



# ARM (Wales) Magazine

Summer 2011 | Issue 59

**ANGLICAN RENEWAL MINISTRIES WALES**  
**ADNEWYDDIAD EGLWYSWYR CYMRU**



Encouraging people to live in a closer relationship with God

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LATEST DATE for copy for the Winter edition – November 13th 2011

We welcome articles, letters and news of your Renewal events.

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or email: [malcolm@gcsposters.co.uk](mailto:malcolm@gcsposters.co.uk)

*Malcolm Dye*

by Dick Shenton  
(Vice-Chairman)

## Saved by Grace

Ephesians 2:8-10



We are  
predestined  
to be the  
hands, feet,  
eyes, ears,  
minds and  
voices of  
God.

*“<sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.”*

We are predestined to be the hands, feet, eyes, ears, minds and voices of God.

What a responsibility! What a challenge! What a wonderful opportunity!

At first sight it may seem somewhat daunting, a huge burden. However we are “Created in Christ Jesus” so we have a supreme mentor. Furthermore we are “God’s workmanship” so the tools (gifts) with which we work are of the finest quality, what a huge advantage we have in our faith. In addition we are sustained by the Holy Spirit “who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance” (Ephesians 1:14). So we should have no need to fret over our perceived inadequacies, just lean back and feel the support of Jesus. Look upward to see the light of truth “for God all things are possible” (Matthew 19:26).

The “works” which we undertake might not have immediate results, indeed we may never be made aware of the outcome, and neither may they have the results that we had imagined (or desired). It is clear from Paul’s words that we are not commissioned for God’s work to be rewarded - that is a worldly motivation. Our purposes are driven by love, fuelled by hope, encouraged by praise and supported by God’s earthly family – His church.

Our concern should not be about the quantity or importance of what we do, for as long as we do it with grace and in love we are assured that our works “God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.” Be certain that however small we may feel our contribution is, it is a part of God’s plan in the establishment of His Kingdom on earth.



the moment the site is still being developed and a lot of content is missing. So visit regularly to see how it's developing.

All the old content is being reviewed and appropriate material will be added to the new site. The archive of past magazines will also be included but this will take some time to achieve. There is some timeless content, as relevant now as at the time it was written. We've republished some articles in this edition, as a taster, to encourage you to look through the archive when it's available.

## Prayer Corner

Greetings everyone, whether regular or occasional pray-ers for ARM, or hopefully, those of you who reading this will now feel called to join the prayer army. Matthew 9:37, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few" said Jesus, and this applies to ARM as to many other Christian organisations in these days. Prayer being the ministry on which all else hangs, and the spiritual lifeblood of us all, let us start *by asking the Lord to send more labourers into this most basic area of ARM's ministry.*



by Pam Worsley  
(Prayer Co-ordinator)

Why 'Prayer Corner'? Just a title that came to me for this section of the magazine, which **we DON'T want hidden away in a corner**, but remembering Jesus' words, "When you pray, go into your inner room/closet...shut your door...your Father Who sees in secret will repay you" (Matthew 6:6). There being no inner room in a magazine, this title seemed the most appropriate!

To keep the prayer requests brief and to the point, apart from the one mentioned above, I will just list them. Please seek the Lord individually as to how He wishes you to pray for each item mentioned. As I said in the last prayer bulletin, I am so aware of people's busy lives and the sometimes overloaded feeling when it comes to prayer requests, so please, do not allow this to become a burden or a guilt trip! That is not what our loving Lord desires for us.

Prayer  
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quiet ways...

### **Praise and Thanksgiving**

- For God's blessing showered upon His people at the Trefeca Retreat.
- For the way God continues to use ARM in quiet ways, with the bursary fund being a tool to bless many desiring to grow in their ministries and in Him.
- For the absolute assurance that if we prepare our hearts before Him, God will lead and guide ARM into His perfect purpose for these tremendous days.
- Praise the Lord for answered prayer, as 'before they called He answered'. Bishop Andy John has agreed to be a Spiritual Advisor for ARM

### **Prayer Needs**

- More people to feel called to join the Executive committee, especially clergy, and that God would guide some urgently needed younger members into this role.
- That God will speedily fill the need for a Chairperson for ARM.
- Renewed vision for all connected with ARM and *new* vision for those unconnected with the work of Renewal in the Church.
- For the sense of 'family' to grow, so that all will feel loved, supported, accepted and needed, especially any who possibly feel rather alone or excluded.
- For all ARM members who may be sick or in need, whether known or unknown to us.
- For all Church in Wales members who may be similarly afflicted, especially those with little prayer support. In their afflictions they may receive a special touch of God the Holy Spirit.
- For anointed, appropriate articles to be contributed for the magazine
- God's blessing on and a His choice of speaker for the AGM in November

Thank  
you for  
praying.

Thank you for praying. May the dear Lord Who sees what is done in secret reward you openly in His perfect time.

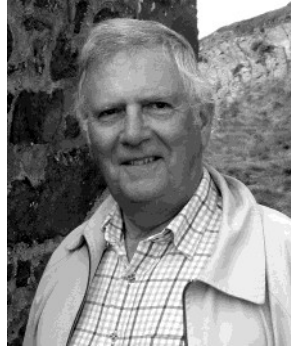
We need your prayers, ARM needs your prayers, and please be assured, you are a very vital part of the work as a result. Thank you once again.

May God's special blessing be upon you.

## Prayer pointers 4

When St Paul wrote to Christians at Ephesus, 'Awake, sleeper, arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you,' he was saying something new. It's not in the Old Testament, though it echoes Isaiah 'Awake, awake! Rise up, Jerusalem' (51:17) and 'Arise, shine for your light has come' (Isa. 60:1). It's nowhere else in the New Testament. Paul's word for 'shine' is found nowhere else in the Bible. But all the other words are common, so scholars search for echoes of the verse in the Old Testament, in Jewish books outside the Old Testament, and in pagan literature from Persia and elsewhere. Someone suggested that it comes from a Christian hymn used at services of baptism, but my favourite is that it is a prophecy from a Christian prophet based on a word from Jesus (Calvin). Jesus asked his disciples to wake or stay awake, both when he was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane and when he prophesied that the Son of Man was coming, and disciples need to be ready for that moment. He said, "Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes" (Luke 12:35-37). The word 'watch' here is the same as 'be awake'.

Back to the prophecy, "Awake, sleeper, arise from the dead. And Christ shall shine on you". Paul puts it in three chapters on how to live a Christlike life. He reminds Christians how God has raised them from a life of darkness, of total sin, into a life with the risen Christ in the heavenlies away from the ways of this world (2:2) and



By  
Revd Gervais  
Angel

'Awake,  
sleeper,  
arise from  
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All these common features of social behaviour, public and private, in the UK today, are summed up by Paul under one word, darkness, ...

into the kingdom of God. Chapters 4 to 6 speak of unity in Christ and the changed life which Christians need to live now that they know Christ. There is an overall change from the old life into a new life of clear Christ-like action. '...to put off your old self which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires, to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness' (Ephesians 4:14-25). He repeats the call to the godly life. 'For once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for it is by the light that everything becomes visible. This is why it is said, 'Awake, sleeper... Christ will shine on you.' (Ephesians 4:26-5:15). Then he spells out guidelines for living a Spirit-filled life in worship, and in relationships at home and in work. Clearly, to awake from sleep is to be renewed in godliness.

In our society we have a celebrity culture of:

- too much money paid for work done – Paul calls it avarice or greed;
- unregulated sexual behaviour – the Paul calls it sexual irregularity;
- putting a slant on things in the interest of prejudice, not truth – Paul calls this lying;
- foul language in public – Paul calls this obscenity, foolish talk and coarse joking;
- taking more than is rightfully ours, as in false expenses claims by MPs and Lords or by the general public trying to fiddle company or personal tax returns – Paul calls this theft.

All these common features of social behaviour, public and private, in the UK today, are summed up by Paul under one word, darkness, a darkness which infuriates God and from whose dire consequences there is no escape. He calls the Ephesian Christians to be LIGHT.

'Watch' is the call to be LIGHT, to turn our back on what the Bible

calls darkness and to let God change your natures to be LIGHT – seeking Government under God’s rule, witnessing to One God, Father, Jesus and the Holy Spirit’, settling for a wage which supplies the basics, helps the needy and allows us to honour God with a tenth of our goods, keeping sex for marriage, telling the truth straight, keeping our vocabulary clean and positive for other people, keeping our accounts straight with no false claims. That behaviour is LIGHT. These are our Prayer Pointers from God’s Word:

- 1 God’s wrath on the life-style of darkness
- 2 Call to have godly character
- 3 Call to display, as a witness, godly character.

The awakenings we looked at in the 1740s had anointed prayer and preaching. Its theme was the right of God to bless whom he wishes. Then the Holy Spirit led people to plead for mercy and repent of ungodliness.

The awakenings we looked at in the late 1700s and early 1800s taught in addition that the call to turn to God was directed at the will of people, urging them to decide to repent.

The New York prayer meetings from 1857 we looked at in the last issue of the magazine were advertised with this aim:

*‘To pray, as often as the language of prayer is in my heart; as often as I see my need of help; as often as I feel the power of temptation; as often as I am made aware of spiritual decline, or feel the aggression of a worldly earthly spirit; to leave the business of time for that of eternity, and to leave intercourse with men for intercourse with God’.* The awakenings which followed the spread of prayer meetings with this agenda over N America led over the following 30 years to awakenings in other countries: Ireland, Scotland, Wales, England, Norway, Sweden, Germany, Denmark, Australia & New Zealand, Sri Lanka and India, and equatorial Africa (J Edwin Orr, *A Light to the Nations*). I want to focus for a moment on Bont-goch, five miles from Tre’r Ddol in Cardiganshire, on the road between Aberystwyth and Machynlleth. A 15-year old boy named Humphrey Jones came under conviction of sin. When sixteen he was persuaded to preach and listeners turned to Christ. He emigrated to North America in 1854 to follow

...keeping  
sex for  
marriage,  
telling the  
truth  
straight,  
keeping our  
vocabulary  
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his parents and to preach to Welsh settlers in Wisconsin. By 1857 he was caught up in the awakenings triggered off from New York. He returned to Wales in 1858 with the express purpose of bringing revival to his home. He held a mission at his home village, Tre'r Ddol, following the method he used in N America: prayer meetings every night, with an invitation to sinners to be prayed for by the church, to come forward and give themselves to the Saviour. The first week of prayers meetings was so blessed that in the second week he had preaching every night. For successful preaching Humphrey reckoned that two things are necessary: fervent prayer in secret, several times a day, asking the Lord what to say to the people; second, to aim at the conscience. He said, 'charge the people with their sins to their very face; have no regard for men's good and bad opinions; and avoid the exhibition of self during the delivery of the sermon' (*Y Drysorfa* 1859, 127-8). He wrote in a private letter, 'I would preach every time as though I was to die in the pulpit after preaching – as though I was to go from preaching to judgement' (letter in JJ Morgan, *Dafydd Morgan* 25-7).

Back to Bont-goch. Humphrey was the third speaker in a preaching festival and the congregation was hard and heavy. He announced a hymn which goes 'Life of the dead, come into our midst. And by Thy Spirit breathe upon us'. They sang it over and over again. Then Humphrey announced his text, 'Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.' An observer said, 'A Second Pentecost followed'; 'scores of people were praying aloud, until the preacher's voice was drowned.' (E. Evans, *When He is come* 42). This revival spread across Wales for two years, though others led it.

What prayer pointers do we gain from this? David Charles, who saw the revival pinpointed three keys:

I 'an extraordinary spirit of prayer among the masses' (David Charles, Trefeca). A reporter said, 'The amazing thing is, that those meetings which were attended by the fewest people....the prayer meetings – those are now predominant. In a real way it is the Spirit of prayer which is poured out upon us in these days' (a correspondent for *Y Drysorfa*, 1859)' Many were saved in the prayer meetings.

2 A spirit of unity among praying people. (David Charles)

3 Proclamation of the truth of the Gospel straight, a powerful missionary effort for the conversion of others (David Charles)(E. Evans 82).

Now we have more pointers for prayer.

## How Does God Guide?

I live in a particularly remote spot at the end of a valley in an isolated part of mid Wales. My husband died eight years ago and since then I was able to buy a small flat in London and spend two or three winter months up there which I have thoroughly enjoyed.

This last winter I was lent a flat in Oxford and I decided to go there instead to see if I liked it. My youngest daughter, Lucy, lives 40 minutes drive away and I have five grandchildren at school in Oxford or nearby; also it is an easier journey to Wales, and a great deal cheaper.

However it was going to be a terrific wrench to sell the flat in London as I had always considered it a perfect place in which to spend the last years of my life if I cannot manage to live in Wales: it is warm in winter, very comfortable and extremely convenient. I wondered what on earth I was doing when I drove to Oxford in December: I knew only three people there (two of them much older and the other considerably younger) so it was with some trepidation that I arrived in a completely unknown city. Happily I was invited to join a very nice Bible Study group, and I quickly found a church that I liked. A good start, and in a strange way I felt that maybe the Lord wanted me there.

Why I feel that all this might be interesting is to recount the way in which God led me... First, I wasn't even going to make the big decision (to leave London) until next year, but I thought I'd look around a bit in Oxford to see where it might be nice to live if I did decide to spend the winters there. There didn't seem to be anything much, as I don't want a house with a lot of upkeep and the flats weren't very nice. I said (rather ungraciously!) to the Lord that I wouldn't do anything so if He wanted me in Oxford He must show me something specific. The day before I was leaving for

by Penelope  
Bourdillon

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Every time I stop and wonder whether I am doing the right thing I feel that it is all meant. I remind myself that I certainly could not have done it on my own, and then I have complete peace about it.

Wales, I took a granddaughter out to tea, and we passed an estate agent. For some reason we went in, just for fun, and they gave me a brochure for a small terraced house which looked rather nice. I talked to Lucy that evening and with great difficulty she persuaded them to let us view it at 5.15 pm next day - just as I was due to leave Oxford. I liked what I saw and decided then and there that I really wanted to put in an offer. I couldn't do that without selling the flat in London, but from then on a series of remarkable things have happened, and I had an exceptionally good offer from a private buyer within twenty four hours. So the ball had started rolling and hasn't stopped since, with many amazing God-incidences on the way. Each time a door opened I just had to walk through it, and the next one swung open. It has been truly remarkable and I am feeling rather breathless, four weeks later, having just signed the contract for the London sale. Every time I stop and wonder whether I am doing the right thing I feel that it is all meant. I remind myself that I certainly could not have done it on my own, and then I have complete peace about it.



# Let's Celebrate 2011

**Praise Day at St Idloes Church Hall, Llanidloes**

**Worship to be lead by Revd Bob Pitcher**

Come and praise almighty God with us on

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

in the heart of this beautiful country!

Come and hear some of the exciting and wonderful things that are happening through God's grace and mercy that don't always make headlines in the newspapers. Come and share **your** good news and **your** views and pray with us for more of God's Holy Spirit in the nation. Prayer ministry will be available on request.

Bring your friends to hear God's word and to worship our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ – **Revd Cei Rees** from Bridgend has been invited to speak from his viewpoint as a young curate.

You do not have to be member, just bring a packed lunch (tea and coffee provided) and be prepared to be blessed and refreshed.

Coffee at 10 am, meeting to commence at 10.30, and the day will end at approximately 3.30 pm.

(There will be a very short business meeting at some point).

*If you would be willing to share your car with others please may we put you in touch with people from your area needing a lift? Contact Dick or Kath Shenton 01656 665368 email [dickandkath@btinternet.com](mailto:dickandkath@btinternet.com)*

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***We would like to organise a weekend retreat in North Wales during the Autumn of 2012. Suggestions for a venue or speakers would be most welcome.***



Revd Bob Pitcher

Revd Cei  
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by Joe Hague

Why is it  
then, ...,  
Churches  
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healing  
alongside  
teaching  
and  
preaching  
the  
Gospel?

Within  
weeks we  
had people  
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## Healing and the Church

In Luke 9: 2 it says, "He sent them out to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick".

Jesus' ministry was threefold, teaching, preaching and healing. These went hand in hand together, all one ministry. His disciples saw what Jesus was doing as they went around with him from place to place.

Later on, after they had witnessed Jesus being crucified and risen from the dead and were waiting at the day of Pentecost (Acts 2: 1-4), the Holy Spirit came upon them in power. Later they in turn, laid hands on others who received that same power. This power enabled them to carry on Jesus' ministry as he had instructed them to do.

Why is it then, that with a few notable exceptions, Churches do not now offer healing alongside teaching and preaching the Gospel? Is it through fear that it might not work? People may not get healed or expectations may be dashed?

We know that not everyone gets healed physically and there may be all kinds of reasons why not. It might be that other things need attention first, we do not always receive what we want right away. But I believe that God always hears and answers our prayers and he always has the correct solutions to our prayer requests.

Way back in the 1970's when I was a Head Teacher in a Church School, Revd Roy Lawrence was the Vicar of the local Church. He came into my study having just returned from sabbatical and had been studying Christ's Healing Ministry. From this he had gained new insight and was wanting to start a healing service in Church and asked me to assist him. I had already been teaching about this in my own Church and agreed wholeheartedly.

We began holding a mid-week service but in several months did not see much in the way of actual healing. Roy suggested that it may be time to abandon it and try something else instead. As I thought about this I felt that this could be the enemy trying to put us off and not to give up so we carried on with the services.

Within weeks we had people telling us that they had received

healing. Not only that but other people came forward to admit that they had received healing in the past few months and had not told anyone. One truly remarkable healing is recalled in Roy's book 'Christian Healing Rediscovered'. It is about a bottled up and angry man. Physically and emotionally he felt terrible and had contemplated suicide. Through prayer and counselling this man was eventually able to accept that God loved him and his symptoms disappeared, so had his depression and he was no longer suicidal. He re-committed his life to Christ.

Our services became so successful that Granada TV came and filmed one.

Some time later the Bishop invited Roy to move to another Church where he later became Canon and carried on with his Ministry of Healing. Sadly, when a new vicar was appointed at our Church he was not convinced that this ministry was for him and the services stopped.

Jesus ministry was not just for the Disciples, it is for all of us who are called into relationship with him. We must pray and encourage our leaders to launch out and fulfill Jesus' calling to go out and teach, preach **and** heal in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Helping Leaders to Renew Their Churches

This article has been reprinted from ARM (Wales) magazine issue No. 4 – Spring 1994 and formed a seminar at the conference "Living in Renewal" held at St Michael's, Aberystwyth.

### **The place and value of leaders**

God has got a high view of leadership, and gives leaders as His gift to the church. They have a vital role to play in the renewal of the church.

- They are God's anointed even when they do not perform very well: (1 Samuel 24: 6).
- They are the Lord's representatives (Luke 10: 16).



We must pray and encourage our leaders to launch out and fulfill Jesus' calling to go out and teach, preach **and** heal in the power of the Holy Spirit.

by Revd  
Stuart R Bell

God has got a high view of leadership...

# Pioneer

- They are to be respected (1 Thessalonians 5: 12).
- Christians are to be in submission to their authority (Hebrews 13: 17).

Just because these Bible principles have been misused or are open to abuse does not excuse us from living by them.

Leaders should be confident in the Lord who has appointed and anointed them, and should look for five different qualities in order to lead their congregations into renewal.

## ***1. The quality of a pioneer***

Many churches need a pioneer who will blaze the trail for them and show them which direction to go in, show them that it is possible, and demonstrate that it is safe to move forward.

This will involve:

(i) Tender ruthlessness... (see 1 Peter 5: 2-4)

This is characterised by allowing some people to leave, by not moving at the speed of the slowest or the fastest, but by a firm sticking to our guns.

(ii) Single-mindedness...

For pioneers travel light. They are stripped down for the journey. There needs to be a careful and prayerful examination of the church's life and a ruthless cutting away of so much which profits no-one. All the effort and energy of the leadership and the church needs to be turned in one specific direction.

(iii) A confidence in the task...

There can appear to be a certain arrogance in leaders who have got specific aims, but any pioneer will have had his map and compass out the day before and will not be making up his mind as the journey goes along.

*Question: Are you a pioneer by nature and temperament? If the answer is yes, then get on with the task in hand. If the answer is no then offer two prayers to the Lord ....*

- *Do you want me anywhere else?*
- *Please give me the spirit of a pioneer until the work is done.*

## 2. *The quality of a martyr*

We are called to die to ourselves constantly in the cause of Christ. (See: I Corinthians 15: 31; Matthew 16: 24). Leadership is martyrdom.

- (i) The criticism, negativity, barbed comments, grudging support, moaning and complaining are part of the martyrdom.
- (ii) They are the victims of Satanic opposition for “the devil goes seven times around the parsonage for every one time around the parish” (Matthew Henry).
- (iii) Martyrdom requires courage. Not the courage of being unafraid, but the courage of continuing to do what is right in the face of opposition.
- (iv) Holy Spirit power is holding our ground against an intimidating congregation.

Renewal is the most dangerous thing for a church leader, and for a church.

*Question; Are you prepared to pay the price of renewal?*

## 3. *The quality of a visionary*

A renewed leader has two clear aims for the church.

- (i) that the Holy Spirit may be released
- (ii) that Jesus may be glorified.

This means that he will set the example and be a model for others in:

- pursuing holiness.
- living in repentance.
- being abandoned to the Holy Spirit.
- being ready to be obedient.
- be listening carefully to the voice of the Spirit.
- concentrating solely on the worship of Jesus.
- centring church life ruthlessly around doing His will alone.

The end product will be to produce a church which is entirely unique and distinct. There will not be another one like it anywhere else in the entire world.

Martyr

Visionary

Prayers

Workers

*Question: Are these two visions clear in your mind? Are they in focus?*

#### **4. The quality of a pray-er**

Unless the Lord builds the house, they labour in vain that build it. (Psalm 127: 1). We know that the Lord wants to build His church [Matthew 16: 18], and we know what building methods He has authorised - prayer! (Luke 18: 1; Matthew 9: 38).

The principle is prayer. The people need to be called together to pray. How and when this is done will vary from church to church, but without prayer there is no renewal, no revival, no conversions, no spiritual vigour.

'When God plans a great work He sets His people a-praying' (Matthew Henry).

The leader in renewal will be in the forefront of the pray-ers.

*Question: What adjustment needs to be made to my prayer in order to make renewal possible in my church?*

#### **5. The quality of workers**

God does the converting, God does the filling with the Holy Spirit, God brings the renewal.

But renewal is not an excuse for laziness where the Christians can put their feet up.

(i) We will need to become or to find counsellors.

There will be noise, disturbance, mild chaos, bad behaviour. The counselling ministry will increase enormously as people want to sort their lives out.

(ii) We will need to become or to find peace-makers.

For there will be injuries and wounds which will have to be forgiven and healed.

(iii) We will need to become or to find encouragers.

For many who respond will be broken, wounded people, some of them will be slightly odd, and many of them will not have stuck at anything since they were born.

But the greatest joy is that our work will be purposeful because it

will be the problems of life and not the problems of death.

*Question: Am I looking for the Lord to bring renewal so that I can take things a bit easier? What adjustments need to be made to my timetable so that I can concentrate on the Lord's agenda and not on mine or that of the church?*

Marina Kennard

I am 74 years old, one of nine children, and have been widowed for 24 years. After my husband's death I completed my studies for the ministry in May 1989. I was ordained and inducted as a Non-Stipendiary-Minister at Castle Square U.R.C. Treforest. After two and a half years I then accepted a call to serve as N.S.M at Pagham U.R.C., West Sussex.



Profile of  
one of our  
Executive  
Committee  
Members—  
Marina  
Kennard

Family commitments resulted in my return to Cwmbran to live with my ailing mother and she died in 1998. During this time I was actively involved in the healing ministry and, following an invitation from Archbishop (Wales, at the time) Rowan Williams I was ordained into the Church in Wales as a deacon. I served in the parish of Mynyddslwyn and, later, was ordained as a priest. Following my mother's death I moved to my own home in Hollybush, Cwmbran, where I still reside. Personal circumstances and health problems produced a change to my serving as a voluntary Hospital Chaplain for a number of years. During this period I regularly preached in local churches and was active in the ecumenical movement. In my retirement I worship in local churches and retain my interest in ecumenical matters. While attending one of the ARM (Wales) conferences I became interested in the Flames of Fire and this has resulted in my starting to serve on the Executive Committee of ARM (Wales). It is a joy to serve on this committee and I trust that the Lord will use me to further his work through the medium of ARM (Wales).

I have a longing in my heart to see this beloved nation, Wales, won back to Christ. In the second book of Chronicles, Chapter 7, verse 14, the Lord says "If my people, who are called by my name, will

humble themselves and pray, seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from Heaven, forgive their sins and heal their land.”

The Lord still speaks these very same words to us as a nation Wales and so I pray for a fresh anointing of His Holy Spirit on Wales and His Churches.

## Prayer for Revival

by David Adam

*Excerpts from seminar given in 1994 by Revd Michael Sserunkuma, at that time a curate in Cardiff. He has now been in ordained ministry for sixteen years and worked formerly in Uganda.*

When we think of revival we sometimes have a problem with the word - we tend to connect it with the past. What we need to consider is what God demands from us today. In the 1970's, Bishop Festo in Uganda was speaking to a young man who had offered himself for Ordination. The young man said: "I want to see revival..." The Bishop replied: "Where is that in Scripture?" Sometimes we are so occupied with the term REVIVAL that we miss the point.

When Amin was in power in Uganda, many Europeans left the Church until only twenty or so local people were left. It was decided that they must pray for a new congregation. The first year nothing apparent happened; the second year the same; and then in the third year figures climbed to forty, a hundred, a thousand, two thousand until when Michael left in the 1980's there were fifteen thousand in Church every Sunday. They had to hold five Sunday services starting with two thousand at the 8 am service! In Genesis 18 we read the story of Abraham pleading for Sodom; he knew the people would have to face the wrath of God. Abraham had a concern for the needs of those people so he pleaded with God for them. He beseeched God to do something. In Uganda, when new local leaders were taking over from the missionaries, instead of preaching the Word, they concentrated on good administration and the Church began to flounder. When the leaders returned to proclaiming the Gospel, growth took place. Do we have the

conviction that God will act?

During his rule, President Amin was determined to replace Christians with Muslims. So, one by one, the Christians disappeared but for every one that died, ten others seemed to appear. A whole village was converted by the testimony of a Christian dentist who was eventually martyred.

They were hard times under Amin but when things improved the people sometimes forgot what God had done in the days of hardship. In Numbers 14:11, Moses is praying for the people and God interrupts: "How long will these people treat me with contempt?" Sometimes we can bring the Church into disrepute by our behaviour. How can there be revival if we are not whole-hearted?

Do we know what the hindrance is in our own Church?

We may say:

"It's the Vicar" or "It's the PCC" or "It's the Church Wardens"

But, are we the hindrance? How can we pray if we can't see the problem? We have to allow God to do things through Jesus and then we have to pray for the impossible.

How much space do we allow God? Our expectancy is often very low. People sit on the sidelines and won't join in the game. We have to let go of ourselves and allow God to use us in new ways. So don't let's tie God down. He often uses a totally different way to proceed. Revival is what God is already doing.

Before Prayer

I weave a silence on to my lips  
 I weave a silence into my mind  
 I weave a silence within my heart  
 I close my ears to distractions  
 I close my eyes to attractions  
 I close my heart to temptations  
 Calm me O Lord as you stilled the storm  
 Still me O Lord, keep me from harm  
 Let all the tumult within me cease  
 Enfold me Lord in your peace.

by Dick Shenton

## Hearting Talk

I was sitting at my desk this quiet Sunday afternoon gradually working through old ARM (Wales) magazine articles for the archives, when the telephone rang. It was quite a surprise to hear from a lady whose name was familiar from the membership list but not someone whom I had ever met. Here was someone who had a heart for Wales, had never been to one of our events but was praying for revival in this land of ours. She was asking what specifically ARM needed prayer about as she regularly kept us in prayer. It transpired that she was of Welsh stock and had holidayed here and in spite of the seeming lack of renewal in her own town, had a vision of fires of revival to bursting into flame all over the Principality.

It is so encouraging to hear such stories and be encouraged by the knowledge that many are providing the strength that we need by undergirding our purpose with constant prayer.

Can you inspire us by telling your story?

by Pam Worsey

## The Alabaster Box

Child of My love, the fragrance of your offering  
 Rises to My Throne as I am glorified in you;  
 Painful obedience will always bring My blessings  
 Hearts that are faithful will always find Me true.  
 Alabaster box of precious, spikenard ointment  
 Smells no sweeter to Me than the perfume of your life;  
 Gladly I receive this token of your love Child,  
 Mindful of your pain, I share the tears, the strife.  
 Lean on My Breast as I seek to lead you higher -  
 Deeper than you've known into My healing Heart of love;  
 From that blessed place, compassion new I'll give you,  
 Gentleness and care rest on you from above.  
 Child of My love, together we will work and heal,  
 Vessels that are purified are ready for My use;  
 Trust for the future - My purpose I'm outworking,  
 Hearts I will unite, and lives and wills I'll fuse.



ANGLICAN RENEWAL MINISTRIES  
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Encouraging people to live in a closer relationship with God

We welcome all Christians to join with us in supporting our work.

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Committee Members:

Pam Worsey

Diana Waggett

John Meason

Kath Shenton

Marina Kennard

Steve Waters

Marcia Gibson-Watt

*We trust that we may glorify God's name through our activities in Wales and we look to the prayer support of our members.*

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(please use 'ARM membership' as the subject)



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## Datganiad Adnewyddiad Eglwyswyr Cymru

- Llawnhau yn aelodaeth Eglwys Duw
- ac yn ein galwad i'r Eglwys yng Nghymru
- ac yn cydnabod mai drwy weithgareddau'r Ysbryd Glân cawn fwynhau perthynas personol gyda'r Duw Dad a Iesu Grist.
- Rydym yn ymrwymo'n hunain mewn aelodaeth ffyddlon i'n heglwys, yn ffyddlon i'w harweiniad a'l fframwaith.
- Dymunwn ymuno â llawnder rhoddion grasol Duw i'w Eglwys, i ddangos ffrwyth yr Ysbryd Glân, ac i ymarfer doniau'r Ysbryd a roddwyd inni yn ac yn freiniol er mwyn nerthu'r Eglwys.
- Ac idyfu fel unigolion ac fel eglwys i efelychu Crist.
- Drwy ddyfalbarhad i adnewyddu, gobeithiwn fel unigolion, yn gorfforedig ac yn undebol, cawn ein harwain gan yr Ysbryd i annog yr Eglwys mewn:
  - addoliad sy'n ein harwain wyneb yn wyneb â'r bywiol Dduw
  - deisyfiad i gael ymuno yng ngwir gymundeb â'r Ysbryd Glân, i'n galluogi i roi argraff gyhoeddus o eglwys fywiol, gariadus a gweithgar.

## A statement from Anglican Renewal Ministries (Wales)

- Rejoicing in our membership of God's Church
  - and our calling within the Church in Wales
  - and recognising that through the activity of the Holy Spirit we are brought into a personal relationship with God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,
  - we commit ourselves to be faithful members of our church, loyal to its leadership and structures.
  - We desire to enter into the fullness of all God's gracious gifts to his Church, to display the fruit of the Spirit and to exercise the gifts of the Spirit as he sovereignly and freely distributes them for the building up of the Church
  - and to grow as individuals and Church into the likeness of Christ.
  - Being dedicated to renewal we hope that individually, corporately and by open gatherings we can be led by the Holy Spirit to encourage the Church in:
    - a worship which expects to encounter the living God
    - a desire to be caught up into the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the communal expression of a living, loving and serving church.
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