

Y GADWYN (The Link)

News of the Toronto Welsh Community

November/Tachwedd 2016

November is the time in the church when we end one liturgical year and start another. On November 20th we will celebrate Reign of Christ. At that service our lectionary will look back at all that Christ did in the world and how he suffered.

Simultaneously it will look forward to the time when he is to return, when the world will be as it should according to all he taught and modelled. Looking back reminds us of all that was wrong and where we made errors. It gives us a chance to evaluate ourselves, our principles and actions. Looking forward gives us an opportunity to set new goals and plan for better outcomes.

Advent begins on Nov 27th and will be a busy and rich time in the church. Much is planned - watch for the weekly e-news for special events & services!

Bendithion / Blessings Parch./Rev Anne



DEWI SANT CHURCH NEWS

OCTOBER 9th THANKSGIVING SUNDAY AND CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM

The sanctuary was beautifully decorated by Gaynor Jones for Thanksgiving and this provided a

wonderful background for the baptism of Isabella Patricia Ann Prouse, the daughter of Nicole Boswell and Rob Prouse. Isabella is also the great-great-grand-daughter of the late Anne and David Boswell, long time members of Dewi Sant.



Rob and Nicole with William and Isabella; Rev. Hepburn

Nancy Boswell, grandparents, grandchildren

Y GWASANAETH CYMRAEG

There will be a Welsh language service on Sunday Nov. 6th at 7 p.m. – as usual on the first Sunday of the month. We are fortunate in having a Welsh sermon by Rev. Gareth Mathias (by video). The sermon is based on *the second coming* – a different approach to the Advent season. Merched Dewi will be represented by a musical contribution, which is much appreciated, due to the many events of the week-end! All are welcome to the service and the cup of tea to follow.

Cynnelir gwasanaeth yn yr iaith Gymraeg ar nos Sul Tachwedd 6ed am 7 o'r gloch – fel arfer ar y Sul cyntaf o'r mis. Bydd Y Parch Gareth Mathias yn pregethu (ar fideo), a 'rydym yn gwerthfawrogi yn fawr y cyfle i'w glywed. Testun y bregeth fydd *yr ail ddyfodiad* – ffordd o edrych ar tymor yr adfent. Hefyd fydd Merched Dewi yn cael eu cynrychioli drwy gân. Mae llawer o ddigwyddiadau dros y penwythnos – fellu diolch yn fawr i Ferched Dewi – a pawb am fod yn bresennol. **Croeso cynnes i'r oedfa, a'r te i ddilyn.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENTS



In the last edition of Y Gadwyn we had a few pictures of some Sunday school members on an outing to the Metro Zoo. Here is another one – with Lewis (Holyer) Contini and friend, whose name we do not have.

The children/young people and their families will be putting on a Christmas presentation again this year on Dec. 11th— it would be great to have as many families participating as possible, and not just on this special event but year round.

The Editor for Pam Evans, Sunday School Head

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH PROJECT

Christmas is a time of giving especially to those who are in need. This year we are hoping that the church congregation will become involved in two initiatives that will run throughout the pre-Christmas period. This is what they will look like:

Take a Tag: Each week at the entry to the church there will be a plate with tags on which the names of certain food items will be indicated. You are asked to take a tag (or more if you wish) and bring that item/s with you to church on the following Sunday and place it/them into a receptacle that will be available for you. We intend to ask the Lansing food bank what items are especially requested over the holiday season and those are the items that we will target. This does not preempt our normal white gift Sunday but will hopefully augment that effort. This initiative will run on November 27 and December 4, 11 and 18.

Teen Angel: Many organizations run toy drives for children at Christmas time but, often the older kids are overlooked. This Christmas, let's give a disadvantaged teenager a gift. We will be collecting gift cards each Sunday from December 4th to December 18th. Please place your gift card on the plate provided in the narthex. Suggestions: Walmart, Shoppers Drug Mart, Chapters, Indigo, Tim Hortons, Starbucks, McDonalds, Subway, Pizza Pizza, Cineplex, Old Navy, Gap, Banana Republic, Hudson's Bay, Body Shop, Amazon, Best Buy, Canadian Tire, , SportChek, Forever 21, American Eagle, H & M. Many of these gift cards are available for purchase at Shopper's Drug Mart. Suggested amount: \$10, \$20 and \$25. All donations will be taken to Centre 55 for distribution. Thank you for your support!

Betty Cullingworth and Donna Morris

IN MEMORIAM - MARJORIE PRITCHARD TSIPURAS

Marjorie Pritchard Tsipuras, much loved mother of Risti Jensen, passed away peacefully on Saturday, October 1st, 2016, at the age of 101. A memorial service will be held at Dewi Sant on Saturday, November 26th, 2016, at 2 pm and more about her long life will be in the next Y Gadwyn

Editor

REMEMBERING KEN HUGHES

We would like to thank everyone for the their participation in the wonderful Celebration of Life given our Dad, Kenneth Hughes. Rev. Anne, Rev. Cerwyn Davies, Rev. Deian Evans, Merched Dewi, the flower's from St. David's, donations made to the Church, the speeches given, the awesome music played by Matthew and the lovely reception that followed. Thank you so much for everything.

Trisha, Rob, John and Families

NONAGENARIAN SERIES CONTINUES: GERAINT HERBERT JONES

A pillar of Dewi Sant Welsh United Church for the last 60 years, Geraint recently celebrated his 90th birthday on October 13. Penblwydd Llawen Geraint!! Born in Bala in 1926 in his maternal grandparents' home, Geraint spent his early years in LLansannan, Denbighshire where his father was the Presbyterian minister. Speaking Welsh only as a child, Geraint remembers referring to those who spoke English as the 'yes people' as that was the first English word that he actually heard. The family moved to Criccieth when Geraint was 9. His father remained in the ministry there for 12 years after which the family moved to Conwy. Geraint went to Llandovery, Camarthenshire for his education and there he learned to play rugby. He had hopes of joining the armed forces but a bout of pneumonia put an end to that plan. Instead Geraint began working for Barclay's Bank.

In 1954, adventure beckoned and Geraint decided to come to Canada, specifically to Hamilton. He knew about Dewi Sant before his arrival and travelled by bus to attend the church then located on Clinton Street. In January, 1956, while John Humphreys Jones was minister, Geraint became a member of Dewi Sant by transfer and so started a long and fruitful relationship. In 1961, Geraint married Lyn Oldfield and as a couple, they have been vital cogs in the Welsh life in Toronto over the past half century. If you have a question about anyone who has been involved with Dewi Sant over that time, either Lyn or Geraint are the ideal sources of information. Their memories are an essential part of the church archives. Their family was completed with the arrival of Robert in 1965 and Louise in 1967.

Geraint's involvement in the life of Dewi Sant has been multifaceted. Shortly after joining the church, he joined 20+ other men as a member of the Board of Stewards. He was active in Cymdeithas y Gehinen, a club within the church that was an essential part of the Welsh cultural scene in those years. In the early 60's, Geraint joined the Board or Session where he remained as a member for 38 years...13 of them as Clerk of Session. At about the same time, he became a Member of the Board of Trustees. He has been secretary then chairman of the group for the past 50+ years.



Was there time for more? Geraint's involvement with things Welsh included his active support of the Toronto St. David's Society and Caravan. He was also a Canadian representative on the board of the Welsh National Gymanfa Ganu Association for 6 years. Both Lyn and Geraint were regular attendees of the annual conferences held in various locations around North America.

60 years and counting in service to Dewi Sant is a remarkable achievement.

Geraint with his 90th Birthday Card from Dewi Sant members

Despite some mobility issues over the past few years, Geraint still attends special events at the church whenever possible and holds the welfare of the church family close to his heart. Llongyfarchiadau Geraint on reaching this memorable milestone!

Betty Cullingworth

CONCERN FOR OUR MEMBERS

Patricia Christian is now at Lyndhurst Lodge, 520 Sutherland Drive, Toronto On. M4G 3V9. Room 102, Bed A. You can contact her at Tel. 416-597-3422, Nursing station Ext. 6060 (No private phone at the moment).

Lyn Jones



WELSH COMMUNITY NEWS

REMEBERING ABERFAN

On Oct. 21, 1966, 144 people, most of them children, were buried by a coal slag heap at Aberfan, near Merthyr Tydfil in Wales while in class at Pantglas Junior School. Severla house and farms were also demolished.





There are many remembrances of that terrible day on the web site news.bbc.co.uk /onthisday/ hi/witness/october/21/. One of these is printed here:

In October 1966, I was an 11-year-old schoolboy and had left Pantglas School three months previously to attend Quakers Yard Grammar School. During that Friday morning news reached us of the tragedy which was unfolding two miles up the valley. It was the last day before half term and all lessons were cancelled after we had assembled in the school hall to be told of the disaster. We were asked to stay at school until the end of the day and we just sat outside on the mountain on a sunny autumn day wondering what would face us when we went back to Aberfan. All we could hear were sirens.

That evening, a cold dark night, I remember walking down to the village and seeing the utter devastation on people's faces as more and more dead were brought to the chapel. My cousin, a trainee nurse, was faced with the task of cleaning the bodies for identification - she knew almost every one of them... I went to bed wondering if I would wake up again.

I remember it clearly - the day that changed the rest of my life. Although my family lost no-one, my brother and I lost so many of our friends - the people with whom we had shared our childhood.

Tony, Wales

In total, 144 people were killed - 116 of them children. The last body was recovered nearly a week after the disaster happened. The National Coal Board said abnormal rainfall had caused the coal waste to move. The Inquiry of Tribunal later found that the NCB was wholly to blame (for placing the coal tips on top of springs) and should pay compensation for loss and personal injuries. The NCB and Treasury refused to accept full financial responsibility for the tragedy so the Aberfan Disaster Fund had to contribute £150,000 towards removing the remaining tip that overlooked the village. This was finally repaid in 1997 on the instigation of Ron Davies, the then Secretary of State for Wales.

Rev. Elwyn Hughes was the minster at Dewi Sant church at the time and he spearheaded the contribution by the church to the Aberfan Disaster Fund.

Editor

REV. ALWYN EVANS NEW MINISTRY

Many of you will remember one of our previous ministers, Alwyn Evans and you will be pleased to learn that Parch. Evans became the minster of Smyrna Baptist Chapel Penyfai (Bridgend) during a service of recognition on Thursday 13th October 2016. If you visit their web page - www.smyrna-penyfai.org.uk you will be able to open the service from the menu on the left bar. Dewi Sant gets a mention as having been one of Parch. Evan's ministries. In a note to the Editor Alwyn wishes to be remembered to the Dewi Sant congregation and that he still thinks of his time here with fondness. He says that at 80 he is still learning about what it means to be a minister! And when you are thinking about our upcoming 110th anniversary - Smyrna Baptist Chapel Penyfai has already passed their tri-centenary - Three Hundred Years of Worship – in 2006.

The Editor

ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY OF TORONTO

On Saturday October 22, the St. David's Society and friends enjoyed a splendid day out. We started the day at St. Jacob's Market where we sampled local delights. Next we stocked up on locally-produced cheeses at the Cheese Factory in Millbank and enjoyed a wonderful lunch at Anna Mae's Mennonite Bakery and Restaurant. Following lunch we visited two Amish homesteads. The first, home of Eileen and Sol Jantzi and Quilts Galore, housed a wide selection of hand-made quilts, runners and other decorative items. The second was the home of James Ebersol and Ebersol's Buggy Shop where we learned all about the Amish's primary mode of transportation – the buggy, and so much more. Everyone returned asking when the next trip was? A sign that a good time was had by all.

Donna Morris



UPCOMING EVENTS

A CELEBRATION FOR REV. DAVIES

On Nov. 6th we will celebrate the 65th ordination of the ministry of Rev. Cerwyn Davies. He will not only grace us with his presence (and Nora's) but will also be preaching on "When the Harvest Moon Hung Low in the Sky, God Called My Name". This is a tremendous milestone and we can all show our appreciation for having Rev. Davies in the life of Dewi Sant and in our personal lives, by coming out to hear him.

The Editor

SPECIAL MUSIC SUNDAY

On Nov. 20th Matthew Coons will be our Special Music Sunday musician. Matthew will be performing a concert out of his repertory. We are fortunate again to have an exceptionally talented musician as our organist. We sometimes forget they can do a lot more than accompany

our hymn singing. This is your opportunity to hear some great music so please come to witness.

ADVENT SERVICE

This year we are moving the Advent Service to the regular morning service on Nov. 27th, and it will once again be presented by the Ladies of the Church. This is always a special service to prepare us for the Christmas season.

THE TORONTO WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR CHRISTMAS

Take note of this event for your Christmas calendar. You can buy tickets online - www.welshchoir.ca or call (905) 726-3341.



THE ONTARIO WELSH FESTIVAL'S GOLD AWARD

Since The Gold Award's inception in 2011- the 50th anniversary of the Ontario Welsh Festival (OGGA) - a person who has contributed greatly to the Welsh community in Ontario has been honoured during the Festival weekend.

Who would you like to see honoured? Is there someone that you think deserves to be recognized? The Board asks you to make your recommendation(s) as soon as possible, because this is YOUR award. We depend on you to bring names to our attention. If possible could you add a short bio of your choice? Send your recommendation to Julie Wenz, president of the Festival (juliewenz@yahoo.ca) or to me (hefina@cogeco.ca). If you do not have a computer you can phone me at 905-847-5474. Looking forward to hearing from you very soon.

Hefina Phillips

WHAT'S NEW @ ST. DAVID'S SOCIETY OF TORONTO

Wales v. Argentina – The Under Armour Series 2016

Watch Wales taken on the Pumas live from the Principality Stadium in Cardiff. Game time: Saturday November 12th at 12:30 p.m. We are looking into a venue to watch the game.

St. David's and Dewi Sant's Annual Christmas Dinner

Come enjoy a wonderful traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings. This year to enliven the festivities we would like to encourage everyone to arrive in festive attire (e.g., your best (ugly) Christmas sweater, Christmas shirt & tie, your favourite Christmas character, etc.). Everyone who comes dressed in festive attire will receive a free raffle ticket. A prize will be awarded for the "Most Creative" outfit. Betty Cullingworth is coordinating the entertainment. If you'd like to participate, please arrange with Betty. And, of course, Santa Claus will be dropping by. Not to be missed!

Date: Saturday December 3rd Time: 5:30 p.m. for 6:00 p.m. dinner

Tickets: \$20

Contact: Meryl Davies (416) 483-3138 or Arleigh Quesnelle (416) 482-6870 or

arleighquesnelle@sympatico.ca

Donna Morris

DEWI SANT ANNUAL CHURCH BAZAAR, RUMMAGE AND BAKE SALE WE NEED YOUR GOODS AND YOUR SUPPORT. SPREAD THE WORD! ALSO, COME AND SPEND YOUR MONEY

Volunteers are needed:

- For setup on Friday Nov. 4 from 10 am onwards. We desperately need help on this day
- For working on the stalls on the Saturday
- We also need some strong energetic young people to help with packing and loading the cars after 1:30 p.m. on Saturday.

If you have donations or can help out, please contact Arleigh Quesnelle at arleighquesnelle@sympatico.ca or 416-483-6870

DONATIONS TO Y GADWYN

Please contact the Editor if you wish to receive Y Gadwyn by email. We are still looking for those who wish to switch to email. If you want to keep using paper we are also looking for donations to cover the postage!

CONTACT US AND SUBMISSIONS

Anna Dunets, Editor. Email: adunetswills@gmail.com_or 416-485-4074.

Please send in your contributions by November 25 which is the cut-off date for submissions to the next issue.

