

Alternate Fridays @ 7pm
Speak to Raf for further details
(see p4 for dates)



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JANUARY 2012 ISSUE 53

Lliswerry Baptist

"Come, you thankful people, come"

Here I am on Christmas Eve writing this letter for the New Year edition of the church newsletter and I've got a Harvest hymn in mind. You might be tempted to think that I've lost the seasonal plot!



But there is method in my madness. And you'll find it in the verses which provide our motto text for this year, Col. 3:15-17.

The motto text itself says:

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Those are three great 'punch-lines' but each of them is only the first part of a verse. If you look at the three verses in full you will find that they all have a thought in common: "be thankful" (v15), "with gratitude" (v16), "giving thanks to God the Father" (v17).

Thanksgiving is at the heart of joyful Christian living. The key to living out each part of our motto text this year is to have a thankful heart. In a world of economic uncertainty and anxiety we have a God who provides us with all that we will need and who calls us to respond to that with gladness and thanksgiving.

As we face the future with that confidence we also do well to look back and reflect on all the many blessings which God has already given us. Luke's gospel tells of an occasion when Jesus healed ten people of leprosy, but only one of them came back to thank him! (17:11-19).

Let's not make the same mistake. Let gratitude – not grumbling – be the hallmark of our lives this year. "Come, you thankful people, come."

Your friend and pastor
Geoff

Choir Practices

Recommence on Sunday 15th January at 5.30 pm

Old and new members very welcome

see Kath Tully if you require further details



Churches Together AGAPE meal

19th January, 7.00pm at Lliswerry Baptist Church

This year we are hosting this meal and devotional evening together.

Please do come if you can.

If you plan to come please let Geoff know, so that we have an idea of the numbers to cater for.

There is no charge for the meal, but there'll be a basket for donations to cover the costs, with the surplus going to Newport Street Pastors.

SOUPA SUNDAY!

On Sunday 29th January 2012 we are having a fellowship lunch after the morning service. So forget the cooking and washing-up and join us for a light lunch of soup and a roll. A warm welcome to all.

For further details, please see Ruth Reid.

New Christianity Explored Course

Saturday mornings 9.00 - 10.30am

Beginning 4th February, for 7 weeks

Start with a light breakfast

All welcome – bring a friend

Course run by Geoff 34 Traston Ave, NP19 4TE



News From Uganda

November & December have been a busy time interspersed with special days and amazing scenery. We drove down to Kasese (far west of Uganda, about 6 hours drive from Kampala).

As we approach Kasese we drink in the views over tea plantations and plains, through forests – a family of baboons playing beside the road. We look up and see hills and mountains and always quote Psalm 121, the sight never ceases to make our hearts soar. We are very blessed to have BMS colleagues living in Kasese and so are able to stay in their home.

This trip to Kasese was to support some work Bethan & Gareth are doing. Gareth has been involved in setting up a small skills centre to train dressmakers and carpenters, Bethan has been involved in setting up a daycare to provide for the youngest children whilst their parents are training. Our task was to train the staff in the daycare. We did a three day workshop leading discussions & activities helping the three staff to better understand play, development, managing behaviour, safety, hygiene, organisation and safeguarding. Together we wrote cleaning routines, safety checks, daily plans and expectations for staff, children & parents. Everything was translated by a local pastor – he took such a full part in the training that we decided to give him a certificate on completion as well! It was an intense training course but even with the language limitations we were able to laugh together and encourage the staff in their roles. We relaxed by looking up at those hills and watching the kingfishers darting around the garden.



Back in Kampala we had a very important event to attend – Pauline's graduation at the YWCA. It was a wonderful celebration of achievement, caps and gowns, huge floral displays, ribbons and photographers as well as a fashion show and cultural dancers.

Early December was the BUU AGM – long days and lots of work, it was lovely to realise how many pastors we knew this year having travelled during the last 12 months. For a few days all the BMS Uganda people including the Action Team, were in the same town, so on Saturday we celebrated by having a great fun day out together in Entebbe. As well as Pauline's Graduation, we've been to a wedding, an ordination and a dedication in the last couple of weeks – we are grateful for opportunities to celebrate and socialise as part of our local community.

Every blessing

Deb & Dug



Date: Saturday 25 February 2012

Time: 6-9.30

Where: At the church

Refreshments provided.

Who's invited?

This is a community outreach event, part-funded by a generous grant from Newport City Council. It is open to people of all ages from the church and local community and is free of charge. It doesn't matter if you can't join in the dancing, it will still be fun to watch. Come and bring friends and family with you.

Words of Wisdom!

- ◆ A friend is someone who reaches for your hand, but touches your heart.
- ◆ All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- ◆ Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.
- ◆ Asked to write a composition entitled, "What I'm thankful for at Christmas," little Johnny wrote, "I'm thankful that I'm not a turkey."
- ◆ Because of God's grace, failure is never final.
- ◆ Careful...If you set your expectations too high, you could miss the glory staring you in the face.
- ◆ Children are God's little "spies" and our little mirrors.
- ◆ Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect.
- ◆ Holding a grudge is letting someone live rent-free in your head.

Sunday Services

Jan	Morning Service	Evening Service
8	Real Worship (Rom.12:1-2)	How to Live in Harmony (Col.3:15)
15	Real Unity (Rom.12:3-5)	How to Grow in your Faith (Col.3:16)
22	Real Ministry (Rom.12:6-8)	How to do Everything for Jesus (Col.3:17)
29	Real Vitality (Rom.12:9-12)	Baptism service

The speaker at each service will be our pastor, Geoff Bland, unless stated otherwise.

YOUTH WEEKEND
@ HEBRON HALL
DINAS POWYS

Hebron Hall is a Christian Centre in Dinas Powys.
 (near Cardiff)
 En-suite accommodation, all meals provided

Facilities include :- Indoor Swimming Pool / Football /
 Basket ball / Table Tennis / Snooker and lots more
 A deposit of £10 is required asap
 Friday 3rd - Sunday 5th February
 See Raf for further details and a booking form.



SAFE

(Saturday Afternoon Fellowship for Everyone)
 Come to hear a group from the Salvation Army who will be singing
 & share fellowship around a cup of tea
 3pm January 28th
 see David & Joyce Woolley for further details

January 2012



Llswerry Baptist Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>8</p> <p>10.45am Morning Service & Bible Club</p> <p>6.30pm Evening Service</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7pm Deacons Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9.15am Parents & Toddlers</p> <p>7.30pm House Groups</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9.30 - 11.30 Coffee Drop-In Camperdown House</p> <p>10.am Bible Fellowship</p> <p>2.30 pm Ladies' & Men's Meetings</p> <p>6.30pm Xalt</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9.15am Parents & Toddlers</p> <p>7.00pm Youth Band Practice</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7.30pm JFC Youth Group</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>10.45am Morning Service inc Communion & Bible Club</p> <p>5.30 Choir practice</p> <p>6.30pm Evening Service</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7am Early morning Prayer</p> <p>9.15am Parents & Toddlers</p> <p>7.30pm School of Prayer.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9.30 - 11.30 Coffee Drop-In Camperdown House</p> <p>10.am Bible Fellowship</p> <p>2.30 pm Ladies' & Men's Meetings</p> <p>6.30pm Xalt</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9.15am Parents & Toddlers</p> <p>7.00pm Agape Meal</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7pm Frimellows Youth Group</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10.45am Morning Service & Bible Club</p> <p>5.30 Choir practice</p> <p>6.30pm Evening Service</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9.15am Parents & Toddlers</p> <p>7.30pm Church Meeting.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9.30 - 11.30 Coffee Drop-In Camperdown House</p> <p>10.am Bible Fellowship</p> <p>2.30 pm Ladies' & Men's Meetings</p> <p>6.30pm Xalt</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9.15am Parents & Toddlers</p> <p>7.00pm Youth Band Practice</p> <p>7.30pm Ladies Meeting</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7.30pm JFC Youth Group</p>	<p>28</p> <p>3pm SAFE Meeting Inc the Salvation Army singing group.</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10.45am Morning Service & Bible Club</p> <p>Soupa Sunday - Church Lunch following the morning service</p> <p>5.30 Choir practice</p> <p>6.30pm Baptism Service</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>7am Early morning Prayer</p> <p>9.15am Parents & Toddlers</p> <p>7.30pm School of Prayer.</p>	<p>1/2</p> <p>9.30 - 11.30 Coffee Drop-In Camperdown House</p> <p>10.am Bible Fellowship</p> <p>2.30 pm Ladies' & Men's Meetings</p> <p>6.30pm Xalt</p>	<p>2/2</p> <p>9.15am Parents & Toddlers</p> <p>7.00pm Youth Band Practice Camperdown House</p>	<p>3/2</p> <p>Hebron Hall Youth Weekend</p>	<p>4/2</p> <p>Hebron Hall Youth Weekend</p>