

February/March 2024



There is a green hill far away,  
Outside a city wall,  
Where the dear Lord was crucified  
Who died to save us all.

## From the Pastor's Study.

It is an unusual trick of the calendar that I am writing this in January, with Christmas and New Year not yet a month past, and yet this article will come out in the Easter Magazine!

I had planned to write about New Year Resolutions and making a new start in life. Or then again, perhaps something about the challenges of Winter and how difficult a season it can be for many people, would have been better? Indeed, I am writing this as the gale force winds of Storm Isha blasts away outside, bringing rain and disruption across Wales and England.

Instead, I have to think ahead to Palm Sunday and Holy Week, to Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and above all to Easter Sunday itself.

Yet, as I think on these things, perhaps they are not as disconnected as they may at first appear? So many people make New Year's Resolutions and long that this year 'things will be different'.

For the vast majority, however, their resolutions are broken and shattered by month's end. It is quickly back to business as normal with the vague hope that things might be better next year. This should not surprise us, for as columnist and author Oliver Burkman pointed out in an article in the Guardian, the person making the resolution on Jan 1st is the very same person as the one on Dec 31st who had failed to make the proposed change in the previous 12 months!

In the final analysis, all resolutions suffer with this same problem - it's me making them. If I was the sort of person capable of keeping my resolution then almost certainly I wouldn't have got myself in the situation where I needed to be making it.

Real change requires something more than a resolution, it requires a *revolution*, a profound reworking of things within my heart. It is not so much that I need to change as that I need to be changed. This I cannot do myself.



However, as I look forward to Holy Week and remember the events of Jesus' death on the Cross and of His resurrection from the dead, I see there is a power at work that can change my very soul. It is not only that through Christ I am forgiven, I am also, to quote the Apostle Paul, a new creation.

In another of his letters, Paul can say that we who are believers in Jesus are God's workmanship, (re)created in Christ Jesus. My hope for a changed life does not stem then from myself, but rather from a far greater power above and beyond me – the power of God through Jesus Christ my Lord.

In a similar way, when I think of the difficulties of winter:- the dark, early nights; the dreary, wet days; the seemingly endless succession of grey, sunless skies, I am reminded that Winter will not last forever, and death of eternal, indestructible life. That life is in Jesus Christ and His resurrection.

Easter Sunday is the ultimate antidote to the despairs of winter. Darkness came over the land as Jesus suffered, so the gospel writers record, but darkness did not have the final say.

Three days later a light burst from the tomb that 2000 years of trials, sufferings and persecutions has not managed to snuff out. It is the light of true life in Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, ascended to heaven, enthroned at God's right hand, and coming again one day in glory. In the middle of winter, whether that be the metrological season, or the season of life that we find ourselves in, this is where we fix our gaze. This is our true hope.

**Happy Easter everyone,**

*Pastor Darren*



**February** comes from the Latin word 'februa' which means 'to cleanse'. The month was named after the Roman 'Februalia' which was a month-long festival of atonement and purification; a time of reflection, peace and new beginnings.

Leap Year comes in every 4 years. It bears a complicated astronomical reason – suffice it to say that it has everything to do with the orbit of the earth and sun 365.25 days; hence the extra 'leaping' day - Feb 29<sup>th</sup>. It keeps our calendar in check.

February has both its good and ominous history.

Rome burned in A.D. 64.

The Titanic sank in 1912.

The Pilgrims landed in Massachusetts in 1620.

Benjamin Frawe

**March** comes in with confidence. Its meaning comes from ancient Rome when it was called maritus mensis or the Month of Mars, the Roman god of war. March was the first month in the early Roman calendar because war would start again after the winter.

March comes in with confidence. According to tradition, the birthstones for March were aquamarine and bloodstone, symbolizing courage.

Here's a surprise. March's birth flower is the daffodil. In some cultures it represents spring and new beginnings.



God, give us eyes to see  
the beauty of the Spring,  
And to behold Your majesty  
in every living thing.

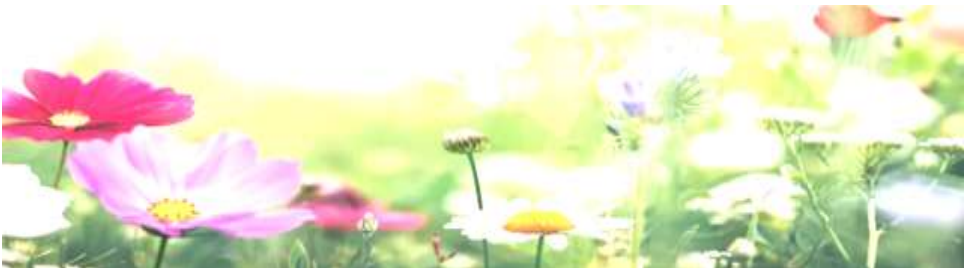
And may we see in lacy leaves  
and every budding flower  
The Hand that rules the universe  
with gentleness and power.

And may this Easter grandeur  
that Spring lavishly imparts  
Awaken faded flowers of faith  
Lying dormant in our hearts.

And give us ears to hear, dear God  
the Springtime song of birds  
With messages more meaningful  
than man's often empty words.

Telling harried human beings  
who are lost in dark despair.  
'Be like us and do not worry  
for God has you in his care.

Helen Steiner Rice



Over Christmas I read a gem of a book called "Three from Galilee" by Marjorie Holmes. It spans the years when Jesus was "hidden away" in the village of Nazareth, in Galilee. Very little is known about his early life. Writing, not with obtuse academia but with great sensitivity of human nature, we are led by Holmes through those years which are often referred to as "The Hidden Years". Up to the age of 30 He lived with his mother Mary and father, Joseph. They were poor, for Roman taxes were oppressive. He worked alongside his father, in a carpenter's shop. They were seemingly uneventful years, except for that little verse *"and Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man. (Luke 2 v52)*

Have our lives followed a similar pattern? - those years when the words 'routine', 'ordinary' and even 'mundane' spring to mind. Perhaps we are still using those words. We too remember having to follow school timetables, when learning was paramount. They were followed by the routine of a new job and its respective responsibilities, or running a home! Were any of these years your "hidden years?" Were they years when you didn't seem to be going anywhere too exciting or hugely adventurous?

Did our lives 'just happen' in a haze of busyness under our very noses! How often do we exclaim "Time flies"! I can recall a few 'hidden years' - can you? As we grew in wisdom and strength we may have branched out far more than our parents ever did, such has been the enormity of change between the generations. Today we fly, we are challenged by technology - we shop 'on-line'. Yet, have we grown from within, have we been conscious of an 'otherness' - the leading and guiding hand of Someone who knows us so deeply that we are amazed at what we have been able to achieve. Suddenly our words 'routine' and 'mundane' have to be replaced with 'awe and thankfulness'.

Jesus was 30 years old when His path became unique, for such was His life's mission. It was at this age that a Rabbi's learning and interpretation was accepted. Jesus' time had come - and with it the realisation that He was the long expected Messiah - the Son of God. The realisation of the uniqueness of His mission, His life's work to save this world from Satan's claws could only have evolved slowly. God planned it so.

Before we race ahead to Easter let us linger in Nazareth and lean into the intuitive writing of Marjorie Holmes. As Jesus becomes ever more conscious of who He was - God's Son - we see that 'inner knowing' blossom. In the fullness of time. we may find that it has been our life's experience too as we recognise and accept our calling and 'ministry'. Here are poignant examples of her Marjorie Holmes intuitive writings....

**“Three from Nazareth” page 20** (We read the following)

“...on the hillside Mary and a very young Jesus were watching the doves. To her surprise she saw that Jesus was holding one; He was stroking it, talking softly to it. Then, to her dismay, she saw the open snare trap in the grass behind. Jesus had released the little white dove. Cradling the white treasure carefully in his hands ... Jesus brought it to Mary.

‘See, it likes me, it didn’t like the net - there, there beautiful bird.’

The female flew on to the child’s shoulder and nestled there. Jesus stood very still until her mate flew to him also, No longer alarmed he calmly perched on Jesus’ other shoulder. A smile broke across Jesus’ face, then He opened his hands, and the birds, fluttered away. In an instant, it seemed to Mary that they were reluctant to leave, then they spurted upward, singing a song of love and pure joy.



Mary told herself, ‘It could happen to any little boy’. Why then this sense of trembling elation mingled with an anguish she could not explain?’ It was one of the things she must ponder in her heart!”

**P49** “Joachim, Mary’s father, was watching his grandson, Jesus, as he kept up with the other shepherd boys. Needfully resting his aching bones against a rock, Joachim lifted his eyes to the clouds coasting overhead, “Lord, just let me live long enough to witness his wonders. Perhaps even to see him free our people and be crowned, the true king of Israel”.

**P96.** “Jesus is with the learned men, Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea in The Temple in Jerusalem. They are astounded by his doctrine.

After much reasoning against animal sacrifice Nicodemus asks, “Will we no longer worship God?’ The young boy was silent for a moment. “The Father will have shown us another way...He will suffer for our transgressions’. Sweat had broken out on the young face, he wiped it away with his sleeve, shaken by his own words. Nicodemus continues for his heart is pounding “How do you know these things?” ...

The discussion is interrupted by Mary, distraught having lost Jesus for several days.

Jesus can but turn to Mary, “Forgive me, but why did you look for me anywhere but in my Father’s house? Didn’t you realise that I must be about my Father’s business!” ... and they returned to Nazareth.

There are many such moments of ‘deep inner knowing’ all bubbling away, seeking the surface – waiting for the moment of recognition in our lives too. We cherish each one and grow in faith and love.

You may be surprised that I am using a children's book to illustrate great truths and life's precious lessons. This one, written by Dr Seuss is a children's favourite – it will serve us well too. Enjoy these excerpts. Our Lord needs the faith of little children – their innocence, courage and sense of adventure.

### **"You're off to great places"**

Congratulations!

Today is your day! You're off to great places –

You're off and away.

You have brains in your head,

You have feet in your shoes,

You can steer yourself

Any direction you choose.

You're on your own,

You know what you know.

And YOU are the guy  
who'll decide where to go.

With your head, full of brains

and your shoes full of feet,

You're too smart to go down,

Any 'not so good' street.

And when things start to happen,  
don't worry, don't stew.

Just go right along.

**You'll start happening too.**



You won't lag behind because  
You'll have the speed,  
Wherever you fly  
you'll be best of the breed.  
Wherever you go,  
you will top all the rest.  
Except when you don't ,  
Because sometimes you won't.  
When in a Slump,  
you're not in for much fun;  
Un-slumping  
yourself  
is not easily done  
You can get so confused,  
heading I fear,  
Toward the most useless place.





what are other  
words for  
play the waiting game?



bide your time, wait,  
be patient, wait and see,  
hold back, hold off,  
cool your heels



### The Waiting Place.

No! That's not always for you ...  
You'll find the bright places.  
On you will go, though the weather be foul;  
on you will go though your enemies, prow!  
On and on you will hike,  
and I know you will hike further  
and face up to your problems  
whatever they are.  
Be sure when you step,  
Step with care and great tact,  
And remember that life  
is a great balancing act.  
And will you succeed, yes - you will,  
Indeed 98 and 3/4 percent  
guaranteed.  
I'm afraid that some times  
You'll play lonely games too  
Games you can't win  
'cause you'll play against you.  
You are off to great places.  
Today is your day.  
Your mountain is waiting  
So – get on your way!



*(Both photos by kind permission of  
Zephyr Miles).*

None of us will ever physically climb a real mountain, but each one of us –  
whatever our age – has  
a mountain to climb, a summit to reach,  
a view to enjoy and a life to complete.

Rhonwen.

## **Family News**

### **Happy Birthday to BMS Birthday Scheme Members - February**

|                  |                  |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Bethan Budd      | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Phil Chamberlain |
| 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Delyth Ware      | 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Keith Johnson    |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> | Vaughan Richards | 18 <sup>th</sup> | Julie Brown      |

### **March**

|                  |            |  |              |
|------------------|------------|--|--------------|
| 4 <sup>th</sup>  | John Ware  |  | Ethan Davies |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> | David Drew |  |              |

### **Pulpit Ministry - February**

Rev. Darren Blaney will be preaching every Sunday except the **11<sup>th</sup> February** when Paul Thomas of Release International will be preaching

**March** Rev. Darren Blaney will be preaching every Sunday.

**Duty Deacons - February** Walter Holder and Rhyl Coleman

**March** Lynne Chamberlain, Rhonwen Miles

**Communion - February** 4<sup>th</sup> John Ware and Mary Johnson

- **March** 3<sup>rd</sup> Walter Holder and Rhyl Coleman

Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> John Ware and Paul Evans

Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Rhonwen Miles and Mary Johnson

**Meet and Greet February** Owain and Pam **March** Irene and Clive.

**A Deacons Meeting** will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> March

Due to Easter we will need any input into the magazine by the **20<sup>th</sup> March please**

### **TEA ROTA**

#### **February**

4<sup>th</sup> Joan and Manny Devere

11<sup>th</sup> Sian Fear and Judith Howells

18<sup>th</sup> Wendy and Graham Price

25<sup>th</sup> Nyfain Pugh and Mary Johnson

#### **March**

3<sup>rd</sup> Rhyl Coleman and Sian Fear

10<sup>th</sup> Lynne Chamberlain and Elaine Jenkins

17<sup>th</sup> Delyth and John Ware

24<sup>th</sup> Enid and Gareth James

31<sup>st</sup> Pat and Ron Fairf

#### **FLOWER ROTA – February**

4<sup>th</sup> Delyth and John Ware (Delyth's birthday)

11<sup>th</sup> Jean Langdon (in memory of Cyril)

18<sup>th</sup> Margaret Francis (in memory of Jack Francis)

25<sup>th</sup> Chris Burn

## **March**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Irene and Clive Griffiths
- 10<sup>th</sup> Margaret Francis (in memory of John)
- 17<sup>th</sup> Delyth and John
- 24<sup>th</sup> Gareth and Enid James
- 31<sup>st</sup> Angela and Alistair Duthie

Our last issue was Christmas, with its card wrapped around the magazine, here we are in Feb/ March with an Easter Card. Easter is early this year! (March 24th is Palm Sunday).

I was away for 5 weeks over Christmas staying with my family in Los Angeles.

I was somewhat caught off guard when I returned. This had to be our Easter issue, time flies! Thankfully I escaped the awful wet and windy weather you 'enjoyed'.

Please indulge me a line or two to mention my eventful time – over there! You will not want to hear about the sunshine but what about my close encounter with a beautiful, brown bear. We were in Tahoe at the time. Hungry, innocent looking bears stroll around the area looking for food. We were about to leave our house to return to Los Angeles - all well buckled into the car and there he was, taking an afternoon stroll. Fortunately, he turned right at the junction of our road and went on his way. He was so beautiful. Lula kept saying, "So cute..." - a good thing that she was buckled in; she has a habit of saying, "Hi" to anyone and everyone... including bears!! (*It was definitely not Paddington*).

My next adventure came at 8.27am one Monday morning. There was a rumbling. I thought the workmen had started early. Oh no! - nothing so mundane - it was an earthquake registering 4.2.

Things are supposed to happen in three. They did, for the morning headlines were grim. "Waves batter the coast-line of California. Ventura hit the hardest..."

Things are supposed to happen in three. They did, for the morning headlines were grim. "*Waves batter the coast-line of California*". *Ventura hit the hardest...*". Here endeth my Christmas report.

In between said trauma, I had a wonderful time. I have now stopped believing that I'm doing well for my age!! I'm not! I can't ski, neither can I walk briskly up hills. (or anywhere else for that matter). I am over 80 (just). I am becoming reconciled to the fact that no one ever says, "Never" when

introduced. My passport photo makes me look at least 90. The perks do come when doors are opened and cabin crew put the case in the overhead locker!

I do hope that there were many pockets of peace, good food and loving care in your Christmas stockings - with many more gifts promised for 2024.

Oddly enough many of you are saying that Christmas seems a long while ago.

As a fellowship we are saddened to hear of the passing of Mr Ken Roberts. (Marian Robert's husband). Ken died on Monday, January 15th. He lived to be over 100 years old having led a full and busy life. His gardening skills were there for all to see - and taste. Generosity and gratitude went hand in hand as he appreciated all the life-long, loving care that he has received.

Marian is not enjoying the best of health right now. We send her and all the family our loving prayers as she finds the comfort of her faith, her family and friends a blessing, all from God. Our prayers encompass each one of you.

We all find much comfort and relief to know that Edith is now in Surrey where she will be near her son. Always busy solving the problems of others over the years as a councillor for Bridgend, Edith amazed us all by the fortitude of her mind, her strength of spirit and the resolute way with which she deals with her physical disabilities. Her faith will keep her strong. We send her our prayers and our love. Hope is the poorer for her leaving us. We can but emulate her resilience and trust.

Hilary has been in, and is now out of hospital following a fall. Thankfully no bones were broken. We pray that she will regain her confidence very quickly.

Barbara (S) has also had a couple of falls but is recovering well.

Mr Geoff Hopkin has also been falling and is in hospital. Geoff has had more than his fair share of pain over many years. They have been testing times but his faith has seen him through. Family and wonderful neighbours and friends have undergirded that faith for which he is so grateful. We trust that he will be home very soon.

We continue to pray for Dorothy, Brenda, Rob, Adrienne, Anita and Edward, Patricia, Marion, Hilary, Barbara, David and Caryl, Madeleine, Clarice, Josie

and Ken. Each in turn experience the strength that comes from prayers, love and outward concerns of so many around them.

We are so very aware that there are many of you enduring long term symptoms. Your patience is an example to us all. Be assured that you remain on our prayer list as we ask fervently for healing.

We thank our Lord that Philip and Rosalyn see improvement, long may it continue.

Calendar wise, Easter seems a way down the road. With no news, as yet, we will certainly advise you via our church announcements or online of any events that will be occurring. Thank you, Phil, for the invaluable linking as we receive information online of the weekly church diary but most especially for the YouTube links every Sunday morning

**From what occurred to what's occurring.**

Fundraising is getting harder each year as the financial climate is as chilly as winter winds. We have received this notification from Neil on behalf of Mission Home and away.

“As this will be the final post from Mission Home and Away as the group has now folded, we would like to thank all of you who have supported us in whatever way over so many years and wish the new group who will be raising funds for the church every blessing.

All at MHA would like to wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

MHA Committee.

We thank them for all their hard work over many years.

Hope will continue to support many organisations including The Baptist Missionary Society – most especially its Birthday scheme. Irene writes.

“I would like to thank everyone who very kindly contributed to the B.M.S birthday scheme. Last year a total of £845 was sent to B.M.S.

The B.M.S is dedicated to raising money for Health Ministries throughout the world and every day you are fighting pain and bringing life. You are saving and transforming lives. This is what you are doing giving life to the full. Your very generous gifts make this work possible.

If you would like to support the birthday scheme, please let me know.

Every blessing “

***Irene (Griffiths)***

Other organisations include Home Mission, Christian Aid, Bible Society and the Food Bank. We pledge in this coming year to continue with our awareness of the needs facing each one.

Pam writes:

“Alison and I were privileged to attend the Mayor’s Parlour to be thanked (on your behalf) for our contribution to the Secret Santa Appeal.

We were thrilled to hear that over £6,000 (including our £421) was donated along with 1,400 toys and gifts for 287 children in the County Borough who had been nominated by Social Care and Early Help/Flying Start services to receive a gift”



That is a remarkable example of the heartfelt generosity of all who were involved – financially as well as ‘donating ‘time and energy packing and delivering the gifts. We lament the need for gifts for children who would otherwise have nothing to open. Our community is suffering – we help where we can  
Our Daily Needs are always supplied ... and we are grateful.

I have included this image at the end of Family News and What’s occurring because it speaks to us all. Its utter simplicity and devotion leaps off the page. Here is God’s servant in prayer before sampling his simple meal. As God’s people isn’t this what we do?

We take bread and wine in the Sanctuary – we are family, celebrating the death and resurrection of our Lord together each month.

Look at this image in depth. In humble simplicity it can but be a kitchen table, set with a check cloth, with bread, cut and waiting - and a simple mug – an empty plate and a bible – but first the hands, weathered by toil and age, come together in prayer. If there was ever a Waiting Place for us this must surely be the most needful and expectant of all.

Expectant of what? A blessing – guidance, a request made and an answer hoped for. And so it comes – The Light shines through dark clouds. Notice how its rays beam forth. Seemingly diffused by the darkness they rest gently on the cup but are brighter and stronger on the hands of God’s servant Herein lies the blessing for the Lord hears every prayer and comforts every believer be the weather fair or foul.

We need to be present at both tables for we are indeed family.



**“Give us this day our daily bread”  
“I come in humble dependence upon you knowing that you provide  
what we need on a daily basis.**

There are lines in Shakespeare's 'Hamlet'

"This above all: to thine own self be true  
And it must follow, as the night the day  
Thou canst not then be false to any man."

Not bad advice to take with us into 2024. Do we actually sit down long enough to work out who we really are in these tumultuous times?

We have the Proust Questionnaire to thank for helping us to unravel our thoughts and dreams. Here are questions and some answers to encourage us to find our own thoughts; hopefully with the same honesty and humour, please..

**Questions and answers:-**

1. What is the trait you most deplore in yourself?

*(a) My fear of new things.*

*(b) Impatience.*

*(c) Anger.*

2. What is the trait you most deplore in others?

*(Dishonesty)*

3. What is your greatest regret?

*(Not forgiving more easily)*

4. Which living person do you most admire?

*(Anyone who's content with his or her own life)*

Now it's our turn to think and smile wondering what people would make of our answers?!

**Which talent would you most like to have?**

*(Suggested answers)*

*To be able to sing, play the piano, ski....)*

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**If you could change one thing about yourself, what would it be?**

*(Answers seen but remain anonymous)*

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- a. *The ability to think before I speak.*
- b. *Be 4 inches taller.*
- c. *To stick to my well thought out resolutions*

+++++

**What is your most treasured possession?**

- A *.My sense of humour!*
- b. *My photographs...and wedding ring.*

+++++

**What is it that you most dislike about people?**

*Those who settle for second best - make an effort ... )*

+++++

**What is your greatest extravagance?**

- a. *Anything that makes me feel guilty when handing over the cash.*
- b. *C.S. Lewis says "Your book bill ought to be your greatest extravagance".*

+++++

Choose the verse from scripture that you believe in and cling to.

We must all learn to sit back at times and relax enjoying what we have received and seeking what we can give others.

Hold on! Am I referring specifically to present buying? - a nightmare!

Let me help you somewhat.

Here are some fun ideas to put into that Easter Basket.

**PTO**

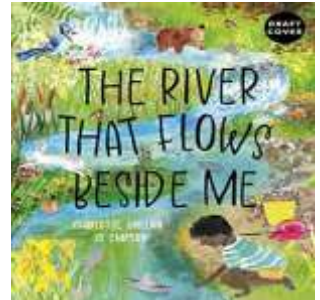


Easter baskets don't have to be full of little chocolate eggs. But they do have to be full of surprises. (not forgetting a small egg or two)

1. How about Easter Bubble Bath Bombs.(see above)
2. Small scented pencils! Cute!
3. Lego Easter Rabbits.

4.This book comes highly recommended – an award winner.

It's a concertina book that follows a river's journey from its source to the sea. It opens up to eight foot long....Brilliant and so educational.



### **One for the teenage girl**

They are back in fashion.  
Always good to be 'in the know'.

### **One for the teenage boy**

Thanks to this unique projector . It'll project a galaxy onto their walls and it has built-in Bluetooth for their favourite music and white noise sounds. It's just what they need  
Get them to order on-line!!!





**Pay back time? Not just for kids.....Love one another.**

I especially like -

Tell someone special that you love them.

Bake a cake for someone. (*or get Tesco to do it – still works!*)

Encourage someone.

Show how much you love your family and friends –

**Go, labour on, spend and be spent;  
Thy joy to do the Father's will  
It is the way the Master went:  
Should not the servant tread it still?**

**And in the fullness of time - at the age of 30**

Jesus left for the River Jordan and his cousin John, to be baptised by him; it was here that Jesus heard His Father's voice.

"This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" - and the Dove – (again) unmistakably symbolic of the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, hovered above Him..



Have you noticed how a dove descends? It descends differently to other birds. We could say it floats downwards; not like the eagle, swooping mercilessly to kill its prey.

No, it was a smooth, steady, deliberate, innocent, pure and harmless manner in which the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus. Oh the joy, the certainty of 'that deep knowing', there was no mistaking His Father's voice. At this moment, time stands still, for the presence, the essence of the Trinity are together in unity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

The people need Jesus, John urges Him to stay awhile - but the Dove flies heavenward leading Jesus into the wilderness ... Jesus follows!



**After only 3 short years of ministry**, the Perfect Son of God is nailed to a Roman cross. There is no dove to be seen anywhere.

A woeful sense of total abandonment pervades. "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Gethsemane's human prayers had not been

answered. Torture, humiliation and scorn rained down upon Jesus; the earth shook and the sun hid her face. Yet the Son, the very Light of this World cried out, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do". We were in his heart ... you and I - and we are forgiven.

**On the Third Day there is a Dove! The Holy Spirit** -

Paul writes, "The Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you". ***There it is, for us too, our deep knowing of who we truly are - children of God - loved beyond measure.***





The deep work of God  
Heals our hurts  
Restores our vision  
Lifts our emotions  
Guides our steps, and  
Fills our lives with the  
Indwelling Christ.



## ***We are walking together on the road to our Father's House***

We are one in the spirit.  
We are one in the Lord.  
And I pray that our unity  
may one day be restored.  
And they'll know we are Christians  
by our love ...

We will walk with each other,  
and we'll walk hand-in-hand.  
And together will  
spread the news  
That God is in our land.

We will work with each other.  
We will work side-by-side.  
We will guide  
each other's dignity.  
And save each other's pride.

Oh, They will know we are  
Christians by our love.



Our traveller may be seemingly alone but she needs direction.  
Whilst she has no idea what's around the corner she is well equipped –  
sturdy shoes and a back pack which looks full. Her stride is purposeful,  
- somebody, somewhere has advised her well, imbued her with self belief  
...

“ ... by their love, by their love”.

## **OUR WEEK AT A GLANCE**

For more information on any of our activities, please get in touch with the contact shown.

### **TUESDAY:**

Tuesday Prayer Group      9.30am      Mrs R Rowe    (01656) 654881

Tuesday@Hope              10.30am    Mrs M Johnson   (01656) 656346

### **THURSDAY:**

Baby & Toddler Group      9.30am      Dr D. Ware    (01656) 662948

Prayer Meeting              7.00pm

### **SUNDAY:**

Sunday'scool              (not      10.30am  
operating at present)

Morning Service              10.30am

## **WHO TO CONTACT AT HOPE**

**CHURCH CONTACT:**    [hopebaptist@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:hopebaptist@hotmail.co.uk)      07866 746851

**CHURCH PASTOR**    Rev. Darren Blaney      07866 746851

**SECRETARY:**    John Ware      (01656) 662948

**TREASURER:**    Paul Evans      (01656) 661986

**CARETAKER:**    Seung Ho & Yun Hee Kang      (01656) 646911

**USE OF PREMISES  
& SAFEGUARDING**    Sally George      (01656) 668791

**NEWSDESK:**    [mag4hope@yahoo.com](mailto:mag4hope@yahoo.com)      Rhonwen Miles/  
Pam Jones

# HOPE

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## BAPTIST CHURCH

### **OUR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

(Church Meeting 010503)

We will EVANGELISE our community & beyond.

We will encourage people to become more Christ-like through  
DISCIPLESHIP.

We are committed to meeting the needs of those inside & outside  
our walls through MINISTRY.

We will value FELLOWSHIP, recognising that it is a divine gift to the  
church.

We will come before the Lord in obedience to WORSHIP Him.

Hope Baptist Church operates a safeguarding children and  
adults at risk policy

[www.hopebridgend.co.uk](http://www.hopebridgend.co.uk)

[www.facebook.com/HOPE-BAPTIST-CHURCH-BRIDGEND](https://www.facebook.com/HOPE-BAPTIST-CHURCH-BRIDGEND)

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Hope English Baptist Church Bridgend

Affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain (BUGB) & South Wales  
Baptist Association

Registered Charity: No. 1133067

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