### St Johns Church Newsletter June 2023





Emily came to church on Easter Sunday with her Granny, Judy Brew, and said that after coffee she said she would like to see the Church before

she went home. She stood up at the lectern and said that she thought "she could read". I think it will take time for her to grow taller. She is 5!

### **Teddy Bear Festival in August**

This will be in St Johns during the school holidays from Wednesday 9th till 23rd August. People are working on the idea of Teddy Bears being part of Bible stories. If anyone has a teddy bear that the church can borrow, please let Carol BT, Stella or Ann M know. If you have an idea of a biblical arrangement that you could do, could you also please see these ladies. Caroline is also involved in setting up arrangements with teddy bears. Beth is working on an arrangement for a "teddy bears' picnic". Stewards will also be required for shifts like we do for the Christmas Trees. This festival is a great outreach.

### **News of members**

Alma is not well in Park House. No visitors at the moment please. We all wish her the best. Ron Hurlow is home.

### Solve this riddle

I stalk the countryside with ears that cannot hear. What am I? (answer is on page 3)

### A bit of Welsh

Sir Benfro is the Welsh for Pembrokeshire. What does it mean? Sir is Welsh for 'County' derived from the English 'shire'.

To confuse matters, the town of Pembroke itself isn't 'Benfro' but 'Penfro' with a P, and it's not even the county town, which is Haverfordwest (but Pembroke was the county town historically!). Penfro actually means 'lands end' (pen = head, fro = populated area) and originally referred to the peninsula area south of the Eastern Cleddau and Daugleddau Visit Pembrokeshire Estuary.

### Whole Body Prayer

May our legs be strong and steady May our feet tread softly on the earth May our stomach be small and soft May our belly be full of fire May our heart be large and loving May our soul be simple and serene May our mind be calm and clear May our spirit be free of fear May our mouth mint sweet words and kind kisses

May our eyes see beauty below, beauty above and beauty all around May our ears hear words of praise and music of the cosmos May our hands be generous in giving and grateful in receiving May our arms find joy in embracing

May our body be a temple of love Satish Kumar

### A small group

Never doubt that a small group of concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead

### Precious soil

"What greater stupidity can be imagined than calling jewels, silver and gold 'precious' and earth and soil 'base'? People who do this ought to remember that if there were as great a scarcity of soil as of jewels or precious metals, there would not be a prince who would not spend a bushel of diamonds....to

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have enough soil to plant a jasmine in a little pot, or to sow an orange seed and watch it sprout, grow and produce its handsome leaves, its fragrant flowers, its fine fruit". Galileo Galilei

### **King Charles Coronation**



On Monday 8th May, St Johns celebrated the coronation, with cake and coffee (and tea and bubbly). Everyone was invited, and about 60 members friends and visitors came. Stella welcomed all, and all the beautiful cakes started to diminish! But the tasting carried on all afternoon, whilst Billy Cole entertained us with his guitar and singing. People were up dancing, including Sam Blackhall-Skyrme, the mayor of Tenby, and her husband and the young men who came with Anne Draper from the Tenby Project. Mollie brought the house down when she picked up the King Charles cardboard cut out, and danced with it! Ieuan entertained us also with a great selection of songs sung in Welsh. Our 103-year-old member Eileen was quietly singing along with him. It was good to see Eileen as she is unable to come to church in the mornings. A great afternoon was had by all.

### Sunday 7th May Civic Service at St Marys Church

To celebrate the Coronation Tenby people combined for this service which included members from all the churches, visitors to Tenby, and was attended by the mayor, and retinue. Stella and Liz, from St Johns church, read the Bible lessons.

### **Judith Keller**

Judith Keller has arrived in Tenby! She visits St Johns every year from Chicago, staying for about a month. It was lovely to have her with us again for the Civic Service. Judith and her friend Sue came to our church services and Judith's daughter Melanie arrived next - we saw her in church too.

### **Your Day**

May green be the grass you walk on May blue be the skies above you May pure be the joys that surround you May true be the hearts that love you May your home be bright with cheer May our cares all disappear May contentment come your way And May laughter fill your day.

### **Optimism**

Dear Optimist, Pessimist, and Realist, While you guys were busy arguing about the glass of water, I drank it! Yours sincerely, The Opportunist.

### Age

When you're 20, you care what everyone thinks When you're 40, you stop caring what everyone thinks.

When you're 60, you realise no one was ever thinking about you in the first place!

### Wrinkles

Wrinkles are hereditary, parents get them from their children. Doris Day

### **Thoughts of the Month**

Have you ever noticed – the Roman numerals for 40 are XL.

The whole purpose of a child's middle name is so he knows when he is in trouble.

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### **Wedding Anniversaries**

Congratulations to Avril and Hywel on their 65<sup>th</sup> also to Liz and Bob for their 60th and to Sue and Ian for their 40th.

We had a lovely fruit cake, a chocolate and plain sponge cream cake and a gluten free cake, all made and decorated beautifully by Sharman on Sunday 14th May at the afterchurch refreshments.



### How did we get the word Bistro?

In France after Napoleon fell, the Russians briefly entered Paris, and the Cossacks camped on Montmartre and went into the little restaurants and when the service was slow, they kept shouting "bistro" which is Russian for "quick" so the French started calling these informal restaurants bistros ... so the story goes.

This is from Edward Rutherfurd's book on Paris. A fiction story about the history of Paris, building the Eiffel Tower, etc. If you want to learn history, read his books about London, Russia, Sarum, Dublin, New York, and The Forest. All fiction but history running through them. Great books to read!

### Salad bowl for summer

Have you ever made an ice bowl? You need two large freezer proof bowls, one twice the size of the other. Half fill large bowl with water. Place small bowl inside and weigh down, leaving a 1-inch gap at the bottom. Secure with tape. Push assorted flowers,

leaves, and decorations down into the water. Freeze overnight. Remove tape and weights from bowls. Pour hot water into centre for a few seconds. As the ice begins to melt, slip out the centre bowl. Dip the large bowl in hot water to release ice. Return to the freezer to set again. Stand on a glass plate and fill with your salad to put on the table!

### **Ministers for June**

4<sup>th</sup> Stella Hayton

11<sup>th</sup>Nanette Lewis-Head

18<sup>th</sup> Stella Hayton 25<sup>th</sup> Adrian Davies

July 1<sup>st</sup> Adrian Davies

Answer to riddle - Corn.

Our countryside is looking terrific. The May tree (Hawthorn) has been full of blossom, the yellow of the Rape flowers has been brilliant hopefully a lot of oil will be made! The apple trees this year seem full of blossom too. Baby birds are appearing. This is the time when they are learning to fly, and they stun themselves flying into windows. With the hot sunny days we have had during May, silage is in full production, and hopefully farmers will be able to get at least 3 harvests.

### Day's end

At the end of the day, all you can do is hope you did your best, get some rest, and get up tomorrow and do it all again.

### **Regional Gathering**

There's no Synod Big Day Out this year, but we're being encouraged to get together in our regions to meet up for worship and a good old bunfight! So please join us at Albany Church in Haverfordwest on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June from 2.30 to 5.30. It will be better if you're there!

# The Whole People of God, Called and Committed to God's Service



## and worship leaders **Preachers**

the training of suitable people, members Reformed Church shall . . . provide for he worship of the local church is of the United Reformed Church, to be the whole people of God. In order that an expression of the worship of this may be clearly seen, the United preachers and worship leaders.

service for Lay Preachers can be understood for all that this ministry in the church is vital to enable all preachers and worship leaders, when it recognises God's people in their discipleship and to build up Ome have formal training and accreditation others have an informal local recognition. The sense of the words in the Commissioning he body of Christ.

The Preacher...

has a real sense of calling and commitment to preach the Word of God

has a good grasp of the Gospel to be proclaimed.

is in sympathy with the Basis of Union and the ethos of the United Reformed Church.

shows a willingness to use the opportunities for initial training, and to continue that training throughout their lay-preaching ministry.

allow, whilst bearing in mind the need to take an active part in the life and work of their own church. shows a willingness to lead worship regularly as far as the demands of the other areas of their lives has the ability to reflect, in worship, the experiences of their own world of work and leisure

shows a willingness to become involved in forms of 'team ministry

### **Fime to Reflect**

Consider the following questions:

- How can you encourage someone in your congregation who appears to have the gifts for this calling to discern their call to this ministry?
- How can the church support, encourage and enable preachers and worship leaders in their
- How can preachers and worship leaders develop and nurture their gifts and skills?



## What does the preacher worship leader do?

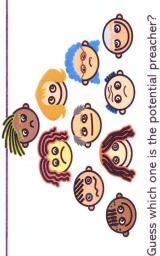
Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly (2Timothy 2:15) explaining the word of truth.

Search the Bible for what a preacher/worship leader is? Have another look in the Bible for a manual of how to preach and lead worship. You will find neither. However, what you will find is sermons, Jesus' sermons, Peter's sermons, Paul's sermons, and the occurrences of other preachers, bringing the Word of God to bear into their situation. You will find examples of worship leaders, from emple priests to wilderness prophets. Read through, or listen to:

What is the content of these sermons? Which bit connected with you most in each sermon? Paul's sermon (Acts 13:16-41) Peter's first sermon (Acts 2:14-36)

What can we learn about preaching from these sermons?

Psalm 145 (Praise for God's goodness) Psalm 130 (a song of approach) How might this inspire our worship? What can we learn about worship from this? Which bit spoke to your heart? "... we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts." (1Thess 2:4).



# A prayer for inspiration

your presence, open the mind of God light and in your strength we may be to us. That in your light we may see Lord Jesus Christ, by the power of

Amen!



## Time to Respond

- Pray for the preachers/worship leaders who you know.
- •How can we encourage new worship leaders & preachers in our churches?
- •What qualities, gifts and skills should a worship leader/preacher have?