



NEWSLETTER

Issue 2 – August 2020

Hello everyone

The last few months have seen an unprecedented break in the normal regime of our lives and communities because of lockdown due to Covid 19.

During this period, the Executive of Bryn a Môr Mission Area has been meeting regularly as we all cope with the effects this virus has had on our church and wider communities.

Our executive group consists of myself Revd David Lewis, The Mission Area Leader, our Wardens Maryon Hughes and Harry Sandford, Reverends John Harvey, David Ash, Timothy Lipscomb, our Mission Area Treasurer Geraldine Saunders and Tim Rogers the chair of the building Committee for Bryn a Môr.

As Lockdown begins to ease, we all thought it would be a good time to produce a newsletter to reflect on the last few months and to begin to look forward. Each of those communities has each responded to the Lockdown in many different new and exciting ways.

Ffynnongroyw, Gronant, Llanasa, and Twelawnyd	Dyserth	Prestatyn, Christ Church and Church of the Holy Spirit	Meliden and Gwaenysgor
<p>We have been regularly recording services, sermons and prayers and writing newsletters to share on the Facebook pages of the Churches and on the Mission Area as well as ensuring that those not online regularly receive these items. On a Sunday Morning almost thirty of us share in a Zoom service which has been so important in maintaining contact fellowship.</p> <p>In Ffynnongroyw and Trelawnyd we have started a covid snake to show support to our key workers and those adversely affected by Covid and every Thursday our Church Bells have been rung in support of those vital Key workers.</p> <p>Llanasa Church is now open for private prayer on Wednesdays from 10am to 11am and Fridays from 2pm to 4pm.</p>	<p>The congregation in Dyserth are eclectic and live scattered around the local area. Many are of an age where self isolation has been mandatory, has meant that many have required regular telephone calls. Many have no computer, so they have missed out on any online services. Nevertheless, the YouTube broadcasts every Sunday have been well subscribed. During Holy Week we had a service every day. We have been open recently for Private Prayer and we have started opening for services, in accordance with the guidelines.</p> <p>Lockdown seems to have generated a new zeal and hope for the future of the Church and the congregations part in it.</p>	<p>Pastoral care using the phone was undertaken by a group of helpers.</p> <p>Weekly On Line services where particularly well supported with attendances higher than expected with Zoom Coffee'n'Chat meetings after the online service very popular. 'Stations of the Cross', 'Let's Explore Holy Week' and VE75 where celebrated online. A Zoom wedding was also held online. For those without access to computers hard copies of the Parish magazine 'Pop Around' where produced along with DVD's of the services.</p> <p>The WhatsApp group at CHS was initiated with Retired Vicar Geoff Breffitt has contributing over 130 "Thoughts for the Day" and Retired Canon Brian Harding contributing related YouTube songs.</p> <p>For Private Prayer Christ Church is open on Wed from 1-3pm and Sat from 11am -1pm, and CHS is open in Thurs from 11am -1pm and Sun from 1pm until 3pm</p>	<p>From the start of lockdown it's been important to maintain our pattern of worship even if we couldn't be together, so in Gwaenysgor at 10 a.m. and Meliden at 11.15 every Sunday the bell has rung inviting us to pray a short service already circulated – in the first weeks a sheet posted through the door or by email, from Easter Day a video service emailed out. Several have contributed with recording or sending photos for inclusion in the weekly video, the mailing list has grown, and much appreciation received.</p> <p>Ringling the church bell for the Thursday night Clap for Carers began in the area after a note from a resident prompted it; Again, appreciation revealed the important place the presence of the church still has in the hearts of many.</p> <p>There's been pastoral support by telephone and online, and even new friendships grown through it. Both churches will soon reopen for Sunday worship</p>

AFTER LOCKDOWN

The Mission Area has now been in existence three years, its aim being to move away from an individual parish based ministry to a wider ministry that embraced the talents and vision, experiences and enthusiasm of a number of churches and communities from Dyserth to Ffynnongroyw, and from Trelawnyd to Prestatyn including the coastal and rural hinterland. In order to maintain the momentum of change the diocese has launched a review of all the Mission Area's, which will be carried out for the Bryn a Môr Mission Area during the month of September.

The Archdeacon has contributed these words of encouragement for the process

As we come out of lockdown, many of us may be feeling excited by the new opportunities of the future, or nervous and apprehensive.

The last few months have shown us that there are some things that we've learnt that are worth holding onto, and there may be some things that we've seen we can do without.

The Mission Area reviews that are taking place over across the whole diocese over the next few months are to help us all to try and discern where God wants His church to go in the future, and what lessons He may have been teaching us over these last few months. In effect, is the church fit for purpose and then what help can be given to help it fulfill its God given mission.

The Mission Area Conference, with help from the Diocesan Staff, will be trying to discern that through the Mission Area Review process, and setting the course for the Mission Area to fulfill its God given task.

Please pray for all involved in the process, as they seek to be sensitive to the Spirit's leading at this exciting and challenging time, knowing that God wants what is best for us.

Andy Grimwood

We are pleased to introduce these NEW ARRIVALS to the Bryn A Môr Mission Area team:

Rev. David Lewis

David arrived as MA Leader and Vicar of Ffynnongroyw, Gronant, Llanasa and Trelawnyd in January 2020 from being Vicar of Rhos on Sea and Mission Area Leader of Aled. He was born and brought up in Prestatyn and has served in the Diocese of St Asaph since he was ordained a Deacon in 1990, serving his curacy in The Llangollen Group of Parishes. In his thirty years of Ministry he has been Vicar of Southsea, Berse, Tan y Fron and Bwlchgwyn near Wrexham, Rector of Erbistock, Overton and Penley on the Welsh Border, and then Rector of Hawarden. He is married to Sue and they have three children, Andrew, Claire and Christian who have all flown the nest!

Rev Canon Timothy Lipscomb

After a period of retirement the Bishop licensed Tim to be part time at St Bridgets Church, Dyserth. Tim was originally from Yorkshire and after training at Chichester Theological College was ordained in 1985. During his time in the Ministry he has served at Churches in West Yorkshire, Armley, Leeds, and finally Preston, Lancashire. During his time in Preston Tim became chaplain to the Mayor of the City Council, Chairman of the County Council and Chaplain to the Preston Guild .In 2010 he was made Honorary Canon of Blackburn Cathedral and spent 9 months as acting Archdeacon. In retirement he has spent considerable period at the Shrine of our Lady of Walsingham serving on the staff and assisting with pilgrimages etc.

Rev Gregor Lachlann-Waddell

Gregor was Ordained as Deacon on the 4th July 2020 serving the Llanasa Group of Churches in the Bryn A Môr Mission Area.

Gregor studied at the Scottish Agricultural College, at the Cardiff University School of History, Archeology & Religion, University of Wales Trinity Saint David and Wrexham Glyndwr University.

He is married with two children and is in the process of moving into the Mission Area.