a city called Cuiabá in Brazil. We had intended to relax over an enjoyable lunch with church members as guests in their house. A rare cool breeze had blown up from Argentina, ameliorating the temperature from the usual 39 degrees in the shade to a very pleasant 26. But the television was on. Our attention was held prisoner by the scenes of the crash and its aftermath. Senna was a national hero in Brazil, an eloquent, passionate ambassador for his country. He was a man concerned (ironically) for the safety of his fellow professional drivers, but he also expressed a concern for the plight of the poor in Brazil, a concern stimulated by his Christian Faith. It all came back to me recently when an outstanding documentary film about him was launched in the UK, a film which my children enjoyed but which, inevitably, failed to make it up the A55 to Llandudno Junction. One day it may be on the tv.

There is one deep sadness which always fills me when I think of Ayrton Senna and it is this: he dreamed of using his wealth and fame to establish a foundation dedicated to the poor in Brazil. He dreamed, but he never got around to doing it. He did many other decent and valuable deeds, but the one big dream remained on the back burner until his death. The lesson is obvious. To me it resonates strongly at this time of year when I am inviting people to come and share their Tuesday evenings with us on the Alpha course. Encountering God is the Big One. It is the heart of our existence, the ground of our being, the reason to live. Getting our spiritual life sorted out should take precedence over our bank account, our choice of friends, our profession or our golf swing. But do you know what? People leave it until later. Each day we walk outside of God's will we are losing out on what he has planned for us, but we still put it off until another time.

Please, a thousand times please, don't put off doing Alpha until next year. God wants to meet you in a richer, deeper way now.

God bless,
Peter

Students

We welcome all students to Penrallt. Please make sure you pick up a welcome pack from the porch. Danielle Fifield is our student coordinator for this year and we encourage you to say "Hi" to her and find out what is happening in our church over the coming months.

SERVICES IN OCTOBER

October 2

10.30am ***The supremacy of Christ the Saviour*** *Colossians 1:15-23*
2.15pm Service in Bontnewydd
6.00pm Communion Service ***Temptation*** *Matthew 4:1-11*

October 9

10.30am Harvest Sunday Service coordinated by Sarah Jackson
6.00pm ***Preaching*** *Matthew 4:12-25*

October 16

10.30am ***The servant of the Lord*** *Colossians 1:24 – 2:5*
6.00pm ***A Vale of Soul Making*** *Matthew 5:1-16*

October 23

10.30am Geoff Birch ***Our life in Christ affects our life.*** *Colossians 2:6-23*
6.00pm Roger Borlace ***"But I tell you..."*** *Matthew 5:17-48*

October 30

10.30am Communion Service ***Hearts and minds in focus*** *Colossians 3 v 1-17*
6.00pm ***Ethical Living*** *Matthew 6:1-18*

Our Preaching Team for October:

Peter Cousins is the minister. *Geoff Birch* and *Roger Borlace* are retired ministers, members of Penrallt. *Dr Sarah Jackson* is an Assistant Registrar at the University.

Faith Café

After church on Sunday evening we host Faith Café for students and young adults. Starting around 7.15pm it is an evening of chat, interviews, music and discussions.

CHURCH LUNCH

We will host a church lunch on **Sunday October 2nd**. Please bring enough buffet style "finger food" for yourselves and one or two others.

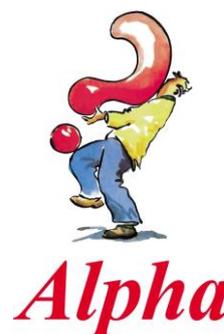
SPECIAL DATES IN OCTOBER

Saturday 1		Sussex Street Baptist Church, Rhyl. North Wales English Baptist Union meeting. Business session 11-12:30; Devotional session 2-4pm.
Monday 3	7.30pm	Church Members' Meeting
Wednesday 5	10.30am.	Men's Prayer Meeting.
Friday 14	6.00pm	First J.A.M. session.
Monday 17	7.30pm	Missions Group
Tuesday 18	10.30am	Penrallt Walking Group
Wednesday 26	7.30pm	Youth Committee meeting at Penrallt
Thursday 27	7.30pm	Sanctuary (in the chapel)
Monday 31	6 —7 pm	Light Party

Alpha Course

The new Alpha Course starts on Tuesday 27th September at 7pm with a Celebration Supper, especially to show what Alpha is all about. It is a great opportunity to find out more about Alpha before the course proper starts the following week, again at 7pm, on Tuesday 4th October.

The course runs until 13th December, and each session starts with a free two-course meal plus tea/coffee, followed by a talk on a question such as Who is Jesus?, Why did he die?, Why and how do you pray?, How can I have faith? and many more questions. Then everyone breaks into small groups when there is an opportunity to chat about the talk and raise any questions you may have. We finish promptly at 9:30pm.



NEWS OF PEOPLE

A lot is still going on with our church folk and the hospital. **Mark Young** is undergoing chemotherapy at Ysbyty Gwynedd. He thanks everyone for their prayers and support. Visiting is restricted because of the risk of infection so we are not able to visit him without checking first. For offers of help or information phone our contact link with the family, Billy Elliott on 01248 372568.

Joan Mason is waiting for further surgery. **Megi Elliot** had her tonsils out, and is now fully recovered. We will be sorry to lose **Jenny and Bob Powley** who are moving to Leeds to be nearer their son and family.

Our condolences to **Elaine Peart** on the death of her mother in Cardiff.

Student Coordinator

We welcome **Danielle Fifield** back to Bangor to do her Master's degree. She is going to be working with Penrallt as our Student Coordinator this year.

Children's Birthdays in October

23rd: Scott Jones; **26th**: Hannah Howick; **31st**: Catrin Gwilliam

WEEKDAYS

Please check with the contact people when there are meetings this month.

HG = Home Group

Day	Time	Details	Contacts
Tue	8.00pm	HG, Nilgiri	Joan Beer (353874)
Tue	7.30pm	HG, Tyddyn Isaf, Menai Bridge	Magnus Forrester-Barker (07890 109645)
Wed	10.30am	Men's Prayer Meeting	Peter Cousins (353878)
Wed	2.00pm	Carers' Home Group	Carol Morris (716953)
Wed	7.30pm	HG, The Nomads	Jess & Seamus Adams (421185) Susan Cousins (353878)
Wed	7.30pm	HG, Bethesda	Jon & Deb Stammers (602868)
Wed	8.00pm	HG, Grŵp Cymraeg	Owen & Nia Lloyd Evans (352634)
Thu	10.30am - noon	HG, 76, Ffordd Cynan	Jenny Powley (364292)
Thu	10.30am	Post-Alpha Bible Study	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
Thu	7.30pm	HG, Llanfairpwll	Sue & Lawrence Moss (713793)
Thu	7.30pm	HG, Bangor	Ciara Ní Bhrolcháin (07900 220496)
Thu	7.45pm	HG, Lon-y-Deri	Gill Goodman (355256) Billy Elliott (372568)
Fri	10.30am - noon	Cheeky Monkeys	Joan Rymer (713003)
Sat	8.30am	Prayer Meeting	

NOTICEBOARD

- ***Men's Prayer Meeting Wednesday 5 October 10.30am***
The men will meet for prayer as usual, followed by coffee in Options.
- ***Home Group Wednesdays 7.30pm***
Jon and Deb Stammers have restarted a home group on Wednesdays at their home in Bethesda. If you're interested in joining, please contact them on jon.stammers@gmail.com or 01248 602868.
- ***Walking Group Tuesday 18 October 10.30am***
Meet in Cemaes Bay in the main car park, which is just behind the High Street. Turn left (if facing the sea) along Maes Cynfor and then right onto Victoria Road and the car park is on your left. The walk, approximately 5 miles long with an ascent of 250-300m, is along a picturesque part of the Coastal path, past Llanbadrig Church and on to Porth Llanlleiana and Porth

Wen with their industrial relics, eventually returning to Cemaes via an inland path. All welcome. Please contact Ian and Mari Kelso for more details, 01248 421783.

- ***Clothes Swap*** ***Saturday 22 October*** ***1.00-5.00pm***
After the success of the last Clothes Swap, Jane Hodgson is arranging another one, and hopes that as many people as possible will come along. Proceeds will go to Women's Aid. For more details, contact Jane on janephodgson@hotmail.co.uk or 07900 570317.
- ***Autumn Fair*** ***Saturday November 19th*** ***10.30am—2pm***
As usual, proceeds will be split between Hull Youth for Christ (Hemburys) and Tearfund. Please contact Jan Jones or Mari Kelso if you would like to help in any way.
- ***Community Groups***
Our Community Groups are back. Apart from the Belly Dancing group, all others are running. You can learn Welsh on Mondays and Thursdays (1pm), go to the Art Class on Mondays at 3pm, join Bangor Community Choir on Wednesdays at 7.30pm, or the Scottish Country Dancing group at 7pm on Thursdays. Bring a toddler to Cheeky Monkeys on Friday mornings at 10.30am.
- ***Facebook***
Yes, Penrallt is up and running on Facebook. We have 97 friends already, so why not join in? Many thanks to Matt and David for their work in setting up the page.
- ***Bangor Carnival***
We are looking for volunteers to help organise attractions and stewards for June 2012 carnival. Please talk to Anne or Bryan Collis to find out more.
- ***Homeless in Bangor***
We do not recommend giving money to the homeless. Instead, £5 in one of the brown envelopes from the table in the porch of the church (placed in the offering) will buy a hot meal for them through the St. Mary's Hostel scheme. So far Penrallt has contributed £2550 to the fund.
- ***The Prayer Room...***
...is open before and after the service for quiet prayer. Penrallt is a place of prayer, so make use of this sacred space.
- ***Pray for Penrallt Every Day***
Sign up to receive our prayer diary by e-mail every Monday morning by sending your request to: office@penrallt.org.
If you have some subject for prayer, either send it in by e-mail, or fill in one of the pink cards, which are available in the porch, and place it in the visitors' cards box or give it to Peter or Magnus.

➤ **Pastoral Help**

If you have pastoral concerns please contact Peter or else one of the other members of the Pastoral Care team:

Geoff Birch 01286 870944 Pat Borlace 713146, Eunice Smith 713296,
Judy Stammers 364394 Geoff Moore 410582 Jenny Powley 364292

Deadline for next month's newsletter Sunday 23 October
Please send information to Gwyneth
(gwyneth@brindley-wales.com or 352682)

FOCUS ON...

BMS World Mission

Tim & Rosi Deller

servicing in Brazil since 1991



Tim & Rosi have been living in Dourados in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul in south west Brazil, with sons Rodrigo and Richard since January 2007. Tim and Rosi have been working on the Itamarati settlement for the landless. It is the largest Agrarian Reform Project in South America with over 4,000 families, some

26,000 people spread over what was one farm of 50,000 hectares.

The recent focus has been on bringing a strong, thriving, worshipping community into being. The challenge of working for increase in numbers of worshipping members, putting at least minimal structures into place, instilling commitment to the expansion of the Kingdom and preparing the ground for a future handover to another pastoral team has not been easy.

During 2011, it was felt right to concentrate on worship and outreach to children. The gift of a portable PA system has added something to worship and has been a means of outreach and evangelism. The use of sound and images is being explored to the full by the worship team and has been the tool for conversion

and one youngster has come to Christ because of the music ministry. As a church community there was a decision to invest in the youngest of the settlement as they realised the need to reach the children as early as possible with the transforming message of Christ. In addition, they trained half a dozen of the youngsters to evangelise through sporting activities

Tim and Rosi's time in Dourados and working on the settlement is coming to a conclusion at the end of the year. After a period of home assignment in UK they will be moving on to new pastures with BMS. In the meantime, they are working to tie up loose ends. They are preparing the way for transition which means housing for who comes after them, and a salary etc. Please pray for the Dellers, the church on the settlement and BMS during this period of change.

The **Harvest Service** on Sunday 9th October will focus of the work of BMS World Mission in Peru and there will be an opportunity to donate to the Harvest Appeal.