

AFAN VOICE



EGLWYS FEDYDDIEDIG EBENESER ABERAFAN
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH ABERAVON

GAEAF 2012
WINTER 2012

THE LATEST!

Welcome to this latest edition of *Afan Voice*. I hope that you enjoyed the first edition. I now hope that you'll enjoy this edition too.

I greatly appreciate the warm welcome you've extended to me since I've come into your midst. The warmth of both your Baptist fellowship and Welsh temperament have combined to make me feel at home. You're clearly living up to the hospitable heritage of Welsh Baptists!

You are still welcome to contribute to this Newsletter. In this edition there's a contribution via June (George) on the subject of hope. You may well find it helpful.



KEEP HOPE ALIVE

When people have hope they can go far. A sick person, a hard-pressed man, a nation with its back to the wall can all continue to struggle while hope remains. But a cause is lost when hope is abandoned.

One of the most depressing features of the contemporary scene is that man's hopes are at a low ebb. To face each new day without hope is to have lost the battle before it begins.

A hospital nurse said: *How could I serve in the wards if the great Hope of the world were a lie?* John Howard, the social reformer said: *In many instances God has disappointed my fears and exceeded my hopes.*

The Bible is a book of hope. God is involved with those who suffer. Find pain and you discover His frontline troops near at hand. A final thought: Hope sees the invisible, feels the intangible and achieves the impossible.

For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope (Romans 15:4)

MISSION STATEMENT/DATGANIAD CENHADOL

To proclaim the Word of God in order to make Him known to people and so extend His Kingdom
I gyhoeddi Gair Duw er mwyn ei wneud Ef yn adnabyddus i bobl ac felly estyn Ei Deyrnas

ACTIVITIES LIST/PRAYER POINTS

- Sunday (*Sul*) 11am & 6pm: Service (*Oedfa*)
- Sunday (*Sul*) 11.30am: Sunday School (*Ysgol Sul*)
- Monday (*Llun*) 6.30pm: Prayer Meeting (*Cwrdd Gweddi*)
- Tuesday (*Mawrth*) 2pm: Bible Study (*Astudiaeth Feiblaidd*)
- First & Third Wednesday of month (*Y Cyntaf a'r Trydydd Mercher o'r mis*) 2.30pm: Sisterhood (*Chwaeroliaeth*)
- Friday (*Gwener*) 9.30am: Coffee Morning (*Bore Coffi*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:



- ☞ Christmas celebrations included School Concerts, a Civic Carol Service and a Christmas Eve Service.
- ☞ Neath Port Talbot Cancer Challenge plans to run a craft fair at Ebenezer vestry on Saturday 23 March 2013 at 10am to raise funds for its work.
- ☞ An Open Air Service is scheduled to take place outside Ebenezer on Saturday 30 March 2013 at 11am.
- ☞ We prayerfully remember those of you from our fellowship in a home or hospital.
- ☞ We sympathize with the families of Graham Thomas and Gordon Jenkins in their bereavements. Graham did much work on Ebenezer chapel and Gordon was faithful in the church's work.

CONGRATULATIONS:



Our congratulations to the following people on their birthdays:

Joan Richards	9 December
Ruth Walters	14 December
Ted Walters	7 January
Hannah Tomlinson	8 January
Norma Wagstaff	9 January
Mary Warlow	16 January
Diane Pike	24 January
Vivienne Davies	12 February
Gill Soderstrom	14 February
Jean Harpwood	25 February

Congratulations also to Dilys Dowrick and her family on the birth of Eli Benjamin Worgan on 19 December 2012 and to Ruth George-Law and the family on the birth of Dylan Christopher Law on 27 January 2013.

Gweinidog/Minister: Peter Davies

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