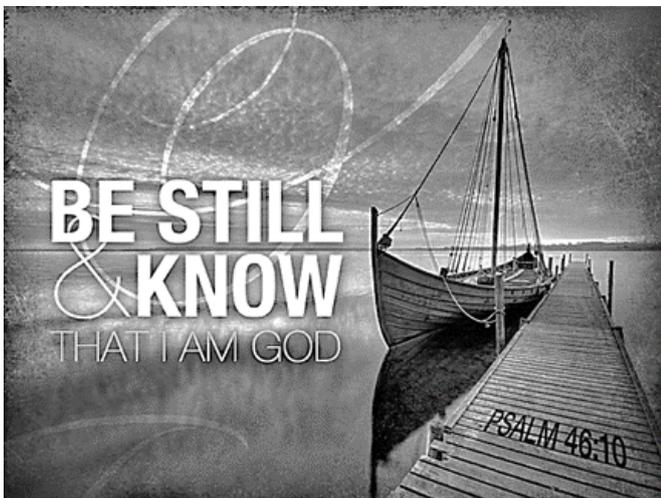


All Saints, Deganwy • St Cystennin's, Mochdre • St David's, Penrhyn Bay
St Doged's, Llanddoged • St Ffraid's, Glan Conwy • St Grwst's, Llanrwst
St Hilary's, Llanrhos • St Katherine's, Bryn Pydew • St Martin's, Eglwysbach
St Michael's, Llandudno Junction • St Paul's, Craig-y-Don

"Gwnewch y pethau bychain - Do the little things"

Divine Inspiration



The book of Psalms is the largest book in the Bible. It is most quoted book of the Old Testament and Psalms appear many times in the New Testament Gospels and letters. The Psalms are important to both Christians and Jews and are some of the most read literature in the world.

At the Mission Area Advent Quiet Day, we explored the special place that the Psalms have in our own spiritual life. Everyone had a story to tell. A particular Psalm or even just one verse seems to be lodged in people's memory banks, to come out in moments of grief, stress or joy.

I can remember attending a service in a remote Cumbrian church. Outside the scenery was wonderful, but inside the church it was cold and damp. The church and the books we were using in the service smelt musty. There was green mould creeping up the walls. The person

taking the service was less than inspiring and it would have been easy just to switch off and give up. However, the East window was just plain glass, looking out onto the picturesque fellside. The sun was casting long shadows and it was amazingly beautiful. Written about the window was a quote from one of the Psalms. Psalm 95 "let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and show ourselves glad in him with Psalms."

I wasn't there to pass judgement on my surroundings in this dilapidated church or criticise the person taking the service. I was there to give thanks to the ever-present God and praise him in Psalms. This realisation transformed the whole experience and taught me a lesson in humility.

From the Psalms we can learn that faith is a living relationship with God, that also expresses our relationship with the world and each other.

So, what is your favourite Psalm and why is it the one you cherish? In our hectic world the one that keeps coming back to me is part of a verse from Psalm 46. "Be still and know that I am God." I am sure that it will serve me well in 2019.

May God bless you in the new Year ahead. 2019 beckons!



REGULAR SERVICES IN OUR CHURCHES - ALL WELCOME

1st Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** St David's and St Hilary's
 9.30 am **Holy Eucharist** St Michael's and St Martin's; **Morning Worship** St Cystennin's;
 9.45 am **Choral Eucharist** St Paul's
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints, and St David's; **Family Service** St Hilary's; **Morning Worship** St Katherine's
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **(Holy Eucharist)** St Grwst's
 6.30 pm **Evening Prayer** St Hilary's

2nd Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St David's
 9.30 am **Holy Eucharist** St Cystennin's, St Michael's and St Martin's; **Boreol Weddi** St Grwst's
 9.45 am **Choral Eucharist** St Paul's
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints, St David's, St Hilary's and St Katherine's
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's; **Family Service** St Paul's
 6.30 pm **Evening Prayer** St Hilary's

3rd Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St David's
 9.30 am **Holy Eucharist** St Michael's and St Martin's; **Morning Worship** St Cystennin's
 9.45 am **Choral Eucharist** St Paul's
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St Hilary's; **Morning Worship** St Katherine's; **Family Service** St David's
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's
 6.30 pm **Cymun Bendigaid** St Hilary's

4th Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St David's
 9.30 am **Holy Eucharist** St Cystennin's and St Martin's; **All-age worship** St Michael's; **Boreol Weddi** St Grwst's
 9.45 am **Choral Eucharist** St Paul's
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** St David's, St Hilary's and St Katherine's; **All-age worship** All Saints
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's
 6.30 pm **Evening Prayer** St Hilary's

5th Sunday of the month

8 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints and St David's
 9.30 am **Holy Eucharist** St Michael's and St Martin's
 9.45 am **Choral Eucharist** St Paul's
 11 am **Holy Eucharist** All Saints; **Morning Prayer** St Hilary's
 11.15 am **Holy Eucharist** St Ffraid's
 4 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Grwst's
 6.30 pm **Holy Eucharist** St Hilary's

On the 5th Sunday St Cystennin's and St Katherine's hold a joint service at 10.30 am alternating between the two churches, and the 11 am service on a 5th Sunday may vary at **St David's**—see **calendar opposite**

HOLY EUCHARIST also on **Wednesdays 10 am** - All Saints, **Thursdays 10.30 am** - St Paul's, **Fridays 10 am** - St David's

Join us for coffee - 10 am Thursday - St Paul's and St Ffraid's; 10.30 am Friday - St David's

Storytime Café - for pre-school children and their carers, 10.30 am every Wednesday - St Paul's

Prayer Group - 10 am every Tuesday - St David's (01492 876451 for details)

Koinonia Groups (Bible study, prayer & discussion): **Morning** - 2nd and 4th Weds, 10.30 am (01492 876451 for details)

Evening - 1st and 3rd Thurs, 8 pm (01492 583420 for details)

St Katherine's Bible Study - 7.45 pm every Monday (01492 540542 for details)

Julian Group - 8.00 pm every Monday - St Michael's (except Bank Holidays) Contact 01492 585063 for more information

CAMEO (Come And Meet Each Other) Lunches - every 1st Wednesday - 12.15 pm in St Katherine's, Bryn Pydew

CLERGY:	Rev Noel Carter (Mission Area Leader) 01492 339521 Rev Dr Godfrey Chigumira 01492 543706 Rev Juliet Fraser 01492 596655 Rev Sarah Hildreth-Osborn 01492 640032 Rev Peter Walker 01492 583579	(For other contact details and online addresses - please see inside back cover)
OFFICE:	Penrhyn Beach East, Llandudno, LL30 3NT - 01492 541615 - office@aberconwy.church	

Mis Rhagfyr 2018 - CALENDAR - December 2018

		Services	Other events
Wednesday	2	HE 10 am AS	PARISH OFFICE RE-OPENS
Thursday	3	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	4	HE 10 am St D	
Saturday	5		
THE EPIPHANY	6	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE -	
Monday	7		MAGAZINE COPY DATE Dementia Café 10.30-12.30 pm AS
Tuesday	8		Cuppa, crafts & chat 2.30 pm Llanrhos Schoolroom; Bible Briefs 7.30 pm, 8 Llys Helig
Wednesday	9	HE 10 am AS	Storytime Café - 10.30 am St P
Thursday	10	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	11	HE 10 am St D;	
Saturday	12		
SUNDAY	13	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE Also: Holy Baptism 12.30 pm St H; Christingle Service 4 pm St P	
Monday	14		St P Mothers' Union 2.30 pm
Tuesday	15	Open Table Service 7 pm St G	2.30 pm St Hilary's Fellowship AGM, Llanrhos Schoolroom AS Mothers' Union 2.30 pm
Wednesday	16	HE 10 am AS	Storytime Café - 10.30 am St P
Thursday	17	HE 10.30 am St P	
Friday	18	HE 10 am St D; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins 10.30 Coptic Church	
Saturday	19	11 am WPCU HE Holy Trinity	Prayer Breakfast, 9 am St P
SUNDAY	20	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE - Also: Holy Baptism 12.30 pm St H;	
Monday	21	WPCU service 10.30 am St David's Methodist, Craig-y-Don	
Tuesday	22	WPCU service 10.30 am AS	Cuppa, crafts & chat 2.30 pm Llanrhos Schoolroom
Wednesday	23	HE 10 am AS; Cytun President's Service 10.30 am Our Lady Star of the Sea,	Storytime Café - 10.30 am St P
Thursday	24	HE 10.30 am St P WPCU service 7 pm The Lighthouse	
Friday	25	HE 10 am St D WPCU service 10.30 am Cape Seilo	
Saturday	26	Holocaust Memorial prayer vigil 2-6 pm Holy Trinity	
SUNDAY	27	SEE OPPOSITE PAGE - Also: Holy Baptism 12.30 pm St H;	
Monday	28		
Tuesday	29		AS Mothers' Union 2.30 pm
Wednesday	30	HE 10 am AS; Praying for Growth 2-4 pm St D	Storytime Café - 10.30 am St P
Thursday	31	HE 10.30 am St P	

KEY: HE - Holy Eucharist; AS – All Saints; St C – St Cystennin's; St D - St David's; St Do - St Doged's; St Ff - St Ffraid's; St G - St Grwst's; St H - St Hilary's; St K – St Katherine's; St M – St Michael's; St Ma - St Martin's; St P – St Paul's

What is going on in the Mission Area?



Bible Briefs

The next meeting of Bible Briefs will be on **Tuesday 8th January**, 7.30 pm at 8 Llys Helyg, Deganwy. We kick off the New Year by looking at the power of stories in the New Testament.



Meets at 9 am in St Paul's Craig-y-Don on **Saturday 19th January**. Come and join in this time of fellowship and prayer.

Holocaust Memorial Prayer Vigil

Saturday 26th January

2-6 pm

Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno

Praying for Growth

The next Open Church for praying for growth will be at St David's Church in Penrhyn Bay on **Wednesday 30th January** between 2 pm and 4 pm. If you can't be there, please use this prayer when ever you pray.

Prayer for Growth

God of Mission
who alone brings growth to your Church,
send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our
planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
and Power to our witness.
Help our church to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you,
and in service to our local community,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Also please pray for Benjamin Owen, Esme Beardmore and Hudon Donnie Jones, to be welcomed into the church by baptism during January.

Please also try to join our fellow Christians in Llandudno and take part in some of the services for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**, as listed below.

Llandudno CYTŪN

CHRISTIAN UNITY WEEK PROGRAMME 2019

Fri 18 th Jan	10.30 am	Egyptian Coptic Church, Trinity Avenue, Llandudno LL30 2SJ
Sat 19 th Jan	11 am	Holy Communion at Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Square, Llandudno, LL30 2PY
Sun 20th Jan		Preaching on Christian Unity in own churches
Mon 21 st Jan	10.30 am	St. David's Methodist Church, Mostyn Avenue, Craig-y-Don, Llandudno LL30 1YY
Tue 22nd Jan	10.30 am	All Saints Church, All Saints Avenue, Deganwy LL31 9DZ
Wed 23 rd Jan	10.30 am	President's Service, Our Lady Star of the Sea, St. Mary's Ave, Llandudno LL30 2YA
Thu 24 th Jan	7 pm	Lighthouse Community, Great Ormes Rd, Llandudno LL30 2BY
Fri 25 th Jan	10.30 am	Seilo Welsh Chapels, Arfon Avenue, Llandudno LL30 2DY



Pictured left:
St Paul's is booked for almost three weeks solid for school Christmas productions each December. The large size of the church makes it ideal to accommodate large numbers of children and parents. Here, Ysgol Bodafon take to the stage.

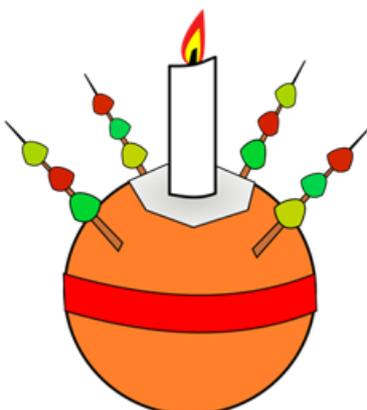
Mission Area Christingle Service

There will be a Christingle service in St Paul's Church Craig-y-Don at 4 pm on **Sunday 13th January**.

Christingle service are held in churches, usually between Advent and Candlemas. It is an excellent opportunity for people of all ages to join in, using oranges to create visible symbols of the Christian message.

Christingle has its origins in a Moravian children's service held in a German castle on Christmas Eve in 1747. The bishop leading the service gave each child a lighted candle, tied with a red ribbon, in memory of the Saviour's coming which he said kindled a flame in each heart which keeps burning "to His joy, and our happiness".

Much later, this simple candle was replaced by a more elaborate Christingle which is rich in symbolism. Why not come along and find out more?



DEGANWY DEMENTIA CAFÉ

All Saints Church, Deganwy, 10.30 - 12.30 pm on the first Monday of each month - next meeting **7th January**. **Open to all** and especially those who are living with Dementia, their carers, loved ones and friends. Entry and refreshments are free of charge to all.

(See also details of Dementia Film Screenings at Theatr Colwyn - see page 13)

AFTERNOON TEA

There will not be a Community Afternoon tea at St David's Penrhyn Bay in January, but teas will resume on the 1st Thursday of every month from February.

Cancer Support Group

This meets in All Saints, Deganwy, on the 1st Friday of every month 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Run with the support of Macmillan Cancer Support it is open to everyone, from those who are living with cancer, to family and friends and anybody who feels they would benefit from this group.

LLANDUDNO AND DISTRICT PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP

Alison and John Underwood write:

Within our Mission Area, St Michael and All Angels Church in Llandudno Junction hosts the weekly meeting of this group - part of the wider charity Parkinson's UK. We are a small group providing information, support, therapeutic and social activities for our members. We are aware that we do not reach all local people affected by Parkinson's and as part of our awareness and fundraising activity we have been one of the charities in the Asda (Llandudno) green token scheme.

Please consider supporting us each time you shop in Asda and if you know of anyone affected by Parkinson's we meet most Monday afternoons at St Michael's. For more information phone Alison or John Underwood on 01492 533459.



DRAMA!

The Mission Area is planning on forming a Drama Group to present "short playlets" for inclusion at special services. If you feel this is your forte, and wish to "release the inner thespian", please contact either Don or Ann Milne on 01492 876996 for further information



Celebrate Epiphany By Helping Homeless People

Chris Dearden writes:

St Paul's Church in Craig-y-Don recently started working with Soup and Sox, a support organisation for homeless people. Volunteers from Soup and Sox go out in a van to deliver hot meals to people sleeping rough, or vulnerably housed, in Llandudno and Colwyn Bay. From mid-December, cooking the meals has been done in the church hall kitchen at St Paul's.

Soup and Sox need herbs and spices to help in food preparation. Since Epiphany is when the magi brought exotic goods from the land of spices, we thought we'd ask people to do the same..... though it's fine to pick them up from the supermarket if you haven't got time to pop over to Persia ant in the next few weeks!

You can leave them at the back of St Paul's Church at any stage until late January, or contact Chris Dearden to arrange a collection:

07941 946525 or

wardens@stpaulsllandudno.co.uk

We're looking for donations of:

Cumin Cinnamon
Coriander Curry powder
Mixed herbs
Nice salt and black pepper
Paprika Thyme
Vegetable oil



Pictured left:

Congratulations to all the staff and pupils of Ysgol Deganwy for a wonderful Carol Service held in All Saints Church Deganwy - it was lovely to see the church so full.



THE MOTHERS' UNION

The Mothers' Union theme for 2019 is '**Listen, observe, act - in step with God**'.

All Saints Deganwy Branch

Our last two meetings of this year were very interesting and enjoyable ones. In each case all the members joined in with their poems, readings and memories. The range of poems was very varied from 'Home thoughts from Abroad', seasons of the year, romantic ones and funny ones about growing old. At the second meeting we had readings about Christmas including events told by soldiers from the first and second world wars at Christmas time. Members spoke about treasured items including a beautiful carved nativity. We had a fun quiz finding carol titles and writing a short story using the first lines of various carols. Tea, mince pies and sweets followed and lots of chatter.

Before the fun started we were all surprised to get a visit from Santa Claus. He came to deliver a belated birthday gift to our leader who suffered from shock but soon recovered thankfully. Santa only stayed for a short time - well, it was a very busy time of year for him!

The corporate communion will be on **2nd January** (10 am), which will be a good start to the New Year. We meet again on **15th January** in Bethel Chapel Hall for our Opening Service at 2.30 pm and then the AGM on **29th January**. Looking forward to seeing everyone then. Meanwhile we send our love and prayers to all those who are housebound and we wish everyone a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

LADY DAY

The Feast of the Annunciation will be celebrated with a **Diocesan Festival Service** at St Asaph Cathedral on **Monday 25th March** at 2 pm. Clergy and non members welcome.



Left:
The unexpected guest at All Saints Mothers' Union takes a few moments for a welcome break from his busy schedule.

St Paul's Branch, Craig-y-Don

Alice Wild writes:

The End of an Era - It is with great sadness that at the end of December St Paul's Church Mothers' Union Branch ceased to be. We were unable to appoint a Secretary and Treasurer, and without them our Branch cannot run efficiently. It is sad because we have just celebrated 90 years of membership. The Branch at St Paul's have worked endlessly for the Church and Mothers' Union over the years, the list goes on and on (if anyone would like to know I can tell you but only for 55 years!). Looking on the bright side, the fellowship of the Branch will not be lost, as we voted for the fellowship to continue but in a different format. On **Monday 14th January** at 2.30 pm in the Church Hall we will meet to discuss this new venture. All will be welcome. Later we hope to have a Thanksgiving Service for MU and Dedication of the new fellowship.

At our Advent meeting we not only heard about Mary's "yes" to God at the Annunciation but were encouraged to think about the role of the many older people who were called by God in the Christmas story, and to see that God may be calling us to work for him - as and how we can - in a new and different way. If we are brave enough this can be a beginning, not an end. Will we accept God's call to us, however unwilling we may be? Will we be prepared to undertake the journey that call will take us on, wherever it may lead? Have we the courage to say our 'yes' to God?

News from Ysgol Bodafon

Sian Jenkinson writes:

Another year has come to an end and Ysgol Bodafon had lots of activities – a wonderful Christmas Concert depicting the First Christmas was hosted in St Paul's church (see picture on page 5) with mulled wine and mince pies to round off the evening, which was a great success. As usual, with Christmas lunches, visits to the panto and all the festive activities, it has been a busy time for staff and children alike.

The school has also been very proactive this last term in supporting local charities which include Hope Restored and the local food banks, with children and staff bringing in food to support this worthy cause. The school council also decide that they wanted to do more, so all children were asked if they would donate some of their toys or games to be passed on to other children in the local area - this demonstrates great generosity of spirit, and was also a way for the children to think about showing compassion, which is a theme they have considered this term with Revd Mike Harrison.

Talking of the school council, I visited a meeting in December along with Chris Dearden (Church Warden of St Paul's) in my capacity as a member of the Christian Ethos Group; being a Church in Wales School Bodafon has the opportunity to forge strong links with the local church, as well as thinking about ways in which we can encourage the children - and their parents – to think about their own faith in a meaningful way. We had a few ideas to share with the school council which has children from 5 years upwards representing the breadth of the school ages, who represent the pupil voice and are the links to each of the school years.

Firstly, the New Year will see the school host a Christingle Service on Sunday January 13th at 4 pm in St Paul's Church in Craig Y Don. The school council all agreed it would be an event that would need some publicity, so the children have taken the role on of making the fliers. Part of the activity includes encouraging family



members to come up and join in making the Christingles on Friday 11th January between 1:30 – 3 pm, when the school hall will be turned into a production unit of Christingles, so every child gets the chance to take part. It was lovely to see so that so many of the children were already

familiar with Christingle and what it means; we also spotted several very talented artists and note takers on the council, so there is no doubt that the service and all the preparation involved will be a success.

Another plan was also hatched around the idea of prayer boxes – each class will make its own prayer box, and children will be encouraged to write and post their prayers. The idea is that these can be included in the weekly assembly led by Revd Harrison, but also, the prayers will find their way to the family services at St Paul's – so don't be surprised if the intercessions in 2019 feature some prayer requests from our children!

The term has not been without its challenges – the school was shut for 2 days when the heating failed, so this is an area that needs addressing as a priority by the Head Teacher and his governors and staff – please pray for wisdom and financial favour to get this sorted properly for the school.

So, our prayer points for this season:

For all staff and children to be refreshed after the busy Christmas season and to be recharged over the holiday;

For the Christingle to be an opportunity for families to come together and be a time for contemplating our own faith and relationship with Jesus;

For issues such as heating, and other structural challenges to be resolved with minimal disruption to the school;

For the children on the school council to make wise decisions that bless those in the school and the surrounding area -we give thanks for their generous and compassionate hearts in giving to those less fortunate than themselves.

Blwyddyn Newydd Dda / Happy New Year from
Ysgol Bodafon!

News from the Mission Area



St Michael and All Angels, Llandudno Junction

St Michael's Fellowship had a wonderful evening in November when Betty Raggett gave a talk and demonstration on flower arranging. (see picture above). Her displays became raffle prizes and one became a talking point as it took a special position next to the Pebble Pool.

St Hilary's, Llanrhos

Christmas came early for the congregation of St Hilary's as they celebrated with a wonderful Christmas lunch, the ambience was festive and jovial, as can be seen in the pictures below. The cuisine was excellent Christmas fare and even Christmas crackers were included which got everyone into the party spirit! A definite future date for your diary in 2019.



St Paul's, Craig-y-Don

Chris Dearden and Philip Evans write:

It's January, which is often time to collapse into a heap after the exertions of Christmas (organising church things, rather than any excesses of eating and drinking). It's also the time when you realise that your reward for doing all those things is to do them again all over again.

So, back to work: we'll be keeping the Christmas season alive in January with a Christingle Family Service on **Sunday 13th January** at 4 pm. Developing links with families is likely to be a priority for us in 2019, as the Family Service once a month is still not particularly well attended. As Revd Noel once said: "we need to go fishing" and make more links with parents and children in our community and try and attract them to come and see what we do at St Paul's. The first challenge is to work out how to do that and the second is how to put it into practice.

Other items on the agenda for January will be to look at the state of the church hall. We'll need to have a meeting in the early part of the new year to start making some decisions as there are leaks in the roof and some alarmingly damp and



Above: Work has been taking place on the car park surface at St Paul's which had become very uneven near the entrance gates. A more even ramp has now been laid in concrete; in the long term, the whole area needs resurfacing, money permitting.

squidgy bits of wall and floor. The first step probably needs to be getting a full survey done on the building to look at how long it can last for and how much it might cost to repair.



St Paul's is next to the sea, and gets a battering from the weather each winter. A recent storm destroyed a publicity banner outside the church (above) and left birds covering in the architecture for shelter (below)



St Cystennin's, Mochdre

**BIRD FOOD
NEEDED!**



Please donate to help us feed the birds in the churchyard over winter.

E-mail office@aberconwy.church for contact details.

Local Matters



Conwy Food Bank

Feeding local people in crisis
www.conwyfoodbank.co.uk

Dear Supporters

Everyone at the Food Bank is very grateful for your continued support in providing food parcels for people living in crisis.

In November there were 97 referrals, the 2nd highest ever, with the monthly moving average rising again. 35 parcels were issued to families, involving 76 children, 56 single parcels and 6 to couples.

This can be a desperate time of year for people struggling to feed themselves. Every donation makes a difference to someone's life,

You can now support Conwy Food Bank on the following link:

<http://hopegiver.org.uk/product/hopegiver-conwy-food-bank-432/> If you follow the link, it explains how your donations will go specifically towards supporting Conwy Food Bank!

Dementia Film Screening at Theatr Colwyn

Thursday 17th January
2 pm "Carousel"

Thursday 7th February
2 pm "West Side Story"

These are screenings for people with dementia, memory loss and their family, friends and carers but are open to the general public - £4.50 carers go free. The screenings have a relaxed atmosphere so that people are welcome to move around and come and go as they please. Each screening includes an interval with live entertainment, provided by and in partnership with Welsh National Opera and supported by Canu Conwy, the Conwy County Borough Council staff choir.

**Please contact us in advance if you are a wheelchair user and wish to attend as there is limited availability of wheelchair spaces: 01492 577888.*

Rhyl Music Club

Mary Hofman violin
Richard Ormrod piano



BEETHOVEN
yngh Nghymru • in Wales

7.30pm **Wednesday 9 January**

Rhyl Town Hall. Tickets on-line or at the door £12, accompanied under 16s free

Details on rhylmusic.com



Ellis Thomas
piano recital



7.30pm **Wednesday 28 January**

Reg charity no. 501671



A Oes Heddwch? Is there Peace?

The work of Christmas
begins....
To rebuild the nations
To bring peace among the
people...
(see page 10)

As we face an uncertain 2019, where 'rebuilding of nations and the bringing of peace among the people' seems to be very much under threat, it is interesting to hear of a recent meeting between Conwy Council representatives and Conwy County Peace group members.

North Wales has a long history of campaigning for Peace. Notable Welsh campaigners for Peace include Henry Richard, Gwynfor Evans, Lewis Valentine and John Bright. In the 1920's following the First World War North Wales women inspired and led the Peace marches to Westminster. Further back in history Aberconwy was the scene of violent conflict between English invaders and Welsh citizens. The renowned castle serves as a reminder of this and a reminder that ultimately conflict can only be resolved by peaceful means.

The meeting was arranged to establish regular events on World Peace Day, 21st September. This is already acknowledged informally by the council cabinet and a message has been sent to all schools in Conwy, encouraging them to have an assembly or other event to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Ysgol Creuddyn and some other schools will take up this appeal.

It is hoped that the raising of the UN flag will be an annual event from now on. The annual Peace Message of the Eisteddfod perhaps needs more of a profile, as it has lost significance over the years. It may be possible to appoint a Peace Champion to co-ordinate council activities, be a

contact point for peace organisations and the council, and encourage introduction of Peace education within schools. (There is some concern about the role the army plays in recruiting in schools and their regular presence there to display their career options for young people, although schools are self-managing and cannot be told not to do this.) The council could be encouraged to decrease the influence of violent games and involvement of the military in youth organisations. A Peace Champion would not mean that an Armed Forces Champion is superfluous or contradictory, as the AFC's main task will be to support the vulnerable people who come out of the army, the reality of mental health, alcoholism, homelessness etc in veterans must be acknowledged and alleviated.

Look out for further developments, and information about World Peace Day in September.

Afterthought

Tidying out a collection of school assemblies, Patrick Rohde came on this apparently anonymous poem, which might be very suitable for us all!

The Difference

I got up early one morning
and rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I didn't have time to pray.
Problems just tumbled about me
and heavier came each task.
'Why doesn't God help me?' I
wondered.
He answered, 'You didn't ask.'
I wanted to see joy and beauty
but the day toiled on grey and
bleak
I wondered why God didn't show me.
He said 'But you didn't seek'.
I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys at the lock
God gently and lovingly chided,
'My child you didn't knock'.

I woke up early this morning
and paused before entering the
day.
I had so much to accomplish
that I had to take time to pray.

FROM THE EDITORS

We wish all our readers a happy and blessed New Year.

To help keep information in the magazine accurate and up to date, please will those responsible check that the information about regular services and events and contact details are correct and if there are any other groups, meetings etc. that should be included please do let us know.

We welcome news and comment from all the churches in the Mission Area, with photos if possible. Please send items in by **copy date (7th of the month)** to jastone@dunelm.org.uk or to the Parish Office, Penrhyn Beach East, Llandudno, LL30 3NT - office@aberconwy.church.

(Contributions may have to be edited to fit available space, and late items may have to be omitted.)

Editor Rev Noel Carter
Production Editor Dilys Stone
Production Assistant Chris Dearden