

# A F A N V O I C E



EGLWYS FEDYDDIEDIG EBENESER ABERAFAN  
EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH ABERAVON

HAF 2013  
SUMMER 2013

## FORWARD!

The Baptist cause in Aberafan was established in 1651 by Lewis Thomas from Ilston (the site of the first Baptist church in Wales established by John Miles in 1649). The first chapel was built in 1804 with David Thomas acting as Minister; the second chapel was built in 1821; the third chapel was built in 1839; and the fourth chapel was built in 1881.

It's helpful to look back on our history so that we know how to move forward into the future. Our ancestors were courageous folk whose example we can follow by serving the Lord Jesus Christ in our generation. Although they were beset with various difficulties yet they had tremendous confidence in Christ that He would build His church through them.

We may be dismayed at the state of the church in our land. Internal strife and external opposition have often assailed the church. Today however maybe ignorance (*don't know*) and apathy (*don't care*) are greater afflictions to bear. In the face of such circumstances we need to focus on our work of worshipping God by living lives which challenge our generation by both word and action to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.



## LOVE NEVER FAILS

At the start of the Bible we read how God looked at the first human being and said, *It is not good for the man to be alone* (Genesis 2:18). We were made to be sociable and to look outwards. The greatest form of love doesn't centre on affectionate feelings but on a determined desire to do good to another person.

It is this sort of love that the Bible means when it talks about God's love for us. His love for us rests not just on His feelings but on His promises. St. Augustine said: *God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us*. What an amazing thought!

*Love is patient, love is kind* (1 Corinthians 13:4)

### 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:



- ☞ Computer equipment has been installed in the chapel with a view to enhancing the worship repertoire.
- ☞ A Service was held for residents (and staff) at Swn-y-Môr on 11 July.
- ☞ A Dedication Service was held for Matthew David Dyer at Ebeneser on 18 August.
- ☞ We prayerfully remember those of you from our fellowship in a home or hospital. We're glad that Debra Dowrick and her son Eli are making steady progress following their road traffic accident.
- ☞ We sympathize with the members of the family of Ruth Walters in their bereavement. Ruth was a strong character who was faithful in the work of the church.

### CONGRATULATIONS:



Our congratulations to the following people on their birthdays:

Kenneth Harpwood 7 June

Amy Richards 12 June

Elaine John 25 June

Kenneth Rees 25 June

Gwyneth Lane 28 June

David Romaniw 12 July

Anne Gray 14 July

Susan Holmes 24 July

Howard James 4 August

Also our congratulations to Ken and Jean Harpwood and their family on the birth of Ella Rose Harpwood on 2 July 2013; to Malcolm and Jacqueline Tomlinson on their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 5 August 2013; and to Joshua Davies on graduating in Business Information Technology (BSc) at Aberystwyth University.

**Gweinidog/Minister: Peter Davies**

**Capel Ebeneser, Civic Square, Aberafan, Neath Port Talbot, SA13 1PJ**



☎07967 239481

✉[pastor@ebenez-aberavon.org](mailto:pastor@ebenez-aberavon.org)