

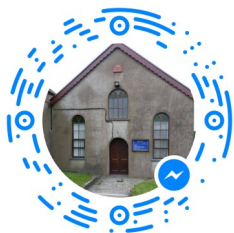
August Ministry

- Sunday 7th:** 10:30 a.m. service
4:00pm Worship & Discussion in the vestry
Both led by Alan Davison
- Sunday 14th:** 10:30 a.m. Morning service followed by Communion
4:00pm Worship & Discussion in the vestry
Both led by Ian Middlemist
- Sunday 21st:** 10:30 a.m. Morning service
4:00pm Worship & Discussion in the vestry
Both led by Matthew Maxwell-Carr
- Sunday 31st:** 10:30 a.m. Morning service led by Lawrence Mitchell
4:00pm Worship & Discussion in the vestry
Led by Ian Middlemist

There will be no Thursday mid-week Bible study & Prayer meetings this month. They will recommence Thursday 1st September.



To keep up to date with all the Penuel news and to view photos, blogs and videos 'like' our Facebook page: Penuel Baptist Chapel, Roch
You can click the QR code above for a direct link.



You can contact us instantly using the Facebook messenger app: just scan the round code.

Email us at: penuel.roch@hotmail.com
Phone Ian Middlemist: 07910976078

The LORD your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.
He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing.”

Zephaniah 3:17



August 2016



Visit our website: www.penuel-chapel-roch.wales

**Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.**

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Paul tells us three things that he expects Christians to do on a continual basis in these verses. It isn't just that Christians need to intermittently rejoice or be "part-time pray-ers" or give thanks under selective circumstances. Paul says these are three things to do always, continually and in all circumstances. If we are in difficult circumstances we should continue to remember the blessings which have already taken place in our lives. Here's some suggestions to rejoice over, pray over and give God thanks about.

Rejoice because:

- God has created you
- God has saved you
- God loves you unconditionally
- of the people God has put in your life.

Joy is much more than happiness, it's the internal energy in a life of a child of God, regardless of the season: 'for the joy of Lord is your strength' Nehemiah 8:10. Whereas happiness is connected to what is happening now. Even though our God rules over the affairs of men, to survive life's circumstance and our personal feelings we need to be constantly in His presence. 'I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With Him at my right hand, I will not be shaken' Psalm 16:8-11.

Pray For:

- guidance in your decisions
- the church to grow spiritually and to reach more people
- God to keep working on your heart
- the words to say to those who need God.

To pray without ceasing seems like an impossible task, but it is possible for us to develop an attitude and habit of constant prayer. No matter what else

is going on, we should be aware of God's presence with us, and turn to Him with every thought and action.

Give Thanks:

- For the way God has sustained you up to this point in your life
- That God will continue to sustain your life
- To God for family and friends
- To God for whatever blessings you have - they all came from God.

Regardless of difficult circumstances, a Christian always has grounds for rejoicing and giving thanks. The Lord is sovereign and will accomplish His purpose. Christian joy is not circumstantial, but is a growing awareness of God and the certain future of eternal life with Christ (Revelation 21:1-7)

Prayer is a fundamental activity in the life of a believer; to be continually conscious of our dependence on God; conscious of His continuous presence with us; conscious of His will to bless us.

Prayer is to be constant. It is essential to our spiritual vitality, and has essential elements in our prayer life. It is our privilege, it's a command. Martin Luther King stated 'I have so much to do today that I shall never get through it without three hours prayer.'

Prayer is an individual responsibility of every child of God through divine instruction. Furthermore, our Lord Jesus, as well as forefathers, lived in this way. The challenges we face daily requires prayer and as a result we are blessed.

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Songs of Praise : Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! (Psalm 98 v 4)

At Penuel singing has always been joyous! This year we have enjoyed holding our 'Songs of Praise' so much that we've already held two and hope to continue with more.

We had a wonderfully blessed time at our Songs of Praise in July. It was so lovely to have friends gather with us from other churches. Praise God for His goodness to us! We all left feeling blessed and looking forward to having more.

Jeremy gave an encouraging message of 'Prayer and Praise' from Psalm 103:1-5. After his message John Hancock commented that 'The best views are from the mountaintop but the best fruit is grown in the valley.' We also learnt a new song called 10,000 Reasons by Matt Redman which is inspired by Psalm 103. John and Philip sang a lovely duet. We had a wonderful time of fellowship as people gave testimonies of why the songs they chose mean so much to them. We are thankful to Rene, Gareth and Nessa for preparing the delicious spread everyone enjoyed afterwards.



French Camp Mission Team

We had a blessed time of fellowship with our friends from French Camp, Mississippi during 15th-25th July. We had two encouraging ministry meetings with Mr Cox at the beginning of their week with us.

A fixed event in our Summer calendar is our annual Summer BBQ with the team. It was great to see so many friends from other churches join us and listened to a blessed message from Mr Cox followed by songs led by Jessica and Andrew with their guitars. We look forward to their return next year.



BAPTISMS

Praise God for a glorious day at the end of last month! On Sunday 24th July, John H, Gareth and Nessa, from Penuel, and Gareth J, from Hill Park Church, were baptised on a beautiful summer evening. What a testimony to God's love for us that He sent His only son that whosoever believes in Him shall never perish but have everlasting life.

Christians participate in two God-ordained sacraments that celebrate what God has done for us: communion and baptism. Communion is celebrated on a regular basis and baptism as a one-time declaration of a lifetime of devotion to God. Believer's baptism is a very special moment on the journey of faith; it is a moment when God's presence and blessing meets us, and when we make our personal commitment of faith in Jesus as Lord. It signifies the end of our old life and of being born again to new life in Christ, a life filled with the presence of the Holy Spirit.

It speaks of repentance and cleansing, of being united with Christ in His death and resurrection, and of witnessing to the call of God upon our lives. Baptism is also about receiving God's Spirit for service in the church and in the world. Jesus set an example through being baptised by John the Baptist which is recorded throughout the Gospels (Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22).

Jesus also commands us; "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"

There are many accounts of baptism throughout the book of Acts which suggests believer's baptism was an integral part of early church life - and is just as important to today.

On the Day of Pentecost, Peter tells the people to "Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:37-38).

