

Welshpool & Bro Hafren Methodist Circuit

PROCLAMATION

*We proclaim
our Faith and
Trust in God*

**Magazine & Plan
Sept to Nov 2018**

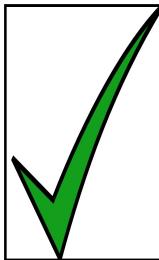
Proclamation & Affirmation

Welcome to the season of Harvest Thanksgiving and Autumn Chapel Councils.

Welcome to the season of Proclamation where we proclaim our Faith and Trust in God. Not just for what he has done, but for what he is doing and will continue to do for eternity.

Harvests don't just happen – they are an integral part of God's creation.

Welcome to the season of Affirmation where we give encouragement and credit to people in the service of God and in the service of their neighbour. All those unknown people who play their part in making the harvest happen for us and those who enable our chapels to witness the glory of Jesus Christ in this area. Often the amount of time and effort put in to make this possible is unseen.



But affirming what others are doing may not come as easily as we may think.

I recall an occasion when I was working for a Local Authority to the east of London. A few of us would have our lunch in the canteen which did some good meals. The Boss, Harry, would sometimes join us and this could give us the opportunity to raise some

Affirmation
... giving encouragement and credit to people in the service of God

work matter with him without the phone ringing or someone wanting him.

A colleague of mine, Kev, had a particular problem and he'd come up with a solution – all he needed was permission to go ahead with it. So, over lunch, he explained to Harry the problem and then in detail his solution. It all went very well and Harry said he needed a little time to think about it.

We returned to the office after lunch and were getting

on with things when Harry's door opened and he went across to Kev's desk. "Kev" Harry said "I've been thinking about that problem we discussed at lunch, **I** have worked out how it can be resolved." He then proceeded to explain his solution verbatim to what Kev had originally suggested. Harry continued "I think that would work well." Kev, being a typical Eastender replied

"Harry, I think that is very good way forward, and I don't know why I hadn't thought of it myself, thank you."

With that Harry returned to his office. I still wonder what he was thinking when he shut his door. "*That was a good solution to the problem and I'm pleased he liked my idea.*" Or was it "*Thank goodness I got away with that!*" We will never know.

But for us in the office, Harry's reputation and our respect for him had plummeted. We couldn't

help but laugh from the shock of it all. A realisation though, that our suspicions were confirmed. If it was his idea - it's good, anyone else's idea – not so good! But that is not what Jesus Christ expects from us.

Paul, in his Epistles, often affirms how well people in these new churches are carrying out the teachings of Jesus Christ. Resolving difficult situations.

It must have been uplifting and encouraging for them to read such positive comments.

In the work of Christ, we don't do it for praise, but positive comments do count for a lot. It also shows the person giving the encouragement has Christ at the heart of their being. Proclaiming their Faith in God.

Worship is not just on a Sunday in church or chapel. We should be constantly proclaiming God to be at the centre of our lives and affirming the good things

people are doing, be they worldly or heavenly. We are part of the secular world so it is even more important the light of Jesus shines through us. Showing the way of God.

Looking back, it is sad to realise Harry needed to delude himself by claiming other people's ideas and achievements as his own. Or not even acknowledging them. Of course we all meet "Harry's". Sad!

But with Jesus Christ in our hearts, the concept of Affirmation and Proclamation should be easy and rewarding.

May we all find this season enriching.

John Harbron
(Local Preacher)

What difference does being loved by God make to your life?

" Absolutely everything. Knowing that I am loved by Father God allows me to live life in abundance - even face deep suffering. "

" It brings an element of peace. It gives me a sense of trust that no matter what happens God will always be there for me, helping and guiding me. "

" Everything. I am who I am because of God's love. It transforms the way that I think. "

From The Connexion Spring 2018

What is Worship?

At the Preachers Study & Fellowship Day in May, Tim Guy from the Wrexham Circuit discussed the topic "What is Worship?"

He based the discussion around Susan White's book "Groundwork of Christian Worship" in which she suggests six Models of Worship.

These may help you appreciate the dynamics which go into making a time of Worship worthwhile.

- * **Worship as Service to God** – a duty performed in gratitude for what God has done in the world and our life.
- * **Worship as the Mirror of Heaven** – an attempt to duplicate the eternal heavenly worship.
- * **Worship as Affirmation** - to affirm, inspire and support believers living their faith in daily life.
- * **Worship as Communion** - forming and sustaining communion with God and with each other through Christ.
- * **Worship as Proclamation** – the place where salvation history is proclaimed and where people make their public testimony and witness to that history.
- * **Worship as the Arena of Transcendence** - to encounter the transcendent (beyond the limitations of human understanding), to be open to the transforming power of God.

Not all these Models of Worship are used in any one service, but over a period they will all be used. Please feel free to discuss these aspects of our worship with the Preachers and Worship Leaders after a Service.

John Harbron (LP Secretary)

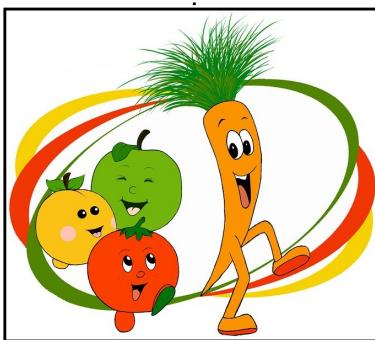


Rev Bob's Letter

The manse garden is looking better than it has for a long time – the lost of last year's potato crop – new grown again – sprawl inelegantly among this year's planting of beans, onions, garlic and spinach. The blackcurrants are turning purple, the loganberries, blackberries and raspberries are beginning to blush and the over-growth has been cut off and composted – fruitful and attractive – what more could a gardener ask for?

Before long the overgrowth will have to be tackled again and after fruiting the raspberry/blackberries and blackcurrants will have to be cut back so as to crop again in 2019. Left to her own devices Mother Nature is prodigally generous, left to her own devices she can make harvesting a difficult

process – reaching round and between this and that while avoiding something else to gently grasp the berry without squashing it to puree.



In the fifteenth chapter of John Jesus speaks of himself as the Vine, his father as the Gardener and ourselves as the Branches. In the garden that is the Christian Church God is the one who cuts away what has ceased to be useful and cuts back what is useful that it might be more useful. As we

move forward into the next Connexional year we face some difficult questions – not unrelated to the place and practice of pruning in the cultivation of the garden. How thorough do we need to be when gathering the crop – if we start from here will we get to where we think we ought to be? Are there things that we should no longer continue with – things that have served their

time and done their work but do so no longer? Are there things that we could be doing better – things that could be done differently?

One of the things we do not currently do and is on my mind to begin is to move us on from being a welcoming Church to becoming an 'invitational' Church. If you would like to share this process with me I'd love to hear from you – my telephone number's around somewhere – if you can spare a couple of hours a week to visit

around the churches in the Circuit, probably in the early evening – we might even begin to enjoy ourselves. It only sounds daunting for the first time. I'm relying upon the Holy Spirit to make us an accepting Church – after all when you open your doors and issue an invitation you never know who'll turn up. There are no special skills required just a willingness to forget your

mum's advice and start talking to strangers.

Those of us who gathered in celebration of the life and work of Methodism in Llanidloes back in June were blessed and encouraged – as I faced the congregation to pronounce the blessing I realised how things had been – in the 'good old days'. To hear the church full of singing, to share worship with friends so many of whom I had never met before. Chris Denney declared that this was not the end of

Methodism in Llanidloes but rather the beginning of a new chapter. Might it not be that God was setting the congregation free from that which hindered their progress in order to do some new thing which, had they continued the struggle to maintain the premises, they might never have seen.

We speak of the Church as being the people rather than

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the building and most of us really believe that – at least until we are asked to let go of the building and worship somewhere else. Building and people have this in common – there is a birth, there is a flourishing and more often than not an ageing and a decline. As we age bits of us wear out and some drop off altogether, with the help of dentists, surgeons, walking sticks and the like we make concessions and manage to keep things together a little while longer. As the building ages, as times change in church it seems to me that we find it difficult to let go of those things that have outlived their usefulness and instead enshrine them in cupboards and cellars. In the Derringham Bank church in Hull I participated in my first 'Gift Day' – spending a morning in a vestry while people passed through pressing money into my hands as they did so. It was an uncomfortable experience and I spent the moments between visits tidying up the cupboards. All sorts of

obsolete, broken, damaged 'stuff' was there that should have been passed on to the City Council refuse collection services years previously but no-one had been able to bring themselves to do it. I felt it was a more useful occupation for a minister than accepting donations.

Regarding the contents of our church cupboards, our diaries, our lives the offer of the Gardener is something of a spring-clean, the opportunity to sift the hoard and discard what is no longer of use to put the time, the space to better use. Years ago I had to say to a minister that it was time for them to cease their ministry. It was the hardest thing I have ever had to do – I'm sure it is equally tough for God to engage in the pruning process. In continuing to cherish those things that God seeks to free us from we make it more difficult for ourselves to receive those things that God has yet to give us.

Bob

Ministers

Chair of the Synod:	Rev Dr Stephen Wigley
Superintendent:	Rev Bob Thomas B Th  01686 625690
Supernumerary:	Rev J Michael Taylor BD, BA
Supernumerary:	Rev Penny Burkhill
Supernumerary:	Rev John W Newbury BA

Local Preachers

Mr T M Jobling OBE
Mrs E Jobling
Mr G Smith
Mrs E Williams
Mrs D McNulty
Mrs M Douglas
Mrs J Thomas
Mr J Harbron
Mrs Kat Bond (on note)
Mrs Andrea Davies (on trial)

Worship Leaders

Mr A Bradburn and Mrs A Bradburn
Mr Derek Painter (in training)

Visiting Preachers

Rev Alun Chiplin
Mr Gareth Evans
Mr Nigel Evans
Rev Alison Gwalchmai
Rev Marian Jones
Rev Bill Rowell

Church & Hymn Books	Times	02-Sep	09-Sep	16-Sep	23-Sep	30-Sep
		22nd Sun in Ord	Education Sun	24th Sun in Ord	25th Sun in Ord	26th Sun in Ord
		Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23	Mark 7:24-37	Mark 8:27-38	Mark 9:30-37	Mark 9:38-50
Welshpool	9.00			Taylor HC		
H ON	10.45	Harbron	Jones HC	B Thomas	G Evans	@ St Mary's
S IF WB	6.00	Rowell HC	WCT @ St Mary's	T Jobling	Jubilate: "David"	Taylor
Cefn	10.00	T Jobling BC				
H ON	6.00		B Thomas HC	Smith	@ Welshpool	T Jobling
P Llifor	2.30	B Thomas HC	AACG	J Thomas	AACG	Smith
H S IF WB						
Newtown	10.30	B Thomas HC	Davies	Smith	E Jobling	Williams HF
H S IF WB	6.00	Harbron	N Evans	B Thomas HC	@ Welshpool	B Thomas Cytun UM
Caersws	10.30	@ Llanwnog	J Thomas	N Evans	B Thomas HC	Smith
H WB						
Trefeglwys	10.00	@ Llawryglyn	B Thomas HC	UA 11am	@ Llawryglyn	T Jobling
H M						
Llawr Y Glyn	2.30	Burkhill	@ Trefeglwys	UA Trefeglwys 11am	B Thomas HC	@ Trefeglwys
H WB						

Visit www.wbhmethodists.org.uk for any changes to the Plan

07-Oct	14-Oct	21-Oct	28-Oct
27th Sun in Ord	Prison Sun	29th Sun in Ord	30th Sun in Ord
Mark 10:2-16	Mark 10:17-31	Mark 10:35-45	Mark 10:46-52
		Taylor HC	
Davies HF	Jones HC	CMM Team	B Thomas
Rowell HF HC	WCT @ UW	@ Newtown	4pm Stewards ATS
E Jobling BC			
	Harbron	B Thomas HC	Rowell
AACG	B Thomas HC HF	AACG	G Evans
B Thomas HC	J Thomas	B Thomas	G Evans
Cytun	Burkhill HC	Wigley	Harbron
UB	Harbron	Wigley HC	T Jobling
@ Llawryglyn	B Thomas HC	@ Llawryglyn	E Jobling
	(@ Llawryglyn 2.30pm)		
J Thomas	Gwalchmai HF LA	B Thomas	@ Trefeglwys

Church & Hymn Books	Times	04-Nov 31st Sun in Ord John 11:32-44	11-Nov Remembrance Sun Mark 12:38-44	18-Nov 33rd Sun in Ord Mark 13:1-8	25-Nov Sun before Advent John 18:33-37
Welshpool	9.00			Taylor HC	
H ON	10.45	J Thomas	WCT @ St Mary's	Smith	B Thomas HC
Sif WB	6.00	B Thomas HC	4pm Jones HC	@ Cefn	4pm ATS
Cefn	10.00	E Jobling BC			
H ON	6.00		N Evans	B Thomas HC	E Jobling
P Llifor	2.30	AACG	T Jobling	AACG	B Thomas HC
H Sif WB					
Newtown	10.30	B Thomas HC	Harbron	Chiplin	T Jobling
H Sif WB	6.00	Smith	B Thomas HC	Rowell	Burkhill
Caersws	10.30	Davies	UM (hosted by Llanwnog)	B Thomas HC	E Jobling
H WB					
Trefeglwys	10.00	@ Llawryglyn	Williams US	@ Llawryglyn	Chiplin HC
H M					
Llawr Y Glyn	2.30	Chiplin HC	@ Trefeglwys	J Thomas	@ Trefeglwys
H WB					

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REFERENCES USED IN THE PLAN

BOOKS

- H Hymns and Psalms
M Methodist Hymn Book
ON Methodist Hymns Old & New
S The Source
StF Singing the Faith
WB Methodist Worship Book

UNITED SERVICES

- UA at Anglican
UB at Baptist
UM at Methodist
UP at Presbyterian
URC at URC
UW at Welsh Chapel

SERVICES

- AA All Age Worship
AACG All Age Cell Group
ATS Afternoon Tea Service
BAP Baptism
BC Breakfast Church
BTCS Back to Church Sunday
CA Chapel Anniversary
CAP Christians Against Poverty
C&C Carols and Christingle
CHS Community Hymn Singing
CMM Christian Music Ministries
Cov Covenant
CS Carol Service
FF Flower Festival
HC Holy Communion
HF Harvest Festival
Jub Jubilate
LA Local Arrangement
LS Lambing Service
P&P Prayer and Praise
SKS Sankey Service
SoP Songs of Praise
SS Sectional Service
WCT Welshpool Churches Together
WTF Welshpool Transport Festival
UnS Circuit United Service

OTHER

- T Transport Required
TS Trial Service

Young People's Page

It's back to school time again. It is such an exciting time of year. You may be meeting new friends and learning a lot of new things. Are you ready? Do you have all of the school things you need? One thing that many of you will need is a box of crayons.

Crayons are often all different sizes and colours. Some are sharp and some are blunt. Some have strange-sounding names. Some maybe brand new and some may have been around for quite a while. Some are long and some are short. Some may have their ends chewed or maybe dirty.

We can learn a lot from crayons. Even though they have a lot of differences, they all fit very nicely in the same box or pencil case. That is a good picture of the way the church should be. The people that make up the church come in all sizes and colours and some may have strange-sounding names.

Some are old and some are young. Some are pretty sharp and some may be a little dull. Some are dressed in very nice clothes while others may wear clothing that is a little soiled and worn.

James, the brother of Jesus, wrote in the Bible that the followers of Jesus should not show favouritism. He said, *"My friends, if you have faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, you won't treat some people better than others. Suppose a rich person wearing fancy clothes and a gold ring comes to one of your meetings. And suppose a poor person dressed in worn-out clothes also comes. You must not give the best seat to the one in fancy clothes and tell the one who is poor to stand at the side or sit on the floor. That is the same as saying that some people are better than others. If you treat some people better than others, you have done wrong, and the Scriptures teach that you*

have sinned."

We must be careful not to show favouritism in our church. We are all God's children whether we are rich, poor, red, brown, yellow, black, or white. As James said, "*You will do all right, if you obey the most important law in the*

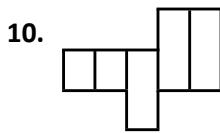
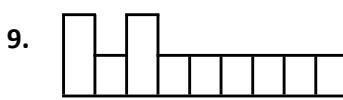
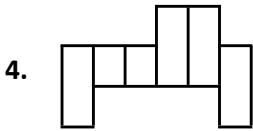
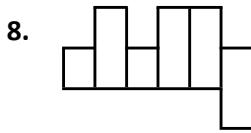
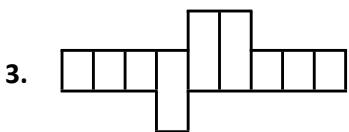
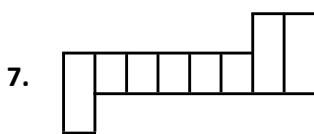
Scriptures. It is the law that commands us to love others as much as we love ourselves."

Father, help us to love one another as you have loved us -- regardless of the colour of our skin or whether we are rich or poor. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

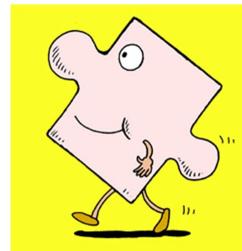
Sermons4Kids

Playing Favourites

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



believers
clothes
shabby
neighbour
right
rich
poor
love
yourself
guilty



God needs you

Rolling Reports (edited) from the Circuit Meeting on 7th June 2018

Trefeglwys

Since our last report in March 2017, the building project outlined at that time was completed by the end of the year.

A concert by Vocalese ladies choir from Berriew, with Val Owen soloist, along with two young boys Harvey Lloyd, and Rowan Evans, completed the entertainment. The president for the evening was Mrs Freda Jones, who gave an interesting talk on her time in the community over the years. The event was a great success, and enjoyed by all.

We had our usual coffee morning in April, and once again the Lambing Service, conducted in excellent manner by Rev Penny Burkhill, with readings by Trefeglwys YFC members, two young lambs in a cage completed the occasion. A collection of £145 was made and donated to the Wales Air Ambulance Service, a presentation of which, appeared in the press, as well

as a photograph of some of the members.

We are holding another Concert this year and the above choir are returning, with the same soloists to entertain us again, this will be on the 20th May.

The trustees have contacted the local council about the ongoing problem with surface rainwater; further advice and a quotation is being sought.

Finally, we are pleased to say, that we have been able to continue our worship, with our Anglican friends, at St Michaels Church in the Village, when an opportunity is available.

Alun Bunford

Final report from Llanidloes

How difficult it is to write a rolling report as we face our closing service in just two weeks time. Since the last report we have held two meetings with Trinity Church to discuss the possibility of joining with them in an ecumenical partnership. However it became clear that some members were not ready to

make that commitment and wanted time to find their future spiritual home. Therefore the trustees accepted the offer of a welcoming service at Trinity the Sunday after closure. Some members wishing to keep their Methodist link will probably transfer to Trefeglwys.

We have continued to play an active part in Cytun events - joining in the Advent service, carol singing, the Christmas Eve Service held at Longbridge St and Christmas Day at the Parish church. We took part in the Christmas Tree Festival held at St. Idloes. We catered and took part in the seven weeks of Lent lunches and participated in the recent Christian Aid collection. The Womens World Day of Prayer service was held at Longbridge St for the last time.

Two members (Valerie & Diane) continue to volunteer for the Open The Book, taking bible story enactments into two school assemblies on a monthly basis. Two coffee mornings have been held, one in December 2017 for Church funds and another at Chatwood during April to raise money for the refugees in Greece, over £400 was raised for this cause.

The Wesley singers have been very busy holding concerts and participating in events in the town and surrounding areas. Happily they will be continuing as a choir but practising in a new abode.

It is with great sadness that we roll on to closure. It is going to be a difficult parting for those who have continued to worship in our lovely church, for the Methodist presence in the town for over 100 years and for all who have worshipped there in the past. A big thank you to all the Ministers and lay preachers who have brought us the word of God.

It is hoped that people from other churches in the Circuit will join us for the final service on Wednesday 20th June.

May God's love, blessings and strength walk with us all into the future.

Diane Morgan

A wonderful, well attended Service of Thanksgiving to celebrate 216 years of Christian witness in Longbridge Street, Llanidloes was held in June. Photographs are available on our website.

Editors

Make Today Amazing

A hug or a kiss from a loved one,
A smile from a stranger you passed,
A quick heart to heart with an old friend,
A chore you've completed at last.
So if there are moments of gladness,
No matter how fleeting or slight,
Turn the spotlight on that which is pleasing,
And dark days may come to be bright.

*Submitted by **Doreen Robinson,**
Newtown*

More or less

The more that we are friendly,
The less will be our care,
The less we grouse and grumble,
The more content we share.
The less we fret and worry,
The more we come to find,
That happiness is more or less,
For everyone designed!

J.M. Robertson

*Submitted by **Phil-Eve Senior,**
Newtown*

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday September 4th 12-1pm, Newtown

Cytun Charity Lunch

Thursday September 20th 7pm, Newtown

Circuit Meeting (*please note change of date from 13th*)

Saturday September 22nd 10am to 12 noon, Caersws

Autumn Fair

Sunday September 23rd 6pm, Welshpool

Jubilate present "David" by Roger Jones

Thursday September 27th 7pm, Trefeglwys

Harvest Festival led by Andrea Davies

Friday September 28th 7pm, Cefn

Harvest Festival

Saturday September 29th/Sunday 30th

Welshpool town's 1940's weekend; various events, some in church

Sunday September 30th 10.30am, Newtown

Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Lunch

Sunday October 7th 10.45am, Welshpool

Harvest Festival followed by Harvest Lunch

Tuesday October 9th 2pm, Pentre Llifor

Church Council

Tuesday October 9th 7pm, Welshpool

Church Council

Sunday October 14th 2.30pm, Pentre Llifor

Harvest Festival

Sunday October 14th 2.30pm, Llawryglyn

Harvest Festival

Saturday October 20th 1.30pm, Welshpool

Musical in a Day, Christian Music Ministries team

Saturday October 27th Cefn

Craft Fayre

Monday October 29th 7pm, Newtown

Church Council

Saturday November 10th 9.30am to 2pm, Welshpool

Winter Fair

Saturday November 10th 10am to noon, Trefeglwys

Coffee Morning

Saturday November 24th 7pm, Welshpool

Supper Concert with 'Vocalease'

We had our granddaughter staying with us over the Easter weekend. As Communion Steward I was going down to the church to get it ready and she asked if she could help. I explained what we had to do and she carried the chalice in and put it on the communion table. She then asked, "Nanny do I have to have that?", pointing to the communion wine. I said "No, just keep your hand by your side". She then asked "Could I have a glass of orange juice instead?!" . I had this image of the Minister changing the wine into orange juice at the last minute!



Irene Harbron, Newtown.

Editorial

Sincere thanks to those who have provided the material for this issue; we really appreciate your contributions. Are you a budding artist waiting to share your work? We are looking for a front cover for the Christmas issue of this magazine. Please have a go.

Yes, it'll soon be here; our next issue covers Christmas and we need contributions by **mid October 2018** please. We are happy to receive articles at any time by post: Foxglove, Beech Close, Newtown SY16 2QP by email: editors.marlow@btinternet.com or you can pass to the minister or stewards.

This magazine is available in glorious technicolour on the Circuit website:
www.wbhmethodists.org.uk



Those of you with smart phones or tablets can scan this QR code to go straight to the website. **Bill and Andrea Marlow**