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## **BAPTIST CHURCH** MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5v8

Services on Sundays at 11.00am in the church and informal fellowship at 4.00pm in the hall Online ministry on YouTube & Facebook Just search for "Upper Trosnant" Find us on social media @uppertrosnantbc

www.trosnant.org

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**Newsletter Items:** We are always happy to receive items for the newsletter. Please email articles or features for the April 2024 edition to **uppertrosnantbc@gmail.com** by **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March.** 

#### Letter from Pastor Richard

#### Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures

It is the season in the Christian calendar known as Lent. This is the six-week period leading up to Easter. At the end of this month, we will be celebrating Easter Sunday and there are articles that help us to do so in this Newsletter. And I will be bringing some thoughts on that in the next edition.

Here I would like to concentrate on the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is one of the fundamentals of our faith. If Jesus had not died, then the Christian faith would have no



basis. Why am I so convinced of that? The title of this piece is a quotation from 1 Corinthians, words written by the Apostle Paul:

### For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures. Corinthians 15 v 3 (NIV)

Now that which Paul considers of first importance continues after this verse, and we will consider the rest of the quotation next month. In fact, this is part of a really great chapter, which we will be looking at in a short sermon series, starting on Easter Sunday. But coming back to the death of Jesus, the fact that Paul considers Jesus' death of first importance, means that surely we must as well. What was vital to him should be vital to us too.

But there is another reason, which our verse gives us: *Christ died <u>for</u> <u>our sins</u>. When Jesus died, it was not like any other death. He was perfect God come into this world in human form. He was the one person who never did anything wrong. Unlike all of us. We all do things we should not – we know that don't we? And the truth is that these wrong things should be punished. BUT Jesus, when he died, took that punishment upon himself. We no longer need to be punished. And that is something that is very important indeed. What we need to do is to put our trust in what he did, and we will know forgiveness for all of the wrong things we have done.* 

I am not making this up, neither was the Apostle Paul because he also says in our verse that Jesus died for our sins "according to the Scriptures." The Bible very clearly teaches us that Jesus died; you can read it for yourselves – just look at the last few chapters of each of the Gospels. And there is one more thing to say about this – Jesus' death only means something because he did not stay dead – he came back to life again. You cannot have his death without his resurrection!

But now, let's trust in the One who died for our sins. I would like to share some words written, originally in Welsh, about 200 years ago by the hymn writer John Elias:

> And was it for my sin That Jesus suffered so, When moved by his all-powerful love He came to earth below?

He suffered pain and death, When on the hill brought low; His blood will wash the guilty clean, As pure and white as snow.

For in his death our death Died with him on the tree, And great the number by his blood Will go to heaven made free. John Elias Translated by Noel Gibbard

Love in Jesus,

**Pastor Richard** 

#### **Thanking God for Len Burbridge**

Many of us knew Len Burbridge, and we were sad to hear of his recent passing. He had been part of the Eastern Valley Men's Fellowship and was very actively involved in local events. His funeral was on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at New Inn Congregational Church. We extend our sympathies to his family at this time and thank God that Len is now safely with him.

#### **Doreen's Page: Hot Cross Buns**

A tasty treat for Easter from Doreen's book, A Benediction of Bluebells!

Hot cross buns! Traditionally eaten on Good Friday in Great Britain, Ireland, Australia, Canada and some part of the Americas (according to Wikipedia...). A sweet, spiced bun made with currants and raisins, and marked with a cross on top. Progress has also caught up with bakers – and now toffee, orange and cranberry, apple and cinnamon, coffee, cherry and chocolate and butterscotch flavoured hot cross buns are available all year round!

Hot cross buns originated in the UK, and they marked the end of Lent, when restrictions on certain foods were lifted. A monk, brother Thomas Radcliffe from St Albans, introduced the spicey bun with a cross on top in honour of Good Friday in 1361, and distributed them to the poor on that day. In 1592 Queen Elizabeth I issued a decree forbidding the sale of hot cross buns except on Good Friday or at Christmas! Of course, hot cross buns are now available throughout the year. Legends accrue: it is said that if you hang a hot cross bun from your kitchen roof on Good Friday, it will remain fresh and mould-free for the rest of the year, just as the body of Jesus, who called himself the Bread of Life, had no sign of decay after his crucifixion and prior to his resurrection.

In 2014, an Australian baker had the novel idea of producing a NOT cross bun decorated with a smiling face! A Bible reference for this version would be, "The joy of the Lord is your strength" (Nehemiah 8:10), and an appropriate name could be "The Hallelujah bun."

It is theologically accurate to present Hot cross buns all through the year. Christ is not just for Easter. Good Friday was not an end but a beginning. Jesus rose from the dead as he said he would. He will never break his promise to be with us, always, even to the end of time! So, the classic Easter hymn, "Jesus Christ is risen today, Hallelujah!" is also suitable for every day.

As another old hymn declares, "New every morning is his love, our wakening and uprising prove. From sleep and darkness, safely brought, restored to life, and power, and thought."

#### <u>A Good Read: Carriers of the Fire –</u> <u>Women of the Welsh Revival, by Karen Lowe</u>

Wales is a country with a great Christian heritage, going right back to the days of its patron saint, David, in the 6<sup>th</sup> century. One remarkable feature of our heritage is the number of revivals of true faith the nation has experienced. Historians have recorded at least fifteen revivals between 1762 and 1862 alone, but the one that many consider the greatest of all the revivals began 120 years ago this year, in 1904.

The 1904-5 Revival was so powerful and widespread in its effect that over 100,000 people were converted in Wales alone, and more than a million in the rest of the United Kingdom. The revival was not limited to our shores, but spread right across Europe and the world, triggering revivals in Scandinavia and other parts of Europe, as well as in North America, India, Africa and Latin America.

Evan Roberts of Loughor, near Swansea, was the pioneer of the 1904-5 Revival and he became a household name throughout Wales. In many homes, his picture hung on the parlour wall. Others served alongside him whose names are not so well known, but the most extraordinary story of the Revival is one that is almost untold – the story of ordinary women raised up and empowered by the Lord to became radical evangelists, teenage revivalists, and inspired worship leaders whom God used to touch and transform the heart of the nation. It is this thrilling aspect of the 1904-5 Revival that is recorded and described in fascinating detail in Karen Lowe's book **"Carriers of the Fire - The Women of the Welsh Revival 1904/5."** 

Karen begins her account with the lives of five remarkable women who were the forerunners of the 1904-5 Revival....women like **Mary David**, an uneducated, elderly lady from Loughor, near Swansea, who started a Sunday school in her home, early in the 1800s, to teach the local children about Jesus. Her ministry was so successful that a special meeting place soon had to be built to house all the children who came, and this meeting house went on to become Moriah Chapel. It was in that very same chapel that the 1904 Revival broke out, with Evan Roberts and the seventeen young people who were meeting there, including a little girl. Karen goes on to tell the astonishing story of **Pamela Shepherd** who was born in Talywain in 1836. At 42 years of age, she was sent by the Salvation Army to start a work in the valleys town of Aberdare, her only 'helpers' being her three daughters, aged 16, 14 and 4! At their first open-air meeting on a Saturday night, she and the girls had a rough reception but, undaunted and full of courage, Pamela rebuked the men for their attitude, and told them to come to the Temperance Hall the following evening to hear the message of salvation. Amazingly they came, and the hall was packed. Pamela preached, and she and the girls sang, with great effect on the crowds, but then a most dramatic confrontation took place between some hostile hecklers in the hall, and Pamela, as she led the meeting. The whole account is so thrilling it must be read to be fully appreciated, and the core, and many were converted as a result.

These and other stories are just 'tasters' of the many equally dramatic and exciting stories that follow, when the 1904/5 Revival actually began! From chapter three onwards, we read of the women who helped to fire the starting gun of the Revival, including **Florrie Evans** of Newquay, Ceredigion. When Florrie's minister asked the young people in his church to share what Jesus Christ meant to them, 15-year-old Florrie simply replied, "I love the Lord Jesus with all my heart." This simple testimony had a dramatic effect, and the others present seemed to be overwhelmed by an unaccountable power that didn't fade away! In the days following, the minister was able to send teams of his young people out into Newquay and neighbouring villages to spread the 'fire', and the Newquay girls were instrumental in bringing Sidney Evans and Evan Roberts - both key leaders in the Revival - to a life-changing encounter with God.

By chapter four, the Revival has taken off, and we read of teams of young women travelling with Evan Roberts and others as their coworkers, and as singing evangelists. These girls played an absolutely crucial part in breaking through the barrier of hard hearts and stubborn wills, bringing many to a place of true faith and release from sin. The Revival soon became known for the outpouring of singing that was heard in homes, on the streets and down the mines, with the hymn "Here is Love, Vast as the Ocean" especially capturing the heart of the nation. Chapter six describes many examples of the powerful prayers of women of all ages, and the effect it had on others. At a meeting in Rhos, a 12-year-old girl prayed with such simplicity yet power that "*strong men cried, and many a cheek was wet with tears*". For those present, this was one of the most striking prayers they had ever heard and was what affected them most deeply. Later chapters describe teams of ladies going out together, released for the task and encouraged by Evan Roberts and the other male leaders. In some meetings, teenage girls took the lead, like Annie May Rees who was only 15 years old when she took Cardiff by storm, with the result being that "*families were reconciled, prostitutes converted, the destitute melted by the love of Jesus.*"

Many more remarkable stories of the courage and boldness of these girls in spreading the gospel are described. They preached not only in meetings, but also in the open-air, gypsy camps and lodging houses, and wherever they went the impact on the locality was extraordinary. Debts were paid, drunkards became sober, magistrates courts had no cases to hear, people worshipped instead of blaspheming, families were reunited, miners held prayer meetings underground, and entire communities were touched and renewed. What a profound an effect the witness and ministry of these women had in spreading the Revival far and wide.

Sadly, by February 1905, voices criticising the Revival began to be heard, and false rumours were being circulated. Nevertheless, the Revival fire continued to spread over the border into England, up to Scotland and into Ireland. People travelled from other nations to Wales to witness the move of God's Spirit for themselves, and took the 'fire' back with them. The Revival spread far and wide, with great effect in India, Madagascar, Japan, the USA and Patagonia. Rees Howells (the famous intercessor) and his wife, Elizabeth, had both been profoundly impacted by the Revival, and when they travelled to South Africa as missionaries, within weeks they experienced revival breaking out there.

Evan Roberts had foreseen that the Revival would become "A great sun shining upon the whole world," and not only was this fulfilled, but the role played by women in bringing it about is both uplifting and challenging, and is wonderfully described in this most inspiring book.

# The Good News

Special Late Friday Edition

One Shekel

### **Carpenter Crucified**

Three Days ago a carpenter, from Nazareth was crucified, dead and buried in a tomb. Today numerous witnesses have seen and talked to this man, Jesus.

Many gathered to see the crucifixion and witnessed Jesus crying out to his Father in heaven and at the time of his death the earth trembled and darkness came

After being arrested on The Mount of Olives

Jesus stood trial in front of the High Priest and was referred to the Roman Pro-consul, Pilate, who said he could find no wrong in him and washed his hands of the affair but to appease the mob Jesus was flogged, abused and given over to the Jews for Crucifixion.

Many will recall that Jesus was daily in the Temple teaching and on some occasions more than 5000 gathered to hear his words and he performed many miracles - including turning water into wine; giving sight to the blind; healing and raising people from the dead. He also baptised and told of a new eternal life.

By Daniel Pearson from top to bottom.



And Jesus said, according to an eye witness, 'Father, forgive them them, for they do not know what they are doing.' And they divided up his clothes by casting lots and the soldiers mocked him. And it is reported that two other criminals were executed with him. On on his right the other on his left.

### Man says He will 'Rise from the Dead'

Above Jesus a notice reads: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS and Jesus called out with a loud voice, 'Father into your hands I commit my spirit.' When he had said this, he breathed his last.

According to reports, the centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, 'Surely he was the Son of God'. Others who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away. But those who knew him, including women from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

Our court correspondent reports the third day. Otherwise, that, 'As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him'.

Joseph took the body, wrapped it in clean linen and placed it in his own new tomb he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance. We can report that Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there, opposite the tomb.

Next day, at Pilate's court, the. . .

Pharisees said, 'Sir we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, "After three days I will rise again. So order that the tomb be made secure until after



his disciples may come and steal his body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first."

So, we understand from our reporter, that Pilate had ordered the tomb to be made secure, as you know how, with a seal on the stone and posting a guard on the tomb. On the first day of the week there was a violent earth-quake for an an angel appeared and the quards were so afraid they became like dead men.



## The Tomb is Empty

The Roman soldiers had gone; the seal was broken; the stone rolled away and and the tomb was empty. This was what Mary Magdalene and the other Mary found when they visited the tomb very early this morning. They had brought spices but when they entered the tomb it was empty and two men appeared in clothes that gleamed like lightning

The men said to them, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; **he has risen!** Remember how he told you while he was still with you in Galilee. The son of man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners to be crucified and

on the third day be raised again.'

Suddenly, Jesus met them. 'Greetings,' he said, 'Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, where they will see me.' The women came back from the tomb and told all these things to the disciples and others. But they did not believe the women. It was Peter who got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over he saw that the tomb was empty and strips of linen laying by themselves.

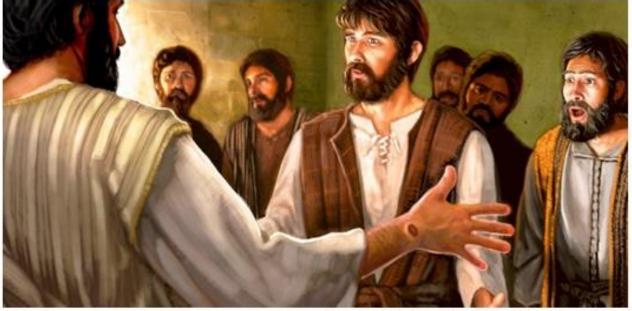
While the women were on their



way, some of the guards reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. The chief priests together with the elders devised a plan and gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, 'You are to say,"His disciples stole him away." two of his disciples were going to were opened and they recognised to a village called Emmaus, about him, and he disappeared from their seven miles from Jerusalem. As sight. They got up at once and and they talked and discussed all that returned had happened and although they Jerusalem. did not recognise him, Jesus came An up and walked with them. He evening of this first day of the asked, 'what are you discussing?' week, when the disciples were all They stood still, their faces together, Jesus came and stood downcast. One of them, Cleopas, among them and said, 'Peace be asked, 'are you the only one with you!' After he said this, he visiting Jerusalem who does not showed them his hands and side. the thinas know happened there?' 'What things?' they saw the Lord. Jesus said, 'As asked. He 'About Nazareth,' they replied.

Now we understand that today, give it to them. Then their eyes the others to in

> insider reports that on the that have The disciples were overioved when Jesus of the Father has sent me, I am sending you.'



As they approached the village Jesus continued, as if going further, but they invited him to ioin them. When he was at the table he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to . . .

And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. He told them, 'The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached.'

#### 75 Years Young – Happy Birthday to Sisterhood!

This month the Upper Trosnant Ladies Sisterhood will be celebrating 75 years since their Tuesday afternoon meeting first began, with an Anniversary Service in Church on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March, and a party in the Hall, on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>. We hope a great many friends old and new will come to the service to thank God for the Sisterhood, which has been a beacon of prayer, fellowship and service to the Lord over so many years. All ladies are also warmly invited to the party – but **please let Annmarie know if you are coming** so we can make sure there's enough tea and cake for everyone!

The Sisterhood first met in 1949 and their first president was Mrs Bertha Jenkins, whose daughter Thelma Rogers was to follow her as a member of the Sisterhood for many years, also serving as president in the early 2000s. Another founding member and long-standing president was Mrs Dorothy Gist, who was baptised at Upper Trosnant in 1945 and who served the church as a deacon and organist for over 40 years. Mrs Gist was renowned for her skill with the needle, and raised hundreds of pounds for the church funds through making peg bags and crocheted items. This creative tradition continues today, with some talented knitters among the Sisterhood membership who produce a great many hats and mittens, puppets and bags to go into the Christmas Shoebox gifts every year. Mrs Gist was succeeded in her musical role by Ron Saunders, and as Sisterhood president by Ron's wife Jen, who led the meeting with great love and kindness to everyone for many years. Another former president was Mrs Lily Wildy, who was succeeded by Thelma and then by Helen Norman.

As the years have passed, meeting times and routines (and favourite cakes!) of the Sisterhood may have changed - but the core activities have not. Good fellowship and prayer have always been an essential part of every meeting, as is the study of God's word, singing his praises together, and having a good old natter among Christian friends. The Sisterhood also take a voluntary collection every week, and has always been generous supporters of the Church and of numerous charities.

If you have any special memories of Sisterhood in past times, please do get in touch to share them in the next edition of the Newsletter.

#### Mission Focus: The BMS in India

Did you know that following the foundation of the Baptist Missionary Society in 1792, the first country where its missionaries travelled to preach the Gospel was India? At that date there were many trading links between India and Britain. One man, a cobbler from Moulton in Northamptonshire called William Carey, was inspired by his deep study of the Bible to believe that Jesus's words to 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation' were for all time. His conviction led to the foundation of the BMS and, one year later, opened the way for him to travel with another missionary and their families to Calcutta (Kolkata). The work was hard. They had to work to support themselves, learn new languages, adjust to a different climate and overcome many immense challenges. In 41 years, Carey saw just 700 converts; his first wife suffered a complete breakdown; and three of his 5 sons died before him. However, he also left a legacy of Bible translations, education, and social reform, and today there are nearly 28 million Christians in India, of whom 13% identify as Baptists.

That sounds like a strong and mighty Church – until we remember that the total population of India is some 1.4 billion people, of whom all the Christians together comprise just 2.3%. Christian communities face persecution, and it can be illegal to convert to a different faith. Nonetheless, BMS World Mission still supports a worker in India, and we can be encouraged by his story of faith, and his experience of seeing God at work in some marvellous ways. Benjamin Francis is a Mission Team Leader overseeing BMS work in Kolkata and beyond. His work focuses on providing practical support for the most marginalised people and on taking the gospel to the least evangelised through discipleship making movements. He also partners Big Life Ministries in West Bengal, whose vision is to reach people for Jesus through planting new churches. To facilitate his work Benjamin uses the BMS boat, Peace 3, which visits the islands around West Bengal. In his most recent update, Benjamin wrote of the phenomenal response of thousands of people responding in faith to the Christmas message and Jesus film, and shared that hundreds of new groups are starting in people's homes. Praise the Lord for what is happening! You can read more about it on the BMS website:

https://www.bmsworldmission.org/people/benjamin-francis/

#### Upper Trosnant Update

- There is a lot happening over the next few weeks. We are grateful to God for these opportunities for worship and witness and pray they will be used for his glory.
- We continue to be encouraged as we meet together on Sundays. It is great that we have been able to welcome new people over these past weeks. God is indeed good to us as we know his presence with us.
- Church activities are also going on well, a steady number have been at Warm Space and Open House. We have also been able to start a Men's Fellowship Meeting; an informal time to chat, read the Scriptures and pray. This will become a regular meeting, usually the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday evening of each month.
- As many know, we have been visiting Ty Ceirios nursing home for a monthly service, which has been greatly appreciated. Now we have an opportunity to go to Regency House for a similar monthly service. Our first one was in February, and the response was really great – what a joy it was to see the way that the residents engaged and sang.
- The CUP Lent Lunches will be continuing on Wednesdays at 1.00 pm in different churches. Details of venues are over the page. This is a simple meal and there is a suggested donation of £2 per person, which will be given to Christian Aid.
- We had a good number at our January Soup on Saturday. Again, soup was enjoyed by those there, with cakes, teas and coffees afterwards. Pastor Richard brought a short message of encouragement.
- Our Quarterly Church Meeting was postponed a second time until 21<sup>st</sup> February. Please note that the <u>Annual General Meeting is on Wednesday</u> 20<sup>th</sup> March 5.50 pm for a 6.00 start. This is an important meeting in the life of the church, where decisions are made regarding where we send our tithe offering for the year, and we formally recognise those who have roles and responsibilities in church life. <u>Please note</u>: this is first and foremost for church members, and only they make decisions. Others may attend to observe what is going on.
- We have quite a full Easter Programme. Please have a look at the next page (p.15) for events at Trosnant and with CUP in Pontypool.
- <u>Please note</u> that Pastor Richard's Day Off each week is Friday. Please do not contact him or Annmarie on that day except in an emergency.

#### Lent and Easter Events Churches United in Pontypool (CUP) Lent Lunches

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March @ 1.00 pm – Pontnewynydd Methodist Church Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March @ 1.00 pm – Merchants Hill Baptist Church Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March @ 1.00 pm – Pontypool Salvation Army

#### **Opportunities for United Witness**

Weds 27th March @ 10.30 am – Easter Praise in Pontypool Market

Good Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March @ 11.00 am – CUP United Witness in Pontypool Town Centre

#### **Easter Weekend at Upper Trosnant**

#### **GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNION**

29th March @ 7.00 pm – Informal Communion in the Hall

Everyone is welcome to join us in remembering Jesus's Last Supper, followed by a time of fellowship together over tea, coffee and hot cross buns.

#### **EASTER PLOUGHMAN'S TEA**

Saturday 30th March @ 3.00 pm – in the Hall

Please invite your family and friends to join us for a relaxed and joyful Easter gathering. Don't forget to sign up on the list in the hall or via the contact details on the back page.

#### **EASTER SUNDAY LUNCH**

The morning service at 11.00 will be a celebration of praising God for the resurrection of Jesus. This will be followed by tea, coffee and fellowship 'as normal' in the Hall after the service, and then please join us in staying to share a 'Bring Your Own Lunch' together, starting at 1 pm. Tea and Coffee will be provided again – with unlimited refills! Following the lunch, Pastor Richard will share a Facebook live with a special Easter message.

#### CHURCH DIARY for MARCH SUNDAY SERVICES AND PREACHERS

11.00 am: In the Church building and later on YouTube; followed by Tea and Coffee in the Hall.

| 3 <sup>rd</sup>         | Pastor Richard (Communion)                      |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>10</b> <sup>th</sup> | Sisterhood 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Service |
| 17 <sup>th</sup>        | Pastor Richard                                  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup>        | Richard Harrison                                |
| <b>31</b> <sup>st</sup> | Easter Sunday with Pastor Richard               |

#### SUNDAY AFTERNOONS @ 4 O'CLOCK

Meeting together in the Hall, with tea and coffee.

| 3 <sup>rd</sup>         | Fellowship and Facebook Live with Pastor Richard          |  |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| <b>10</b> <sup>th</sup> | Fellowship and Facebook Live with Annmarie Miles          |  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup>        | Fellowship and Facebook Live with David Breese            |  |
| 24 <sup>th</sup>        | Sermon Questions, with Pastor Richard                     |  |
| 31 <sup>st</sup>        | Bring Your Own Easter Lunch – starting 1 pm               |  |
|                         | <ul> <li>and Facebook Live with Pastor Richard</li> </ul> |  |

#### Monday

#### 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> – WARM SPACE 2.00–4.00 pm in the

**Hall**. Everyone is warmly invited to drop in for a friendly chat over a nice cup of tea or coffee and biscuits.

**11<sup>th</sup> – OPEN HOUSE 2.00 – 4.00 pm in the Hall** – We play games or share crafts, or just meet for a cup of tea and a chat.

#### **SERVICES IN RESIDENTIAL HOMES:**

#### 4<sup>th</sup> – 11.00 am @ REGENCY

#### 18<sup>th</sup> – 2.00 pm @ TY CEIRIOS

If you would like to join the team in visiting these homes and sharing the joy of Jesus with the residents, please speak to Pastor Richard. Our visits are always greatly appreciated.

#### **TUESDAY – SISTERHOOD** 2.30 – 4.00 pm in the Hall

All ladies are welcome to join us every week for fellowship over tea, coffee, cake and biscuits, and to hear God's word and sing and pray together. Please see p.13 for more information about the Anniversary & don't forget to let Annmarie know if you would like to come to the party.

| 5 <sup>th</sup>         | Anniversary Preparation                    |  |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| 12 <sup>th</sup>        | Sisterhood 75 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party |  |
| <b>19</b> <sup>th</sup> | Easter Craft with Lorraine Breese          |  |
| 26 <sup>th</sup>        | Annmarie Miles                             |  |

#### 12<sup>th</sup> – 9.30 am: CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY (CAP) PRAYER MEETING in the Hall

**12<sup>th</sup>** – 7.00 pm: **Men's Fellowship Meeting** in the Hall

#### WEDNESDAY – PRAYER AND BIBLE STUDY

**6**<sup>th</sup> – 6.50 pm for a 7.00 pm start, led by Phil

**13<sup>th</sup>** – 2.20 pm for a 2.30 pm start, led by Annmarie

20<sup>th</sup> – 5.50 pm for 6.00 pm UPPER TROSNANT A.G.M.

This is an important meeting for Church Members; please make every effort to be there if you can.

**27<sup>th</sup>** – 2.20 pm for a 2.30 pm start, led by Jill

|                                       | Reading    | Door        | Teas AM   | Flowers       | Teas PM  |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|---------------|----------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>                       | Clare      | Anthea      | Janet J   | Clare         | Clare    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup>                      | Sisterhood | Clare       | Clare     | Annmarie      | Janet J  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup>                      | Tony       | Lorraine    | Lorraine  | Pam           | Lorraine |
| 24 <sup>th</sup>                      | Richard H  | Mike & Sian | Sian      | Barbara       | Clare    |
| 31 <sup>st</sup>                      | Lorraine   | Anthea      | Rhoswyn   | Sandra        | Annmarie |
| Communion: 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Lorraine |            |             | Good Frid | day: Annmarie |          |

#### **ROTA for March**

#### Please Pray For...

- Please pray for all the events at Upper Trosnant and across Pontypool, as Christians focus on the events leading up to Jesus's Crucifixion and then celebrate his Resurrection together. Pray that many will hear and believe the Good News and turn to Jesus for salvation. Pray too that many whose faith has grown cold will return to Jesus and know his love once more.
- Pray for Pastor Richard and the leadership team during this busy time of year, that the Lord will guide them as they work for him, and guide them and the Upper Trosnant membership as decisions are made at the AGM.
- Pray for Annmarie as she leads the Sisterhood Anniversary events, that it will be a blessing for many. Praise God that her new job is going so well.
- Praise God that our dear sister Doreen is at home again; ask him to bless her and strengthen her in the weeks ahead.
- Remember those who are mourning, especially the family and friends of Len Burbridge.
- Pray for our missionary friends Margaret and Roy Collins-Reese in Toulouse, and Sue and David Verwey in Japan.
- Lift up Dale Norman, Naomi and Felicity, as Dale works on his final assignments and dissertation and waits on the Lord as to future ministry.
- Remember all those in care homes, including Ron Saunders and Ann Stephens. Ask the Lord to bless the monthly ministry to Ty Ceirios, and the new ministry starting at the Regency home.
- Please pray for all those who are ill or frail, or recovering from illness or accidents, or in need of a special touch from the Lord: Val Attwell, Emma Attwell, Barbara's sister Brenda, Beryl from Blaenavon, Tom Wildy and Julie Blake, Dave Breese, Pam Charles, Doreen Dixon, Lindsey Firth, Liz Harris, Audrey and Eric Jones, Jean Miles, Jill Morley, Helen Norman, Jeff Parry, Judith Parry, Janet Pollard, Alwyn Stephens, Linda Swires-Hennessy, Greta and Derek Wagg, Marion Webb.



### You are invited

#### **UPPER TROSNANT** Baptist Church

Ploughman's Lunch 30th of March at 3.00pm

Please let us know if you are coming via the contact details below.

| Upper Trosnant Baptist Church |                              |  |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Lower Bridge Street           | Contact Pastor Richard Miles |  |  |
| Pontypool                     |                              |  |  |
| Torfaen                       | e. uppertrosnantbc@gmail.com |  |  |
| NP4 6JU                       | t. 01495 751020              |  |  |

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