

# INFORM



**URC**  
**VAN ROAD**  
**CAERPHELLY**  
**July | August 2018**

## **CHURCH OFFICERS**

### **Church Secretary**

Mrs Margaret Craig

Tel: 02920 867487

E-mail: [Margaret\\_craig@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Margaret_craig@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Church Treasurer**

Mr Rob Moverley

Tel: 02920 866336

E-mail: [rob@moverleys.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:rob@moverleys.fsnet.co.uk)

### **Pulpit Secretary**

Ms Lynda Jones

Tel: 02920 884022

E-mail: [Lynda.jones@58g.com](mailto:Lynda.jones@58g.com)

## From Our Minister . . .

The National Health Service is 70 years old, come 5<sup>th</sup> July 2018. The NHS is held in great affection by most people, though the service has been under pressure in recent years. The heart of our health service is that it is open to all, regardless of ability to pay for treatment. Though again, there have been fences put up lately against 'health tourism'.

The principle of an open and inclusive health service seems to me to chime in harmony with the way of living together we see in the scriptures. In the Hebrew Bible, which we usually call the Old Testament, (and not the bits which seem to approve of mass slaughter of enemies), the foreigner and the poor are to be treated with honour and respect and care. In the Christian books of the Bible which we call New Testament, we see Jesus giving healing of body, mind and soul, to all kinds of people. Jesus did not discriminate or turn people away because they spoke the wrong language, worshipped the wrong way, or belonged to the wrong ethnic group. The grace of God encompasses all.

There are celebrations of the NHS happening. One of these is a walk organised by St David's Uniting Church, Pontypridd, from Rhyl to the Senedd in Cardiff. (I'm planning to join the walk from Knighton to Merthyr with Milo my dog.) The walk is called 'God Bless the NHS' and will be visiting various hospitals *en route*. There are cards which will be available to churches, on which messages of thanks and support can be written, and these will be delivered to the Welsh Government when the walk ends on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July. You are also welcome to join the last leg from Cardiff to the Senedd which will leave from the Aneurin Bevan statue in Queen Street, around 11am. This will be a demonstration of gratitude, support and confidence in the NHS, here in Wales and in the United Kingdom.

We live in times where the basics of the original NHS have been transformed by technology and sophisticated and continuing advances in medicine. It is costly. But we still spend less than many developed nations on our health. And health encompasses all aspects of life. The old saying 'Mens sana in corpore sano' ('a healthy mind in a healthy body') reminds us that body soul and spirit are interconnected and nor separate. So now is a time to celebrate the legacy of the NHS, but also ensure that health of body, mind and soul, is a priority for future generations as well.

Happy birthday NHS and many happy returns!

SPI

## A Summer Hymn

**Summer suns are glowing over land and sea,  
Happy light is flowing, bountiful and free,  
Everything rejoices in the mellow rays,  
All earth's thousand voices swell the psalm of praise.**

**Wishing everyone a great summer,**

**Diane.**

An Elder writes ...

At the beginning of June, Diane and I were privileged to be part of the celebrations organised by the Union of Welsh Independent Churches (UWI) to commemorate the landing of the 2 Welsh Missionaries, David Jones and Thomas Bevan (together with their families) 200 years ago this year. The celebrations took place in and around Aberaeron in Ceredigion, as it was in this area that they grew up, felt the call to be missionaries and were subsequently ordained in Capel Neuadd-lwyd about 3 miles outside Aberaeron. Their story, along with other Welsh missionaries to Madagascar, is a remarkable one.

As they were growing up, the young David Jones and Thomas Bevan came under the influence of Revd David Philips. David Philips ran an 'academy' where he taught about the gospel and allowed those within his influence to explore their own calling. His teaching methods encouraged his pupils to teach others what they had learnt.

David Philips was aware of, and concerned about the poverty that existed throughout the world in the early 19th century, and particularly in Madagascar. Unable to respond to this need himself due to his age and health, he challenged his pupils, and David Jones and Thomas Bevan (at the age of 16) responded to this challenge by offering themselves as missionaries to go to Madagascar. They trained at the London Missionary Society college in Gosport and in 1817 were ordained on the fields outside Neuadd-lwyd in front of a congregation that was estimated to be 5000 strong.

In February 1818 they travelled with their wives and daughters to Madagascar via Mauritius. The journey to

Mauritius took 4 months. After an initial visit to introduce himself to the King, Radama<sup>1</sup>, David Jones and Thomas Bevan returned with their families in September 1818. All 6 contracted malaria and only David Jones survived. Within 2 months of arriving he was left on his own.

Despite this setback, David Jones gave himself to educational and religious work among the Malagasy population, opening a number of schools. He settled at Antananarivo (the capital city) in 1820. By 1828, there were 37 schools, 44 teachers, and 2,309 students. A "Malagasy Schooling Society" was established and King Radama 1 took great personal interest in it. In consultation with the king, Jones devised an orthographic system for the Malagasy language.

David Jones was joined by another Welsh Missioner, David Griffiths from Capel Gwynfe in Camarthenshire. Griffiths had also come under the influence of David Philips and been trained at the academy near Neuadd-lwyd. In conjunction with David Griffiths, Jones translated the Bible into Malagasy. With the help of David Johns (another Welsh Missioner), he also published a spelling book, a catechism and a hymnary.

Following the king's death, Christianity in Madagascar was banned in 1835, with some Christians being martyred. Jones returned to Mauritius, which he used as a base for evangelisation. Suffering from malaria, he died there in 1841.

David Griffiths returned to the UK and wrote the book 'Hanes Madagaskar' in Welsh (translated as the History of Madagascar). This book was translated into Malagasy to coincide with the celebrations by our friend Miara



Rabearisoa (a Malagasy volunteer at Llanfair, Penrhys) a copy of which was presented to all the Malagasy visitors who came to Wales for the celebrations.

So this weekend of celebrations was an opportunity to remember some remarkable people. But it also gave us the chance to reflect on some challenging questions. How do we go about sharing the good news? What is our response when faced with set backs? How much do we know about key people in Welsh history who set such wonderful examples? What is our response to such a story today?

Madagascar is one of the poorest countries in the world. As part of celebrating the links between Wales and Madagascar, the Union of Welsh Independents have established an appeal to support a number of projects, one of which is a Children's Home whose director, Hanta was one of the early volunteers from Madagascar to Llanfair Church in Penrhys. You can find out more about the appeal on the UWI's website.

Rob Moverley



Ny Ako were part of the celebrations in Aberaeron

## Together In Prayer

Please pray for ...

### July

1st Pontprennau Local Ecumenical Partnership, Cardiff and Horeb United Reformed Church, Builth Wells

*Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay*

8th New Bethel URC, Pontllanfraith and Aberedw URC, Builth Wells

*Bolivia, Chile and Peru*

15th Sardis Community Chapel, Ynysddu and Bryn Zion URC, Builth Wells

*Colombia, Ecuador and Venezuela*

22nd Cwmbran URC and Salem URC, Maesmynis

*Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama*

29th Ebenezer URC and Pontypool Bridgend United Church

*Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico*

## Together In Prayer

Please pray for ...

### August

5th Central Church, Maesteg

*The Caribbean*

12th Barry Uniting Church and  
Christchurch, Ogmores Vale

*Canada and USA*

19th City URC, Cardiff and Trinity URC /  
Methodist Church, Porthcawl

*Aotearoa/New Zealand and Australia*

26th Christchurch Methodist/ URC, Cardiff and  
Abergavenny URC

*Pray for Oceania*

MESSAGE SEEN ON A T SHIRT .....

**JESUS LOVES YOU!**  
**(BUT I 'M HIS FAVOURITE!)**

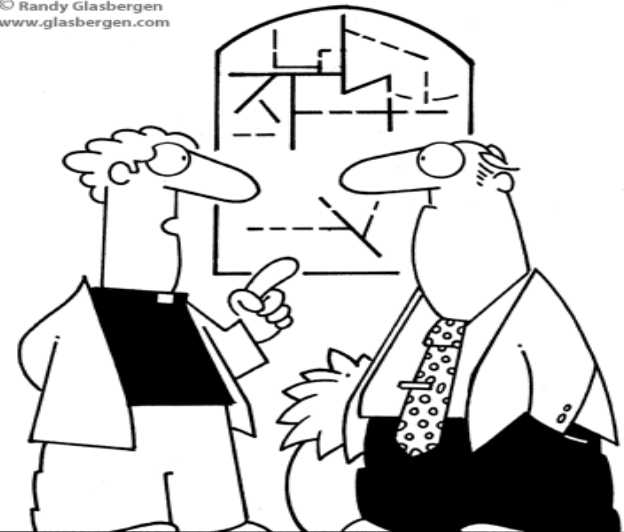
## Daily Devotions

If you enjoy receiving the Devotions why not tell your friends about them ?

***Every morning the United Reformed Church sends out a Daily Devotion consisting of a reading, short reflection and prayer to around 2,000 people. The reflections are written by a range of people from different places and perspectives - mainly from the URC. If you'd like to read old Devotions or sign up to receive them each morning please go to [devotions.urc.org.uk](http://devotions.urc.org.uk)***

It is also possible to have a group of devotions printed. If you need a copy of a booklet (we have recently looked at Joseph and Paul's letter to the Galatians and are currently exploring the book of Ruth, please let Diane or Rob know.

© Randy Glasbergen  
www.glasbergen.com



**“Give a man a fish and he'll eat for a day.  
Teach a man to fish and you can sell  
him all of your old gear on eBay!”**

**FLOWERS AND HERBS**

N	I	R	E	D	N	A	I	R	O	C	S
M	A	I	L	L	I	W	T	E	E	W	S
I	E	Y	E	L	S	R	A	P	T	V	P
N	F	D	O	V	X	P	F	O	H	C	I
T	X	R	I	C	O	L	P	P	Y	R	Y
W	D	O	M	A	I	L	Y	P	M	E	R
M	L	X	A	C	H	I	G	Y	E	W	A
A	O	X	R	I	L	L	O	X	R	O	M
P	G	S	O	N	I	A	V	C	O	L	E
A	I	A	S	O	S	C	W	S	G	F	S
N	R	G	E	R	A	N	I	U	M	N	O
S	A	E	Y	E	B	D	A	C	L	U	R
Y	M	L	A	V	E	N	D	E	R	S	Y

LAVENDER VERONICA SUNFLOWER MINT  
 FOXGLOVE GERANIUM LILAC BASIL  
 SWEETWILLIAM ROSEMARY PARSLEY ROSE  
 POPPY THYME CORIANDER VIOLA SAGE  
 PANSY

**Worship**

**JULY**

1st 10.30a.m. Mr Richard and Mrs Sarah Edwards

SAT 7th, 6pm. Rev Stephen Lewis

SUN 8th, No Service—Velathon

15th 10.30a.m. Rev Stephen Lewis  
Communion

22nd, 10.30a.m. TBA

29th, 10.30a.m. Mr Clive Maslen

**AUGUST**

5th, 10.30a.m. Rev Stephen Lewis  
Communion

12th, 10.30a.m. TBA

19th, 10.30a.m. Mrs Mair Wade

26th, 10.30a.m. Lynda and Margaret

**Mid-week Communion**

Wed 11th July ,10.30a.m.

Wed 10th August, 10.30am

Rev Stephen Lewis

## Diary Dates

### July

Sun 1st, 2pm	Young Stars Concert
Wed 4th, 10.30am	Coffee with Enfys
Thurs 5th, 1pm	Baritone Recital-Matthew Tilley
Fri 6th, 2pm	Ecumenical Prayer Meeting
Thurs 12th, 10.30am	Fellowship and Bible Study
Sat 14th, 7pm	David Hawthorn Memorial Concert with the Noteworthy Choir
Wed 18th, 1pm	Nigel Jones - Clarinet Recital with accompanist, Ceri Gifford-Berry.
Thurs 26th, 10.30am	Fellowship and Bible Study

### August

Wed 1st, 10.30am	Coffee with Enfys
Wed 8th, 4pm	Summertime Recital and Strawberry Tea With Dan Phelps, pianist and Kate Fox, cellist.



## Rotas for July

### Stewards

Phyllis Frayling  
Cathy Vernalls

### Communion

Emma Fitzgerald  
Margaret Craig

## Rotas for August

### Stewards

Hilary Ackerman  
Steve Ackerman

### Communion

Cathy Vernalls  
Lynda Jones

**If unable to steward or serve**

**Please ask ANOTHER to cover**

**CHRISTIAN AID**

**MANY THANKS!**

**Total church collection**

**£791.31 (includes £232.09 from church collection.)**

**Total Caerphilly Collection**

**£2040.76**

**Slightly up on last year.**

**FLOWERS**

**July**

- 1
- 8 Velathon
- 15 Van-Guard
- 22 Carol Jones
- 29 Carolyn Jenkins

**August**

- 5 Jan Holdsworth
- 12
- 19 Cathy Vernalls
- 26

Many thanks to all who donate flowers for worship



**YOUNG WIVES PROGRAMME**

**July**

- 2nd Coffee and Company
- 9th Coffee and Company
- 16th Last Meeting

**Autumn**

**September 10th—Business and Biscuits**



**We hold in our prayers -**

**Bill and Jean Mutter**

**Tony Moore**

**Phyllis Colwell**

**Barbara Lloyd**

**Our friends in Hope and Market Square**



**NY AKO!**

**Thankyou if you were able to come along to see these talented performers. It was a wonderful, vibrant performance as expected and we were all impressed by the group's commitment and energy. It was a joyful, uplifting performance.**

**FLOWER FESTIVAL**

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed in any way to the Flower Festival.





## Lectionary Readings



### July

- 1st** 2 Samuel:1:1, 17-27; Psalm130;  
Lamentations 3:22-33; 2 Corinthians 8:7-15;  
Mark 5:21-43
- 8th** 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10; Psalm 48;  
2 Corinthians 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13
- 15th** 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Psalm 24;  
Ephesians 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29
- 22nd** 2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37;  
Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
- 29th** 2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians  
3:14-21; John 6:1-21

### August

- 5th** 2 Samuel 11:26-!2:13a; Psalm 51:1-12;  
Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35
- 12th** 2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Psalm130;  
Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51
- 19th** 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14; Psalm 111;  
Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58
- 26th** 1 Kings 8:1-11, 22-30, 41-43; Psalm84;  
Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

## The VAN-guard Centre

Charity Registration number 1109193

July-August 2018

### News from groups.

We regret to announce that the Samba Band has ended its time at VAN-guard. One of our longest serving groups of 13/14 years they have decided to disband. They have met less frequently of late due to other commitments of their leader Mark O'Connor and the numbers attending has dropped. We are pleased that Mark's drumming career has become very successful and he performs widely across the U.K. and abroad. We are grateful for the friendship and loyalty of the Band Members and remember their many years of participation in pageants in Caerphilly and through the county borough often in very inclement weather. We wish Mark, Chris and the other band members well in the future.

A few groups will continue to meet throughout the holiday period viz the Art Group on Thursdays and Goldies on the second Monday of the month. All other groups will return at various times during September.

**The GAVO ONE BEAT on SATURDAY morning 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE in the Caerphilly Library.** Both VAN-guard and the Church participated in the event and it gave us the opportunity to share with local people what we do. It is also a useful time for us to meet other groups who are also working for the local community.



## Calendar of future events in 2018

**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July at 2.00 p.m.**

### **'Young Stars Perform'**

Angharad and David extend an Invitation to Church and VAN-guard members for this performance by their young students for their families and friends. It is always a great joy to see young singing talent and we have had the privilege of watching many of their predecessors achieving considerable success as soloists.

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 1.00 p.m.**

### **Matthew Tilley - Baritone Recital. Tickets £5.00**

This is a welcome return by Matthew, who has been performing abroad. This versatile, young, local baritone, who comes from Tretomas, performs a variety of music for all to appreciate. His easy relaxed manner always makes for a most enjoyable event. An experienced performer, Matthew is a former student of the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and recipient of the Laura Ashley Scholarship. He has sung with Welsh National Opera and acted as a Vocal Coach with the Musical Youth Theatre Wales. Come along and share in a pleasant hour with us followed by light refreshments. If you missed his earlier recital in March then here is an opportunity to hear this versatile young singer.

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 1.00 p.m. Tickets £5.00**

### **Nigel Jones - Clarinet Recital with accompanist, Ceri Gifford-Berry.**

Well known in music circles and also as the founder of the Caerphilly Community Chorus, Nigel returns as a Clarinetist. He has been spending his retirement indulging his love of

music and playing the clarinet. This will be Nigel's first recital for us. His accompanist, Ceri is well known as the accompanist of the Community Chorus. This will be the first recital they have given at VAN-guard Centre despite their long association with it. We welcome them both for this lunch time concert which is bound to be first class.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August at 4.00 p.m. Tickets £6.50**

### **A Summertime Recital and a Strawberry Tea.**

#### **With Dan Phelps, pianist and Kate Fox, cellist.**

We are delighted that Dan Phelps is returning for this summertime special. On this occasion he will again present some compositions from his albums, 'Pathways', 'Shadows' and 'Reflections', but will also be joined by Cellist Kate Fox for some of his compositions. BBC Radio Wales has described Dan's music as "expansive and beautiful". We shall follow the recital with a summertime tea of strawberries and cream and of course cake plus a free raffle. Do come along and join us for our first teatime concert.

**Please confirm if you plan to attend as it will assist with catering numbers.**

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00 p.m. Tickets £15 each**

### **GALA CONCERT with the NOTEWORTHY CHOIR**

This is the second **DAVID HAWTHORN MEMORIAL CONCERT** and will again be in aid of charity. The performers are **The NOTEWORTHY CHOIR** from Maesteg. David saw them perform here on their first visit some many years ago. The choir now has a prestigious reputation and is in great demand. It's Musical Director, Ryan Wood is well known here for his superb accompaniment for 'Cantare' and

other performers. The choir's accompanist is Mr. Stewart Roberts, Musical Director of Pendyrus Male Voice Choir. The host for the evening is David Fortey, known to us all as a performer himself, and a VAN-guard trustee. The ticket price includes light refreshments at the end of the performance. The chosen charity this year is very local, The Tommy Cooper Society's Defibrillator Campaign. Please support this event as we have already experienced the Society's generosity. Reserve your tickets with Mair to avoid disappointment.

**Notice of autumn events 2018 - fuller details will follow in the September INFORM.**

**Wednesday 19th September at 1.00p.m.**

**Recital by Conal Bembridge- Sayers, piano and Grant Jameson - euphonium**

Conal is a most talented pianist and is currently employed at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and is well known in music circles throughout the U.K. Grant will be making his first visit to us but his CV is outstanding. He is currently being tutored at the RWCMD by the world famous euphonium player David Childs.

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30 p.m.**

**A evening with Lee David Bowen, Heldentenor; Angharad Watkeys, soprano; Richard Lee Thomas, tenor and Nicola Rose, accompanist.**

This will be treat in store. The soloists are all new to us but we know of them and their experience in the music world. Nikki Rose has become a frequent performer here herself. She excels in her field as pianist and accompanist and also works at RWCMD.

**Caerphilly Community Chorus - Christmas Concert.**

An opportunity to experience the joy of Christmas with VAN-guard's resident Choir.

**N.B. Other concerts, with some of our regular performers and very good friends, are being considered for the autumn and Christmas period as well as the Annual Arts and Crafts Exhibition in November.**

Mair

**Fellowship and Bible Study**

**July and August arrangements.**

**Change of weeks.** We will meet on the second and fourth weeks of July i.e. on Thursdays 12<sup>th</sup> July and Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30 a.m.

**There will be no meetings during August,** but we will resume in September on the Thursdays of the first and third weeks as usual.

*Phyllis and Mair.*

## CHURCH ELDERS

Mrs Enfys Hawthorn	02920 866840
Mr Lewis Lewis-Head	02920 889958
Mrs Emma Fitzgerald	02920 821525
Ms Lynda Jones	02920 884022
Mrs Diane Moverley	02920 866336
Mr Robert Moverley	02920 866336
Mrs Cathy Vernalls	02920 887112
Mrs Phyllis Frayling	02920 862285

Any items for the next edition should be  
submitted by the 19th of the month

to

Mrs Diane Moverley

[diane@moverleys.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:diane@moverleys.fsnet.co.uk)

(or if not on e mail then items can be left  
in the box at the back of the sanctuary)



***Praise God from whom all blessings  
flow.***