



CYTÛN LLANDUDNO

Llandudno Churches Together

Newsletter No. 40 August 2007

The President Writes:

Dear friends,

It gives me great pleasure to write my first letter to you as President for 2007-8. I want to begin by thanking everyone who came to the Induction service in May. It was a truly inspiring and humble occasion and I want to say a special word of thanks to Fr. Antony Jones for inducting me and saying some nice things about me, things which I will certainly have trouble living up to! We are most grateful to Fr. Antony for stepping in to share the Presidency with Fr Andrew, and then to complete the year as sole President when Fr Andrew left Llandudno to work in Holywell.

It was a great joy to me that the Induction took place on the Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – the day when we remember Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth soon after the Annunciation. Mary was already carrying the incarnate Son of God in her womb and Luke tells the wonderful story of how John the Baptist leapt in his mother's womb in homage to the incarnate Lord. Like John we are called to adore Christ our Lord and our God, like Mary we are to be obedient to the call of God and like her we are to 'carry' Christ to a very needy world. At the Induction I received two items which I will eventually hand on to my successor (whoever that eventually turns out to be!) – the President's Bible and the Chain of Office.

The Bible

I don't suppose that I will actually *use* the President's Bible very much, because it is a copy of the 'authorized version' and I prefer a more modern translation of the scriptures.

Llythyr y Llywydd:

Annwyl gyfeillion,

Mae'n bleser mawr gen i ysgrifennu fy llythyr cyntaf atoch fel Llywydd 2007 – 08. Hoffwn ddechrau drwy ddiolch i bawb a ddaeth i'r gwasanaeth Sefydlu ym mis Mai. Roedd yn achlysur gwirioneddol ysbrydoledig a gostyngedig a hoffwn ddweud gair o ddiolch arbennig i'r Tad Antony Jones am fy sefydlu ac am ddweud rhai pethau caredig iawn amdanaf, pethau'n wir y caf i ychydig o drafferth i'w gwireddu. Rydym yn eithriadol o ddiolchgar i'r Tad Antony am sefyll yn y bwlch a rhannu'r Llywyddiaeth gyda'r Tad Andrew, ac yna gwblhau'r flwyddyn fel yr unig Lywydd pan adawodd y Tad Andrew Llandudno i weithio yn Nhreffynnon.

Roedd yn llawenydd mawr i mi y cynhaliwyd y Sefydlu ar Wyl Ymweliad Mair Forwyn - y diwrnod rydym yn cofio ymweliad Mair â'i chyfnither Elisabeth yn fuan ar ôl y Cyfarchiad. Roedd Mair eisoes yn cario Mab Duw ymgawdoledig yn ei chroth ac mae Luc yn adrodd yr hanes bendigedig o sut y gwnaeth Ioan Fedyddiwr neidio yng nghroth ei fam mewn gwrogaeth i'r Arglwydd ymgawdoledig. Fel Ioan rydym ni'n cael ein galw i addoli Crist ein Harglwydd a'n Duw, fel Mair rydym yn ufudd i alwad Duw ac yn debyg iddi rydym i 'gario' Crist i fyd anghenus iawn. Wrth gael fy sefydlu derbyniais ddwy eitem y byddaf yn y pendraw yn eu cyflwyno i'm holynydd (pwy bynnag fydd hwnnw / honno!) - Beibl a Chadwyn y Llywydd.

Y Beibl

Dydw i ddim yn meddwl y byddaf yn defnyddio llawer iawn ar Feibl y Llywydd mewn gwirionedd, gan ei fod yn gopi o'r 'fersiwn awdurdodedig' ac mae'n well gen i gyfieithiad modern o'r ysgrythurau. Fodd bynnag, rwy'n ei chyfrif yn fraint fawr cael y Beibl hardd hwn yn fy meddiant. Fe'i rhoddwyd i Hen Gyngor Eglwys Llandudno ym 1974 gan Mrs Meikle ac felly mae'n hŷn o rai blynyddoedd na phan sefydlwyd Cytûn yn ein tref. Yr arfer yw bod pob llywydd yn ysgrifennu ei h / enw tu fewn i'r clawr blaen - ac yn wir mae rhai enwau enwog yno, enwau y bydd y rhan fwyaf ohonoch yn gyfarwydd iawn â nhw.

However I still count it a great honour to have this beautiful Bible in my keeping. It was given to the old Llandudno Council of Churches in 1974 by Mrs Meikle and so pre-dates by some years the founding of Cytûn in our town.

The custom is that each president writes his or her name in the inside front cover – and there are some illustrious names there indeed, names most of you will be familiar with. Having this Bible is important to me because it is a constant reminder that all we try to do as members of Cytûn in Llandudno must be done in the name of Christ the Word of God, to whom the sacred scriptures are the abiding witness.

The Chain

Then there is the wonderful Chain of Office. Like the Bible the Chain is a sign of the continuity of the Christian life and witness of all our churches across the years. The names of each president are inscribed on the chain and the date of the founding of Cytûn Llandudno can be seen on the main pendant – 1990. This means that next year we will be 18 years old!

Maybe my Presidential year ought to be one of re-evaluating our life and work as we prepare to celebrate our ‘coming of age’ in 2008.

Apart from the Induction I have only worn the Chain on one occasion so far – this was at a lovely meal in *Venue Cymru* arranged by the Welsh Congregational Church as part of their annual conference. It was a great privilege to represent the churches of Llandudno at that event. Please give me many other opportunities to wear the Chain! Invite me to any special events or services in your church which you would like the President to attend.

Priorities

What priorities did I have on assuming the Presidency? They were rather basic things – but they all needed doing. The first was to re-establish regular meetings of the Clergy Fraternal which had become rather hit and miss. I think we have achieved this. Secondly I wanted to find a new way for us to pray together regularly as members of Cytûn.

(continued on next page)

Mae cael y Beibl hwn yn bwysig i mi gan ei fod yn fy atgoffa'n gyson bod raid i bopeth rydym yn ceisio ei wneud fel aelodau Cytûn yn Llandudno gael ei wneud yn enw Crist, Gair Duw, ac mae'r ysgrythurau sanctaidd yn dystiolaeth barhaus o hynny.

Y Gadwyn

Yna, dyna Gadwyn y Swydd. Fel y Beibl mae'r Gadwyn yn arwydd o barhad y bywyd a thystiolaeth Gristnogol yn ein holl eglwysi gydol y blynyddoedd. Mae enwau'r holl lywyddion wedi'u harysgrifio ar y gadwyn ac mae dyddiad sefydlu Cytûn Llandudno i'w weld ar y prif dlws crog – 1990. Golyga hynny y byddwn yn 18 oed y flwyddyn nesaf! Efallai y dylai fy mlwyddyn Lywyddol fod yn un o ail werthuso'n bywyd a gwaith fel yr ydym yn paratoi i ddathlu ein ‘dod i oed’ yn 2008.

Ar wahân i'r Sefydlu, dim ond unwaith yr wyf wedi gwisgo'r Gadwyn hyd yn hyn - trefnwyd pryd bendigedig yn *Venue Cymru* gan Eglwys yr Annibynwyr fel rhan o'u cynhadledd flynyddol. Roedd yn ffrainc fawr cael cynrychioli eglwysi Llandudno yn y digwyddiad hwnnw. Cofiwch geisio rhoi llawer o gyfleoedd eraill i mi wisgo'r Gadwyn! Estynnwch wahoddiad i mi i unrhyw ddigwyddiad neu wasanaeth arbennig yn eich eglwys lle dymunwch i'r Llywydd fod yn bresennol.

Blaenoriaethau

Pa flaenoriaethau oedd gen i wrth ymgymryd â'r Llywyddiaeth? Roeddynt yn bethau sylfaenol braidd – ond mae pob un angen ei wneud. Y gyntaf oedd ail sefydlu cyfarfodydd rheolaidd o Frawdoliaeth y Gweinidogion a oedd wedi mynd braidd yn afreolaidd. Credaf ein bod wedi cyflawni hynny. Yn ail, roeddwn eisiau cael ffordd newydd i ni weddiö gyda'n gilydd yn rheolaidd fel aelodau o Cytûn. Rydym ar y ffordd i gyflawni hynny. Mae Cyngor Cytûn wedi cymeradwyo cynlluniau ar gyfer cael amser wythnosol rheolaidd o weddiö yn parhau am ddim mwy nag 20 munud ac i'w cynnal bob amser cinio ar ddydd Iau yn St Ioan, yr Eglwys Fethodistaidd. Rydym yn gobeithio dechrau'r mis Medi yma a byddwch yn clywed rhagor am hynny cyn bo hir. Y drydedd flaenoriaeth oedd cael Is Lywydd - i gyd alla i ddweud yw fy mod yn dal i weithio ar hynny!

We are on the way to achieving this as the Cytûn Council has approved plans for a regular weekly time of prayer lasting a maximum of 20 minutes to be held every Thursday lunchtime at St John's Methodist Church. We hope to begin this in September and you will be hearing more about this soon. The third priority was to find a Vice-President – all I can say is that I am still working on this one!

The Year ahead

There will be the usual dinner in October, a Conference in November (hopefully on the subject of a Christian response to global warming) and in Lent I hope we can turn our attention to the subject of prayer. Good Friday 2008 will be marked by our usual walk of witness and then on Pentecost Sunday to compliment the Good Friday walk we hope to have the 'Walk in the Spirit', postponed this year.

Perhaps, as I mentioned earlier, we might carry out a re-evaluation of all that we do in preparation to celebrate our 18th birthday, and what about that celebration- how would you like us to keep it, let me know!

With every blessing,
Canon John.

Sandwiches for Rough Sleepers

Janet Hughes writes:

The rota system for making and distributing sandwiches to feed the rough sleepers of our town seems to be working efficiently. Seven churches are involved in making the sandwiches, which are then distributed from four town centre churches.

The sandwich bags contain two rounds of bread with various fillings, a packet of crisps, a chocolate biscuit and piece of fruit or a fruit pie. Alongside this there is either a carton of juice or the offer of a mug of tea or coffee.

The following note was left, on the sandwiches plate, at one of the town-centre churches recently:

Y Flwyddyn i Ddod

Bydd y cinio arferol ym mis Hydref, Cynhadledd ym mis Tachwedd (ar destun ymateb Cristnogol i gynhesu byd-eang, gobeithio) ac yn ystod y Grawys gallwn droi ein sylw at weddi. Bydd Dydd Gwener Groglith 2008 yn cael ei nodi gan ein taith gerdded arferol o dystiolaeth ac ar y Sulwyn, i gyd-fynd â thaith gerdded Gwener y Groglith, rydym yn gobeithio cael 'Taith Gerdded yn yr Ysbryd', a gafodd ei gohirio eleni.

Efallai, fel y soniais yn gynharach, y gallwn gynnal ail werthusiad o bopeth rydym yn ei wneud wrth baratoi i ddathlu'n pen-blwydd yn 18 oed - a beth am y dathliad hwnnw - sut hoffech i ni ei ddathlu, rhowch wybod i mi!

Gyda phob bendith
Canon John.

Sandwiches for Rough sleepers (continued):

"Thank You, Minister, for homeless sandwiches. You saved two lives today. I am diabetic and had no sustenance. My little dog was hungry too. In the name of Jesus Christ we thank you for your understanding and compassion. Thank you from The boys."

For *Thank you, Minister*, please read *Thank You, Parishioners*, you who contribute generously of your time and your money.

Apart from the food we are also able to help out with dry bedding for those who have had to sleep out in extremely wet conditions such as those we have had recently. We also have a stock of clothes for those in need.

Probably the most important thing we have to offer is a listening ear and someone to share their joys and sorrows. This enables us to walk alongside them, visit them in hospital, buy bus tickets for them to enable them to keep benefit appointments, help with form filling and giving them access to a telephone. Many of the rough sleepers in our town have sad stories to tell and really appreciate the love and care shown to them in the name of Christ by the churches in Llandudno.

Annual Luncheon

This has been arranged for **Sunday October 7th** and will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Llandudno Promenade. The cost for the three course luncheon will be £10. Please book through Church representatives.

Conwy County Borough Cytûn

Arline Griffiths reports:

The Revd Keith Forecast addressed the Llandudno Cytûn July Council meeting on the work of "Conwy County Borough Cytûn" of which he is the president and which is the "umbrella organisation" for the whole of the County Borough and is complementary to, not instead of, Llandudno Cytûn and the other local Cytûns. It links into the Council Partnership System, thus enabling the Christian voice to be heard in the making of local decisions.

He went on to explain the "Connecting Communities" project. This is an initiative of the North Wales Police, to cover the whole of the North Wales Police area, which aims to open up understanding of faiths and cultures between each other and in the wider community and to unite faith groups with a vision to improve community cohesion, by focusing on the younger, older, disadvantaged, vulnerable and disengaged members of society and exploring activities and good practice which have a positive impact on community cohesion at a local level. The membership of the group includes Leaders or representatives of the various Christian denominations, Presidents of County Borough Cytûns, together with representatives of (so far) the Muslim, Jewish and Buddhist faiths, the Inter-Faith Council for Wales, a Police Superintendent and other Police representatives.

The group is currently considering development of the Street Pastor Scheme, already successfully in place in Wrexham and other towns and cities, in the Conwy and Denbighshire County areas. Under this scheme, civilians with the gift of being able to talk to young people go out on patrol with the police as a caring presence during the hours of darkness. The idea is not to respond to incidents, but to show an interest in young people and establish relationships with them, thus promoting the objectives of community safety and cohesion. Preparatory work has already begun in the Junction, and there is desire for the scheme in Llandudno and Colwyn Bay. Anyone interested in taking part in the scheme is invited to contact the Revd Keith Forecast, through the Secretary if necessary. Volunteers will be given full training (on the understanding they may then be deemed not suitable).

Visit to the Mosque

The Revd Keith Forecast reported that over sixty people visited the Mosque on July 6th and had been most hospitably received, and an enjoyable meal shared.

A presentation had been made about the Islamic Faith, followed by questions and discussion. The atmosphere had been open and honest but with 'no compromise'. The evening concluded with informal discussion. Although there are radical differences between us, the speaker felt there are areas of overlap, namely "the living of Holy lives in the service of God."

Attention all e-mailers!

The Llandudno SALTERS GROUP

A local Christian e-mail network is being set up primarily to help us to make rapid united responses to current issues where a Christian voice needs to be heard.

Being a member is quite simple – just two things:

1. Keep alert for news items, public consultations, anything of concern that we receive from friends, mission organisations etc. and pass it on to the group.
2. When we receive an e-mail call for action from anyone in the group, pray about it, and then decide what action to take.

In addition, the Salters Group provides a framework through which we can pass on prayer requests and also news of anything interesting that is going on locally. In short, it's one of the ways we are able to express the Body of Christ using today's technology. If interested, e-mail Neil McKenzie at dr.nlmckenzie@tiscali.co.uk "

Cytûn Officers 2007/08

President: Canon John Nice (01492 876624)

Vice-President:

Secretary: Mrs Arline Griffiths

Treasurer: Mrs Margaret Baker

Cytûn Newsletter & Cytûn Website:

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