



## **DEWI SANT CHURCH NEWS**

### **MOMENTS FROM THE SERVICES OF MAY**

For May the services centered on what it means to be a resurrection people. In the May 2 service we looked at the story of the disciples after the crucifixion, returning to their old ways of fishing and seemingly stuck, unable to catch fish because they were casting their nets only on one side of the boat. It required the appearance of the risen Jesus at the seashore to tell them once again to try something else, in this case the metaphorical casting of nets on the other side of the boat.

Rev. Liz reflected that once upon a time, being a regular churchgoer meant that you were in church every week, or at least every other week. Regular attendance at a church now means attending once a month. For those under 50, attending church is a counter-cultural activity. In the face of this new reality, what does it mean to be a resurrection people? Like the disciples who returned to fishing, a lot of congregations are holding on to the old paradigm – if we just have the right minister and do all the things that we've always done – because we've always done them well - our Sunday School will be bursting at the seams again. Just like Peter, many are in denial that something new is happening and everything that they thought they knew has changed. It makes us feel guilty to think we have failed the vision and ministry of our parents and grandparents who built up our congregations. Just as the disciples were called by Jesus to go on a journey that would prove to be full of hardship, darkness, and peril, so too are we. As a resurrection people, what God-given gifts are we called to share with God's world? How/what will we contribute to the vision of God's reign of peace, justice, love, and reconciliation finally established here on earth? Ultimately, being a resurrection people is an act of faith that includes faith in God's promise of resurrection. Our United Church Creed ends with the words: "In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone." Dare we believe it?

The Urdd Peace and Goodwill Message 2019 was incorporated throughout the May 19 service. In 1922, the first Message of Peace and Goodwill was broadcast by the children of Wales to the world. Over nearly a century, thousands of young people have been part of forming, sharing and responding to the message of peace. Initially facilitated by the Welsh League of Nations Union at the Temple of Peace, since 1946 the message has been an inspiration for the humanitarian and international work of **Urdd Gobaith Cymru**, the Welsh Youth movement - with 1,500 branches and 50,000 members across the country.

Sections of the Message were read by Shanna Markee – Welsh; Rev. Liz Mackenzie – Icelandic; Rebecca Gibson – French; Tegan Thomas – English; and the congregation joined at the end.

You can also hear and see the message being read on the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-6tLukIV9P4&t=12s>

The message this year is:

### Urdd Peace and Goodwill Message 2019

We have the right not to be harmed, and the right to care and protection

We have the right to give our opinion and to be listened to  
If there is war, we have the right to be kept safe and to not be forced to be soldiers

We have the power to raise our voice, and the right to be heard  
Is anybody listening?  
Is anybody taking action?

Our WEAPON is our voice  
A weapon to shout and be heard  
A weapon to protest

A weapon to vote  
A weapon to comfort others  
A weapon to express ourselves through the arts  
A weapon to help us deal with violence  
A weapon to support those who are suffering  
A weapon to reach out a message of hope, a message of peace and goodwill to the children and young people of the world –

*To children and young people suffering because of war - as in Yemen*

We are listening

*To children and young people living in fear of attacks with knives - as in London*

We join with you

*To children and young people standing up for their right to education without the fear of being shot - as in the USA*

We hear you

*To children and young people who are forced to fight in wars instead of receiving an education*

We raise our voice, our weapon

Violence incites violence, just as love incites love, and laughter incites laughter

We are the future. The largest youth generation in history

We HAVEN'T forgotten

The children and young people of Wales stand alongside the children and young people of the world

Calling on the world to listen and to act against violence and war

And to say ENOUGH

**Our weapon is our VOICE, come with us, children and young people of the world and stand with us.**



The congregation organized and led the service on May 26 as Rev. Liz was away. Those involved included Risti Jensen, Mabel Hastings, Sheryl Clay-Newell, Sheila Holyer, and Pam Evans. Two reflections were presented, the first an *Explanation of New Governance Structure of the Church* by Clarice Terry and the second on *Sleeping Children Around the World* by Lynette Jenkins. This is a summary of Lynette's reflection:



Lynette presented a behind the scenes look at what is involved in getting your donations to Sleeping Children Around the World (SCAW) delivered to those in need. Every year, hundreds of trained volunteers of all ages travel overseas, paying their own way to ensure the delivery of bedkits. It takes months of preparation with the host country, primarily through Rotary Clubs, to visit local factories and cottage industries where bedkit items are manufactured, to obtain

warehouse space to assemble the bedkits and to coordinate the distribution. Recipient areas include Togo, Africa; Mumbai, India; Philippines; Sri Lanka and Bangladesh to name a few. Lynette has volunteered on many distributions and although each destination is usually a poorly developed area with few amenities, it's the reward of the beaming children's faces – the excitement of the entire recipient family that keeps her and her mascot Wally coming back.

Dewi Sant Welsh United Church's outreach programme supports SCAW by collecting pocket change weekly during the Sunday Service. On behalf of the congregation, I presented a cheque to SCAW for \$1,300. One hundred percent of this money will be used to purchase bedkits at \$35 each, 50% to girls and 50% to boys of any religion.

We are privileged to have had Lynette speak first-hand about this fabulous charity and encourage you to visit SCAW's website at [www.SCAW.org](http://www.SCAW.org)  
*Pamela Evans*



## AN EVENING WITH ARTHUR OZOLINS!

Matthew, our fantastic organist, organised this evening on Friday May 31<sup>st</sup> at which he and Arthur Ozolins performed together and solo. The entire proceeds of this evening were donated to Dewi Sant Church and the final tally, with some 100 people in attendance, was \$1800. However grateful we are for this gift, the greater gift was being able to hear two expert musicians playing beautiful music for 1½ hours.

Arthur Ozolins was born to Latvian parents in Lübeck. At the age of 13, he entered the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, and following year, Walter Susskind invited Arthur Ozolins to make his debut with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra (TSO). Since that debut in 1961, Ozolins has appeared more than 50 times with the TSO and collaborated with it in numerous recordings. It was with this orchestra under the direction of Andrew Davis that Arthur Ozolins was first presented in the Kennedy Center and in Carnegie Hall. Mr. Ozolins has performed with such



orchestras as the Royal Philharmonic, Royal Liverpool and Hallé; the St. Petersburg (Leningrad), Stockholm and Oslo Philharmonics; and the orchestras of Montpéllier, Barcelona, Buenos Aires, Ulster and Taiwan. In Canada he appears with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Vancouver Symphony and l'Orchestre de Montréal, among others.



The concert included pieces by Johann Sebastian Bach (Concerto in F Minor, BWV 1056) and Robert Schumann (Piano Concerto in A Minor) along with solo works by French Organist-Composer Louis Vierne and Russian Piano Virtuoso Sergei Rachmaninoff.

We suspect that the organ/piano arrangement of the Schumann Piano Concerto was a world premiere.



## WELSH COMMUNITY NEWS

### FIREMAN SAM



Does anyone remember the show Fireman Sam? I have to confess I don't, but I Googled it and came across loads of information. **Fireman Sam** is an animated comedy about a fireman called Sam, his fellow firefighters and other residents in the fictional Welsh rural village of Pontypandy - which changed to a seaside fishing village instead of one set deep in the hills as in the early series. The original series started in 1987, but has gone through a number of changes and character additions since.

If you ever felt that you would love to be the voice behind one of the characters in such a series, well here is an opportunity to audition. Or, if not yourself, because you don't have a Welsh accent - do you know of someone who would? Kim Hurdon is a voice casting director located in Toronto and is looking for voices for a re-vamp of the beloved UK animated series "Fireman Sam". She is searching for people with legitimate Welsh accents, both male and female, that either have an acting background or have always wanted to do voice acting in cartoons. She has already contacted the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir, and indeed, some members have expressed an interest.

Examples of the voices required are:

Fireman Sam - 30 - 40 years, old male, Welsh

Gareth - 60 - 70 years old, strong Welsh accent

Dilys, 40 - 50 years old, female, strong Welsh accent

Bronwyn - 30 - 40 years old, female, Welsh

The plan at the moment is to start up casting in June. Please contact: [kim@khcasting.com](mailto:kim@khcasting.com) for more detailed information if you, or someone you know, are interested in auditioning.

*Mairwen Thornley*

### MAGICAL MEDWYN BAGS 12TH ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY GOLD FOR HIS VEG

If you are looking at your tiny vegetable patch in your garden consider what you could achieve if you were living in Anglesey. This is from a May 21 article on the BBC.

A vegetable grower with some of the greenest thumbs in the business is celebrating another massive win at the Chelsea Flower Show. Medwyn Williams, from Anglesey, has won his 12th gold medal at the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) event. His display featured giant leeks, parsnips and the first tomato variety with an official Welsh name. Y Ddraig Goch - the Red Dragon - is a new variety of tomato grown for the award-winning gardener Medwyn Williams.

