

Contact Details:

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Talking Box Men's Health Group:
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Tel: 01792 791611 www.aeonbaptist.org



Monthly Newsletter

December 2023



Serving the
Community Since
1880

Services in December

Everyone is Welcome

'Hope' Sunday 3rd

10.30am Service

'Be Prepared'

6.00pm Communion Service

'Mary's Child' (Luke 1:26-38)

'Love' Sunday 10th

10.30am Communion Service

'For So God Loved the World' (John 3:1-21)

There is No 6.00pm Service

We are joining St. David's Church at 5.00pm

You are welcome at Aenon for refreshments afterwards.

'Joy' Sunday 17th

10.30am Superhero Sunday

'Carols & Celebration'

6.00pm Christmas Carol Service

'Followed by Mince Pies, Mulled Wine & Hot Chocolate'

'Peace' Sunday 24th Christmas Eve

10.30am Service

'And He Will be Called' (Isaiah 9:1-7)

11.30pm Candlelight Service –

Join us to Welcome Christmas Day

And to light the Centre 'Christ' Candle

In our Advent wreath

(Don't forget to wear your Christmas jumpers)

Services are usually led by

Our Pastor, Rev. Phil Denyer



WEEKLY MEETINGS

- Sunday:** Morning Service 10.30am
(Includes Sunday Club for the Young Ones)
- Evening Service 6.00pm
- Tuesday:** Ladies Group
2.00-4.00pm
- Copper City Chorus
7.00-9.00pm
- Wednesday:** Knitters & Natters – Church Fellowship Group
10.00-11.30am
- Thursday:** Parents & Tots 9.30-11.30am
- Bible Study 6:30-8.30pm
- Friday:** Morriston Camera Club 7.00-9.00 pm
- Saturday:** Talking Box, Men's Health 10.00-12.00noon
(Second Saturday every Month)
- Cuppa & Chat / Prayer Station:** Open when we're in the building

**Please take this newsletter home
and use it during the coming days/ weeks.**

Christmas Wordsearch

F B H Q W Q Y J F T C Z U H K S M B F N R C W L
 V V I W G J G K W D T M P H R I Y D W A Y I B A
 Q Y I H E A Z B K J U V R T A R H S C T I T R B
 U M K X A Y Q G P M E V U P Y Y Y R P Z X E L P
 L C J I S O M Y Y V Y S U Y Y R C M R D G H Q V
 J X S H W I I Z U G O H U B D B T M F N Y C B P
 D I K O R T E V O L Q W N S J T O V A N G E L S
 C M J S E Z T I B X J M Z R O Q T M E Y I C G U
 F W X E S H F V F I I H F S T N E S E R P S N W
 L H Z D B S D T B J C T Y N M E P C U K W S A D
 W I Y J O X C F R A N K I N C E N S E G E E B B
 K S Q M N O I T A N R A C N I B U S M N H I G R
 T C S U Y T I N I R T G L G S A E O E P X M I F
 V O G O L D M M O Y Z B C E F N U T E R Q P B U
 C O D K M H R S M I G F I J O N F V S H R U N D N
 Y O V D Z Y R Q J K U K W B R P O I K L A X T Z
 L G J B B F T R V K N L O S E J K P N G E A J L
 L W Z W D A Q S U P W U K J A L E L C I A H O X
 K B X Z A C Y T O X K I S S Q W B X W X R U E W
 I B N X T O A A L Q F E S Z W P R A M B Y Q H M
 T Q W K T Q R R U I G Y R E T E C T T R Q J D S
 M S D R E H P E H S S W S K M E D B A S K D K N
 A B B Q F Y R Y K O Q N N S K E O M Y L D V S C
 M S Y L I W M V T S L S G I M H N S U Y U A M Q

Star
 Joseph
 Mary
 Stable
 Bethlehem
 Wisemen
 Incarnation
 Jesus
 angels
 Love
 manger
 bigbang
 cosmos
 shepherds
 frankincense
 myrrh
 gold
 Presents
 Trinity
 God



From the Study

Luke 2:6-18 (The Message)

6-7 While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the hostel.

8-12 There were shepherds camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God's angel stood among them and God's glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David's town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you're to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger."

13-14 At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God's praises: Glory to God in the heavenly heights, Peace to all men and women on earth who please him.

15-18 As the angel choir withdrew into heaven, the shepherds talked it over. "Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us." They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met what the angels had said about this child. All who heard the shepherds were impressed.

It doesn't matter which translation I read of the Bible, in this passage from Luke's gospel I can't help seeing the excitement of the shepherds after they had that visit from the angels, "*Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us.*"

My question is this, 'How excited are you about this?' I know some people don't get excited about Christmas, I understand that; but it's not just Christmas, it's about Jesus. How excited are you that God would be willing to come into this world in the form of a human baby?

I read that 10% of people in Wales think about the birth of Christ in their Christmas preparations. I don't know if that's true, however, I am concerned



This month's prize is a Prayer Journal Notebook

£1.00 to enter on / or after December 24th. Last Entry January 28th, draw takes place after the evening service.

From the Study (Continued)


whether Christians are excited about Jesus in their daily lives, not just at Christmas. Perhaps we could all learn a lesson from those shepherds - *“Let’s get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us.” They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met what the angels had said about this child.*

Be blessed and **be a blessing** this month, tell someone about the birth of Jesus,

Pastor Phil.

*Lord Jesus, please help us to share the good news of Your birth this Christmas, but also the joy of knowing You as Saviour.
Thank You Lord, Amen.*

A place where you can fit in, and everything stays in the box.



Board Games,
Tea / Coffee;

A place where you are free to talk, if you want to ...

THE TALKING BOX

Men's Health Matters

2nd Saturday of Every Month
10am - 12noon

AENON BAPTIST CHURCH, STRAWBERRY PLACE,
MORRISTON, SA6 7AG.



If you have questions about Christianity

Ask about
ALPHA

For more info go to
www.alpha.org

ECO-CHURCH

Christmas

Can we be better at caring for creation and each other through healthy, eco-friendly and sustainable choices at Christmas?

Here's some suggestions to help us think before we buy:

1. Go for a natural wreath and decorations. Holly sprigs, ivy trails, pinecones, rose hips, and other greenery rather than shiny tinsel and plastic.
2. Avoid buying wrapping paper (and cards) that have glitter and/ or shiny bits as they cannot be recycled after you use them.
3. Quality not quantity: Around half of UK adults say they have received gifts they don't want at Christmas. When buying gifts think less but better, putting the time into picking a quality item that will last a longer.
4. Give the gift of time itself. What about a gift of cooking for someone once a month for a year, taking them for a coffee, babysitting, house cleaning... Just make a 'gift of time gift voucher' and put it in a card for them.
5. Think about materials: Ensure wood and paper gifts are made from recycled or (FSC) certified materials. Avoid single-use plastic items that can't be recycled and items such as single-use tablecloths and napkins.
6. Look for things like Fairtrade or Organic-certified food and clothing. Vintage clothes and home furnishings, and refurbished technology can make great sustainable gifts.
7. Try to better plan your food shopping so that you don't waste un-eaten food. Freeze any leftovers or food items *before* they go past their best to gain some extra time.
8. Use LED lights on your Christmas tree and around the house. They use less energy, last longer and look just as good! Also, switch off your lights at night - it's safer and won't cost the earth.
9. Reduce waste even further by buying gifts with little or no packaging. If you must use packaging, use recycled, or recyclable, materials.
10. Many Christmas crackers are not recyclable, and the toys inside are often made of plastic. Instead, look out for FSC-certified crackers. Reusable DIY crackers are another great option. Fill them yourself with sustainable options (like chocolates) and personalised festive favours.

ECO-CHURCH

Two very different angles for thought and action this month:

COP28...

... is the United Nations Climate Change Conference taking place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 30 November until 12 December 2023.

Here's a little more information about it so that we can pray about it and maybe even for specific topics on the specific days they will be discussed.

What is COP28?

Officially, COP 28 stands for the 28th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). To put it simply, it is where the world comes together to agree on ways to address the climate crisis, such as limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, helping vulnerable communities adapt to the effects of climate change, and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

More than 70,000 delegates are expected to attend, including the member states (or Parties). Business leaders, young people, climate scientists, Indigenous Peoples, journalists, and various other experts and stakeholders will also be there.

Why is it so important?

With the most important details of the Paris Climate Change Agreement negotiated and agreed over the last few years, COP 28 is all about implementing the Agreement and ramping up ambition and action.

We are in a decisive decade for climate action.

What are the topics under discussion and when?

Sunday 3rd December- Health/relief, recovery and peace

Mon 4th - Finance/trade/gender equality/accountability

Tues 5th - Energy, industry, and just transition

Wed 6th- Multilevel action, urbanization and built environment/transport

Fri 8th - Youth, children, education and skills

Sat 9th- Nature, land use, and oceans

Sunday 10th - Food, agriculture and water



Poets' Corner

A King in Bethlehem

No-one expected a king in Bethlehem,
‘King David’s Royal town’;
But a baby was born a king in Bethlehem,
King of all creation, King of the universe,
King of love, King of glory, King of peace.

Born in a stable? A king?
The shepherds told of the angels of glory,
The baby they proclaimed, ‘Messiah, the Lord,’
‘Wrapped in cloths, lying in a manger’;
They saw Him there, King Jesus,
A baby, His mother Mary and Joseph watching o’er.

A King? No imperial gowns, or ornate crib,
But simple cloths, a feeding trough and straw;
Yet more than a king, the Son of God,
Foretold, anticipated; but who was ready
To receive and welcome this precious child?

Two thousand years have passed in time
And still so many neglect this special child;
A tradition, a triviality, an inconvenience perhaps;
But without this child CHRISTmas doesn’t exist,
No King, no hope, no rescue from sin.
Therefore, give thanks unto God for His Bethlehem King.

Helpful Contacts and Information



Aenon Baptist Church Website

www.aenonbaptist.org



www.biblegateway.com



Mobile App

Website www.youversion.com

YouVersion

**We're Mind Cymru,
the mental health charity**

www.mind.org.uk



www.papyrus-uk.org



Empowerment, safety and support for women and children experiencing domestic abuse.



The Dementia Hwb Swansea
Call on 01792 304519

The Dementia Hwb located in The Quadrant, Swansea, is a unique information centre led by Dementia Friendly Swansea.



OPENING TIMES

FRIDAY from 11am until 1pm

Contributions will be welcome during the above times, or on a Thursday from 6-8pm

LOCATION

Mount Zion Baptist Chapel
Mansel Road
Swansea
SA1 7JR
email Eastsidefoodbank@gmail.com

Rev. Chris Lewis 01792 - 412755
Councillor Paul Lloyd 01792 - 774482
Reg Charity No 1163300



Please send us your prayer requests:
Tel 01792-791611
email:
pastor@aenonbaptist.org
or on Facebook

Prayer Guide for the Month

Community: Woodfield St, Cwmbath Rd, Strawberry Place, Rock Terrace, Bryneithin Terrace, Treharne Rd, Bath Rd, Bath Ave, Lan St, Horeb Rd, Bath Villas, Slate St, Uplands Terrace, Crown St, Clyndu St, Tan Y Lan Ter, Vicarage Rd, Llys Y Graig, Pleasant St, Springfield St, Rosemary Cl, Penrice St, Maes Y Bryn.

Organisations: Voluntary Groups, Churches Together in Morriston, Police, Fire and Ambulance Services, Primary & Senior Schools, Charitable Groups, Doctor's surgeries, the Hospital and A&E.

Persecuted Christians: Pastors and their congregations in India and Pakistan, and organisations / charities supporting them.

Our Church:

Please pray for Pastor Phil & the Diaconate-
For the Holy Spirit to Strengthen & Guide them.

Please pray for all our Church Members and friends at Aenon, and for all who may visit our services and meetings this month.

Please pray for our Church Groups and Organisations: Ladies Group, Parent & Toddlers, Knitters & Natters, Worship Team, Bible Study, Working Party, Talking Box.

Bible Reading Plan

Have you ever thought about reading the whole of the Bible in One Year?

In the January Newsletter we will publish daily reading plans for the 31 days of January, and each month after that so that you can complete a reading plan for one whole year, completing the whole Bible. It doesn't matter which translation you use, King James Version, New International Version, Good News Bible, (whichever you are comfortable with) just follow the plan.

But, for the month of December we invite you to read the Gospel of Luke, one chapter each day from December 1st. This will take you up to Christmas Eve when you will have read the whole of the life story of Jesus from the time leading up to His birth through to His ascension to heaven.

Have a blessed and joyful Christmas.

Why not join us for Bible Study on Thursdays, 6.30pm for a Cuppa, 7.00pm Bible Study.

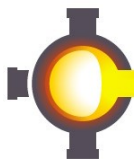


**Parents & Tots Group
Thursday
9.30 - 11.30am**



Join us in costume as your favourite Hero





AENON BAPTIST
CHURCH MORRISTON

