

Church Family News and Prayers

Approaching Advent: Elizabeth's story

We were at the Temple when it happened. Zechariah had been chosen to burn the incense on the altar in the very heart of the building. I was so proud and pleased for him. For one day at least he'd be the most important person in our land. I'd not given him much to be happy about and he deserved some joy. That wasn't what he got, mind you.

Now, you cannot look into the Holy of Holies where he was working so no one saw exactly what happened except him. But I do know that there seemed to be a strange light in the heart of the Temple. And when he came out, he was dumbstruck. Something had happened and, whatever it was, he made it clear to me that he'd been told we were having a baby.

It was ridiculous, of course, but I couldn't say that to him. A friend told me there was a very fine line between visions and indigestion. In fact, I'd been having what I'd thought was indigestion for a couple of weeks so I laughed a good deal at that. When I felt a tiny kick inside, I realised to my shock that the reason I didn't feel quite right was because I was actually very much all right – I was pregnant.

At first it was hard to believe but it couldn't be denied. The signs were too obvious. My grandmother had always said: "The impossible is always possible, it simply doesn't happen very often." I'd always nodded but I never ever thought it might happen to me.

We called him John when he was born. He grew up to be the one who baptised in the Jordan. And his story, like our story, was only the start of it all. *(from Small comforts, Great joy - Dave Kitchen)*

We continue to pray for those members of our Church Family and Friends who are unwell and all those who mourn.

*If you would like to be included in the prayer list,
Please write your name in the book in the foyer of the church.*

**Please pray for our CEEMP Prayer Partners:
St David's/All Saints Llanedeyrn**

Prayer in Your Street for November: Padarn Close



CYNCOED METHODIST CHURCH

**A warm welcome to everyone worshipping with us today
Please stay for coffee or tea in the church after the service.**

Sunday 24th November 2019

Sunday before Advent

Steward: John Tredget

10.30am Gauri Taylor-Nayar

6.00pm Rev. Alexis Mahoney

Readings: Jeremiah 23: 1-6; Psalm 46 or Canticle: Benedictus (Luke 1: 68-79); Colossians 1: 11-20; Luke 23: 33-43

At Cyncoed Methodist Church

We are called to tell God's story by living as God's people through:

- Preaching and teaching the gospel
- Encouraging spiritual growth
- Outreach in the community
- Responding to opportunities for change

all inspired by God centred worship and prayer.

A family room is available, if needed, for the use of parents with babies and toddlers, allowing parents to share in worship while the little ones enjoy the toys provided. Please ask one of the stewards for more information.

**Please ensure that your mobile is on 'silent' during the service.
Follow us on Facebook.**

The Ministerial Team:

Rev. Kofi Amissah

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Sunday 1st December 2019

First Sunday of Advent

Steward: Peter Evans

9.15am Rev. Nick Oborski - Communion

10.30am Munawar Amaf

6.00pm Rev. Alexis Mahoney at St. Andrew's

Readings: Isaiah 2: 1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13: 11-14; Matthew 24:36-44

Informal mid-week Communion

Thursdays at 10.30am in the Fellowship Room

An Oasis of peace in a busy week

Church Flowers

Thanks to all who have donated in memory of loved ones, for a special occasion or other reason over the past year.

If you would like to donate in the coming year a new rota is being prepared and a calendar has been placed in the Flowers Donation folder in the vestibule for you to select and mark the date of your donation.

Also, there is a space each week to write the name of anyone who may appreciate receiving flowers and/or a visit from our wonderful pastoral team who distribute the beautiful flowers after services.

If you are new to this church or if you have any particular concerns and would like to talk to someone please give your name and contact details to one of the ministers or stewards.

Notices

- **House Group:** the next meeting will be at Helen & Clive Smith's, on Monday 2nd December at 7:30pm.
- **Shout 2019:** The Cardiff Methodist Community Choir present Shout 2019 at Cathays Methodist Church on 28th and 29th November at 7.30pm. This looks at the issues in society through the eyes of the foodbank and is in partnership with the Cardiff Foodbank and Cardiff Council supporting the white ribbon campaign. Entry is with a can of food and there will be a retiring collection after the performance.
- **CHURCH CHOIR** - Are you able to join us as we prepare for the Lessons and Carols service on 22nd December (6pm)? We would appreciate your help. A warm welcome awaits at our rehearsals on Thursdays at 8pm. Have a word with Carol - 20757134.
- **Shoebox Update:** A massive thank you from Glenna and Dave for the response to the Christmas Shoebox appeal. We sent 43 boxes and an additional £145 in donations which will generate even more boxes. More details available if you read your forthcoming Outreach!
- **Small Comforts, Great Joy:** Join us as a Circuit for a proper celebration of Christmas with heartfelt worship, thoughtfulness and real joy. Sunday 8th December, 6pm at Cyncoed Methodist Church. Dave Kitchen and John Wickett will be bringing the District Choir with a great range of music and words. Please take one of the flyers in the pews and invite a friend or family member so we can light up a chilly winter's night together.
- **Conway Road Methodist Church:** would like to invite all to join them at the Lutheran Congregation's Advent Concert on Sunday 8th December at 3pm. There will be singers from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and admission is £5.
- **Trinity Centre:** You are all invited to this year's Trinity Centre Christmas Open Morning on 30th November, 11am - 1pm. This Open Morning will be a chance for us here at Trinity to showcase some of the amazing work that is done under this roof, by the many organisations that makes Trinity Centre such a warm and welcoming space for asylum seekers and refugees. Many thanks, Fflur.
- **Cardiff Foodbank:** the Foodbank is short of the following items: coffee, tinned potatoes and UHT milk. If you are able to donate any of these items the Foodbank will be grateful.

Please leave items for the church notices in the Church Office (for Mike Berry) or email to cyncoedmethodistchurch@gmail.com before 5.00pm on Wednesday.