

ARM (Wales) Magazine

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ANGLICAN RENEWAL MINISTRIES WALES

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Encouraging people to live in a closer relationship with God

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LAST DATE for copy for the Winter edition - November 18th 2015

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

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Malcolm Dye

by Dick Shenton
Vice-chairman

From the Vice Chairman

The Lord certainly blessed our efforts and the many who came to Flames Rekindled at Builth Wells in May. It was a full day and filled with worship, prayer and great teaching



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At our Executive Committee meetings we frequently refer to our burden for those who live in parishes where there are not enough resources of both people and money to arrange similar types of experience. This was our attempt to fill part of that gap.

which was inspirational as were the testimonies given about how the Lord is moving throughout Wales. It was a busy time for the organisers yet so rewarding. Afterwards we came to the conclusion that more help was needed to cope with the numbers of people who attended (over 300). Moreover it was an experiment for us – an exercise in testing the water to discover if there was a need for this type of Christian event and the answer was an unequivocal YES! People came from far and near (the furthest joined us from USA as Ron Allen and Dave Finke came to contribute). Many who had previously been to Flames of Fire renewed their friendships and many who had not been

to events organised by ARM (Wales) came to see (and be surprised by) what the Anglican Church can do. There were also those who had not been aware that our organisation still existed.

At our Executive Committee meetings we frequently refer to our burden for those who live in parishes where there are not enough resources of both people and money to arrange similar types of experience. This was our attempt to fill part of that gap. Elsewhere in this edition you will be able to read some of the comments by those who came. We have been so encouraged that already we have booked the Glamorgan/Clwyd building at the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells for Friday evening and Saturday May 27th – 28th 2016 a firm date for next year's diary.

This time as we begin to plan we have decided that we will need to charge for admission as we had anticipated a loss for this year but will not be prudent to sustain it again. Some are reticent to mention money but the figures will be revealed

Overall we were very excited by the outcome, by the quality of the speakers and the worship band, the dedication of those few who worked so hard and the enthusiasm of the congregation and we certainly are praying for numbers at the next Flames Rekindled to grow even more resulting in the expansion of God's Kingdom in Wales.

by Pam Worsley

...could I ask you to consider the following brief extract from an article by Dr Caroline Leaf,

through our accounting process so there is no necessity to be coy about telling you, our members, now. Our budgeting was reasonably accurate but the unknown quantity was the numbers who would attend; not all the bills are in yet but the cost was in excess of £5,000 and the gifts, freewill offering and tax recovered was a little less than £2,000 so you can see that we will be responsible for about three fifths of the total cost.

Overall we were very excited by the outcome, by the quality of the speakers and the worship band, the dedication of those few who worked so hard and the enthusiasm of the congregation and we certainly are praying for numbers at the next Flames Rekindled to grow even more resulting in the expansion of God's Kingdom in Wales. Our next event will be the Retreat at Trefeca 18th – 20th August 2015 for which we have already received a number of bookings but there is still space for more. Furthermore plans are underway for a Retreat in North Wales in March 2016 shortly after Easter and more details will be forthcoming in our next edition.

Prayer Corner

Before we move into the usual praise, thanksgiving and prayer points of this section of the magazine, could I ask you to consider the following brief extract from an article by Dr



Caroline Leaf, a committed Christian neurophysicist. Reading it before we pray, will I think, prime the prayer pump in a totally new way! Praise God for these gifted individuals in the Body of Christ.

“It has been found that 12 minutes of daily focused prayer over an 8 week period can change the brain

to such an extent that it can be measured on a brain scan [1]. This type of prayer seems to increase activity in brain areas associated with social interaction, compassion and sensitivity to others. It also increases frontal lobe activity as focus and intentionality increase. As well as changing the brain, another study implies that intentional prayer can even change physical matter. Researchers found that intentional thought for 30 seconds affected laser light [2]. Therefore, even though toxic thought can cause brain damage, prayer can reverse that damage and cause the brain and body to thrive. There is growing interest in the power of prayer to change our brain and even matter itself. Even though as Christians we are cognizant of this by reading the Bible and from experience, it is nice to know science is now bearing this out”.

For References 1 and 2 see online for Dr Leaf's *Scientific Philosophy*.*

So – on with our praying!! And we thought we were just doing it to bless others! :-)

Praise and Thanksgiving

Acts 4:31 “After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and spoke the Word of God boldly”

- So, let us continue to praise God for the wonderful Flames Rekindled day that He gave us, refreshing His people; renewing relationships; strengthening His church and equipping us to move forward in the work of His Kingdom.
- We praise and thank God for the uplifting messages of the speakers; strength given to weary bodies throughout the day; willing people working so hard to serve their Lord and others, and the many who were able to attend.
- We thank You Lord for Your obvious Hand upon ARM Wales, guiding and directing us to be effective in Your work and will here in Wales in these days.

There is growing interest in the power of prayer to change our brain and even matter itself. Even though as Christians we are cognizant of this by reading the Bible and from experience, it is nice to know science is now bearing this out”.

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Prayer Requests

Jeremiah 33:3, "Call to Me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things that you have not known".

- As we praise God for all HE is doing among us, and around the world, in these challenging, but exciting times, let us pray to be kept ever dependent on Him alone; seeking His glory in genuine humility; drawing ever closer to Him; and laying all our efforts at His feet, in gratitude for the wonderful privilege of serving Him.
- As the S. Wales retreat draws closer, we pray for all those who would wish to attend to be able to do so; for those who will minister to be anointed for the task; and for new retreatants to be added to our company, remembering that Bishop Andy told us some time ago, that he sees ARM Wales' role is to provide retreats where the Spirit flows, and where people can be refreshed spiritually and physically.
- Please pray for the plans for the next N. Wales retreat in April 2016. A lovely venue has been provided near Aberdyfi and things have been falling into place beautifully, as they often do when we are led by the Lord!
- Please pray for the leaders of both worship and the retreat to be the Lord's choice and provision, and that many will feel the call to attend.
- Another Flames Rekindled day is being planned for May 2016 so please pray for all the preparations for that; for clear guidance; God's perfect will to be done; and that the Lord will use the day to bless Wales from North to South and East to West!
- Let us also pray for one another. Some may feel few if any pray for them, so may reading this bless them, as they realise we will, and do!
- Please pray for us on the Executive Committee, that we hear from the Lord clearly, are guided in His perfect will for ARM Wales, and bring glory to Him, while being a

...let us pray to be kept ever dependent on Him alone; seeking His glory in genuine humility...

As the S. Wales retreat draws closer, we pray for all those who would wish to attend to be able to do so; for those who will minister to be anointed for the task; ...

Please pray for the plans for the next N. Wales retreat in April 2016.

Another Flames Rekindled day is being planned for May 2016 so please pray for all the preparations for that; for clear guidance; ...

Let us also pray for one another.

blessing to His people.

If anyone has a particular prayer need, please do feel free to ring and ask, since even if you already have many praying, a little extra can only help! 01654 712435

Meanwhile may we thank you again for your faithful prayer support – we so need it – and assure you of ours for you. We are so grateful for each and every one of you.

Philippians 1:3 "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that He Who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus".

* Editor's Note. This philosophy may be scientifically controversial and has certainly been criticised by those who don't like it's Christian application. Please read it with an open mind!

Some Inspirational Thoughts from Mother Theresa

People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centred;
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, People may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;
Succeed anyway.



If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, there may be

Meanwhile may we thank you again for your faithful prayer support – we so need it – and assure you of ours for you. We are so grateful for each and every one of you.

Anyway...
Forgive them
Be kind
Succeed
Be honest and frank
Build
Be happy

Anyway...

Do good

Give the world
the best you've
got

It was never
between you and
them

The names of
those giving
feedback have
been removed
from the text
to maintain
confidentiality.

The day began
with a lively band
and worship
songs.

... the first
talk of the day
given by the
Right Reverend
Andrew John. He
reminded us that
Jesus connected
with people by
having a story to
tell.

During the
day there
were several
testimonies from
people who are
experiencing
revival in their
areas, All were
very interesting
and uplifting.

jealousy;
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be
enough;
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;
It was never between you and them anyway.

Reports on Flames Rekindled

Feedback from some of those who were there

Here are some comments made by email or on Facebook:

'We drove to Buih Wells in bright sunshine. Fortunately Helen, Brian and I had taken warm clothes as there was a chill wind blowing. We found the Everlook guesthouse without any problems and after a fabulous meal spent a peaceful night ready for the day ahead.

On Saturday morning we arrived at the showground just before 9.30 am. The day began with a lively band and worship songs. This was followed by the first talk of the day given by the Right Reverend Andrew John. He reminded us that Jesus connected with people by having a story to tell. We in our turn should all be able to relate the story of Jesus and how it affects our lives. Our lives should reflect the joy that living a life with Jesus brings, it is out of our lives in Christ that change comes. We must, he said, be a people of praise.

During the day there were several testimonies from people who are experiencing revival in their areas, such as Ignite, a lady from the Catholic Church, someone from a Carmarthen church, even a puppet show. All were very interesting and uplifting.

After lunch there was a bible study from Revd Canon Stuart Bell. He claimed we are "Resurrection people who live as if

we are Good Friday people". He encouraged us to let the Holy Spirit change our lives and live accordingly. "The glory of God is in the change that the Holy Spirit has brought about in our lives". What a challenge!

In the evening the Revd Ron Allen spoke. He began by encouraging us to pray for one person, for one minute at one o'clock every day that they would become a Christian and so change the world. The world he said "was waiting for the church to show God's goodness". His message was that God is "Provoking us to intimacy, to reduce us to dependency, in order to promote us to greater fruitfulness". He said God is asking us to change, to think differently and to do differently. We must be complacent no longer. He then led us to a time of healing prayer ministry.

One small problem that we had during the day was we had to queue outside at a mobile unit to get a hot drink there. We stood in the cold wind like a flock of lost sheep!

We came away feeling very encouraged and uplifted. Oh how I miss Flames of Fire!

Firstly I came with no expectations regarding the conference day. I had no experience of these events and purely came because I had been asked. That being said I cannot express the joy that myself and my team experienced from the day.

I was encouraged and fed by each and every speaker, taking something integral from each of them. The worship was refreshing and inspiring and I sensed the Holy Spirit was present and working amongst the congregation.

I left the conference that day changed. God did something new in me that I can't explain but has had an impact on my ministry. I am more excited when I pray, read and share the word of God. I feel refreshed and excited. I can't wait to see what God's going to do next.

If I had any criticism it would be just to say that the poster advertising didn't give a sense of the rich feast you had in store for us.

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We would definitely come again if this conference was repeated and would be happy to help make that possible.

Many thanks to you and all that put the day together and took part.

Can't believe how excited I still feel after Saturday. Just feel like anything is possible. Keep in touch.

The Flames Rekindled of yesterday 11th April 2015 was very inspiring. Any chance of acquiring a recording? And how much would it cost?

Thank you for last Saturday. I know your input is huge. I think those present were well blessed. A few I spoke to, and I speak for Myself, felt that there was something different about the day - more cohesive teaching from the front - more singing from the same hymn sheet. Don't know why, it just felt like that.

Anyway, lovely to see you and big thanks.

Hi we had a great day God really blessed us. Lovely meeting up with others. When is the next?

It was lovely to be there and to share a little bit about what God is doing here. Thanks for all that you did to organise it. I think that people really appreciated the opportunity to come together in that way, to worship, to have fellowship and to enjoy good Bible teaching.

Hello – We enjoyed the day at Builth very much. Thank you to everyone for their hard work.

We were so pleased we made it - had more hugs than we've had since we left. Sorry for the Bishop though, as folk came in and decided to greet the hierarchy on the end

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of the row where you were. They hugged number one and two, missed the Bishop, and hugged number three and you!

The lady I mentioned that I met at Wisley Gardens was there with her husband - amazing. Our friend Ezekiel greatly enjoyed it. We too, so thanks for keeping us in the loop although it could be a long time before we can come again.

Well done all of you - convey our thanks to the Exec please.

Still bathing in the Blessings of Flames R, and standing in the full force of the Grace that was released...the only place I ever want to be.

It was amazing how each speaker prepared the way "the higher way" for each to travel, and the worship was spirit filled and led!

Thank you for your faithfulness in the in-between years and your courage in planning and delivering the ace day. I am better and look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

I missed you today at the conference, but wanted to tell you when you prophesied the camouflage blanket over the land and that God was taking it off and revealing the jewels, I saw 5 diamonds in the corner where I was worshipping!

From the Editor:

Thanks to all those people who sent comments; they were overwhelmingly positive. However, few put in writing their negative thoughts about the day. Certainly some people made comments on the day, mostly concerned with the high sound volume and the external catering. But we need to know the downsides so they can be corrected next time. When the organising committee met a couple of weeks after the event we wrote a long list of issues we felt could have been done better. But we were also excited about the attendance, which was higher than hoped, and about the activity of the Holy Spirit during the day.

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by
Malcolm Dye
Treasurer

...we realised the financial budget would be difficult and could well end up in the red. And so it proved.

... this event is unsustainable in the long term.

That's a loss of about £3600.

...the cost per person was £17.

Our thanks go to those people who did donate, ...

... we are considering charging for tickets, but we have not yet set a cost.

Financial Budget for Flames Rekindled

When the Executive Committee of ARM Wales transitioned the vision for *Flames Rekindled* to a commitment to actually hold the event, we realised the financial budget would be difficult and could well end up in the red. And so it proved.

Fortunately the Christian Centre for Rural Wales were partnering with us and shared the organisational as well as the financial burden. But neither of us regretted the cost since we recognise the fruit of the blessings that it produced. However, neither organisation have unlimited financial resources and so continuing to repeat this event is unsustainable in the long term. In order to make the event viable in years to come we have to reduce costs and increase income in order to balance the books.



So how much did it cost?

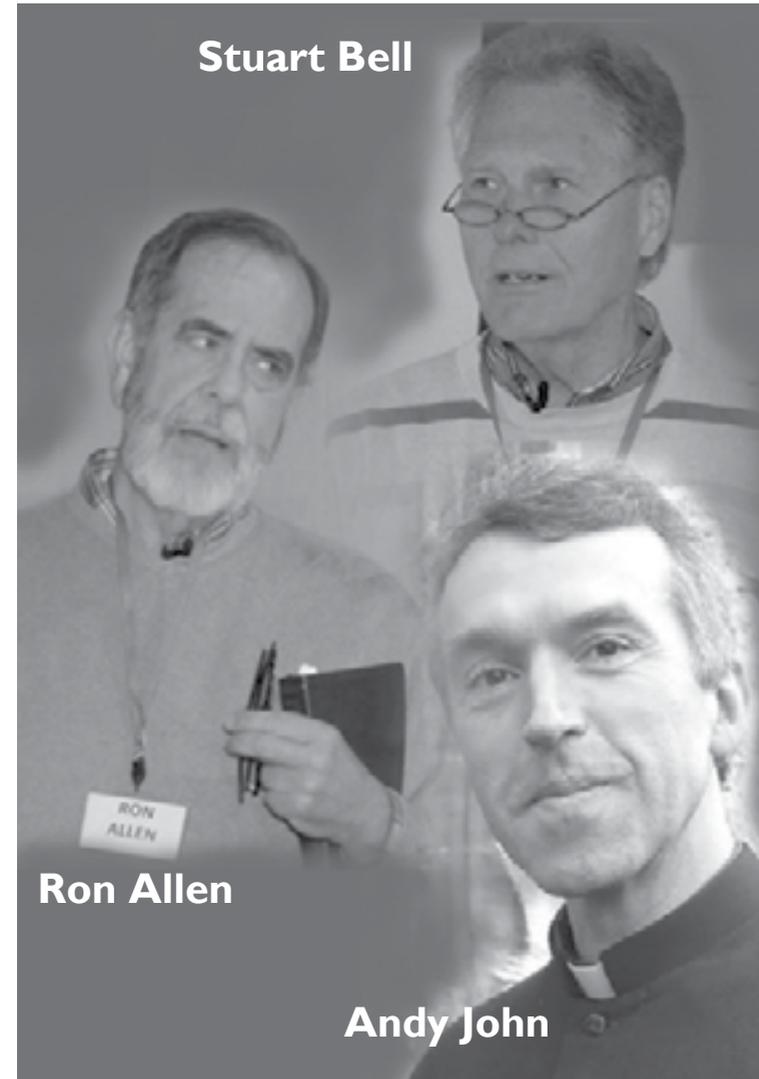
The total cost of the event was almost £5100, the biggest costs being the hire of the hall and the sound system. The donations (including Gift Aid) were just under £1500. That's a loss of about £3600.

We estimated about 300 people came to the event. So the cost per person was £17. Compare that with an actual average donation of only £5! Our thanks go to those people who did donate, some giving very considerably more than the average. But the figures highlight the problem we face.

So what's the way forward? We will try to cap costs and advertise more widely to increase attendance, but we also need to ensure adequate income in order to balance the books. At the moment we are considering charging for tickets, but we have not yet set a cost.

Some images of the day

Here are the main speakers:



Thanks to everyone who took photographs on the day and made them available to us.

Here are some pictures of the interviews:



All the talks at
Flames Rekindled
were recorded
and are available
...

Audio Recordings of the talks

All the talks at Flames Rekindled were recorded and are available to stream from the ARM Wales web site. If you need CDs then please ask by using the contact page on the web site. But there will be a charge for CDs.

Here are some pictures of the worship group:



Transcripts of the talks

Sheryll Holley has transcripts of each of the talks given at Flames Rekindled 2015 available for purchase. These cost £10 for all five sessions (including the interviews) or £3 per session. Please contact Sheryll if you wish to purchase any of the transcripts. Her phone number is 07779 289779 or her email address is: sheryll@spechtotext.co.uk

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by
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Water that has already run past the water mill will not turn the wheel.

“Isn’t that a fantastic statement?! How insightful, the repentance of 1904 will not do for 2015. The organisation of the church into holiness and the pursuit of Christ in 1904 will not do in 2015. The water is past the Mill. 1922 in East Anglia and 1947 in the Hebrides; it will not do today. There needs to be a new repentance and a new grappling with holiness.”

...we can also apply the quote in other ways.

Water Run Past the Water Wheel

At Flames Rekindled Stuart Bell mentioned a video made by Chris Frost about a visit to South Korea (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qW8KTxoMCyI>). He cited a quote from the Bishop of Busan Diocese, Rt Revd Onesimus Park, “Water that has already run past the water mill will not turn the wheel. I pray that your church will overflow with the glory of the present ... not the glory of the past.”



Stuart quoted it in the context of revival and said, “Isn’t that a fantastic statement?! How insightful, the repentance of 1904 will not do for 2015. The organisation of the church into holiness and the pursuit of Christ in 1904 will not do in 2015. The water is past the Mill. 1922 in East Anglia and 1947 in the Hebrides; it will not do today. There needs to be a new repentance and a new grappling with holiness.”

Listen to Stuart’s talk online or get a transcript to put that quote in context.

But I think we can also apply the quote in other ways. Firstly, we can relate it to our own testimony. When asked for our testimony don’t we usually think back to when we first became Christians? Sometimes that’s appropriate, but often something much more up to date is required. After all as Christians we have an ongoing relationship with Jesus and so should always have fresh stories to tell of his involvement in our lives. That’s testimony isn’t it? We should not rely on old testimony (water gone past!) but always be expecting new blessings to tell about. Then people will see that God is alive and active in the lives of his children, and maybe want that in their own lives.

Secondly, we can relate it to the church. This is really a plea that what has been successful in the past be re-examined, taking into account 21st Century culture. Thomas C. Oden says, “Because cultures and languages are constantly changing and because the apostolic testimony must be attested in ever-new circumstances, it is a necessary feature of the apostolic tradition that it both guard the original testimony and make it understandable in new culture settings. Failing either is to default on the apostolic tradition. Far from implying unbending immobility, apostolicity requires constant adaptation of the primitive apostolic testimony to new historical challenges and languages, yet without altering or diluting the primitive witness.”

What worked in the past doesn’t seem to be working now, as evidenced by the decline in church attendance. (Yes I know church attendance is not the place to start; evangelism resulting in people coming into God’s Kingdom is the first step.) But churches are dying because the congregations in them are not spreading the Gospel. Look around Wales and you will see many church buildings with a tiny attendance*. The buildings are a financial burden, yet many of the people have no interest in reaching out to their community. In contrast there are an increasing number of congregations (mostly non Anglican) who are attracting more people. The newcomers may not yet be Christians, but being in a worshipping fellowship is better than being in the pub or in front of the television.

There are no simple answers for ‘traditional’ churches (tell us if you know of one!) but we could start by radically looking at some of the traditions and ‘fixtures’ of church life. What attracts or deters people? I have a list of things to look at (but there are many more), and other people will have their own ideas.

Buildings. Bishop Bahati, the Anglican Bishop of the Diocese of Bukavu in the Democratic Republic of Congo, toured St David’s Diocese recently. He was reported to have said that their country has too few churches for the many

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The church opposite is of Gwredog (near Llanerchymedd) on Anglesey. Photo reproduced with kind permission of Mr. Philip S. Evans of photosofchurches.com

Let's reassess ...

Buildings

The early church didn't have dedicated buildings and neither do our Christian brothers and sisters living in countries that persecute them. Isn't it time to have an open and honest debate about this issue of the viability of church buildings and the alternatives?

Robes

Isn't it time we moved on? It's sad that today ministers feel the need to differentiate themselves from their flock by wearing 'ceremonial dress',

people wanting to attend whereas in Wales there are too many churches and not enough people. For such a short visit that's very perceptive. It says succinctly what many people have thought, but are unwilling to



say publicly. I noted above that buildings can be a financial burden especially when the congregation is small. They are also not attractive to people seeking God and not honouring to him either. But mention closing churches and all sorts of vested interests suddenly emerge. Often objections come from people who never attend church (except perhaps for baptisms, weddings and funerals or the carol service at Christmas!) and never support it financially. The early church didn't have dedicated buildings and neither do our Christian brothers and sisters living in countries that persecute them. Isn't it time to have an open and honest debate about this issue of the viability of church buildings and the alternatives?

Robes. One widely held view is that vestments have their origin in the ordinary street clothes of the first century, but have more or less remained the same as clothing fashions have changed. Worse still is the suggestion that in Constantine's reign, Christian leaders copied the robes worn by pagan priests! Isn't it time we moved on? It's sad that today ministers feel the need to differentiate themselves from their flock by wearing 'ceremonial dress', particularly when every member ministry is so widely accepted as Biblical truth. Leaders are there to serve, not lord it over their congregations (Matthew 20: 25-28).

Liturgy. Here's another minefield! Standardised words and forms of service, especially based on long established denominational rites, have the advantage of minimising theological error. This is important in churches where

liberal theology is taught and the Bible is interpreted by the standards of the world. But also for existing congregations it provides continuity within change. It's interesting that even in the new churches, that do not have long established traditions, very often they get to the point where their services follow a standard pattern. However, I was shocked to discover there are churches that regularly still use the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. There's some great stuff in there but it's not likely to be meaningful or attractive to someone seeking spiritual truth. The question to ask is, 'Are you allowing the Holy Spirit to act or is tradition and liturgy crowding him out?'

Hymns. Here's a quote opposing new Christian music, "There are several reasons for opposing it. One, it's too new. Two, its often worldly, even blasphemous. The new Christian music is not as pleasant as the more established style. Because there are so many new songs, you can't learn them all. It puts too much emphasis on instrumental music rather than godly lyrics. This new music creates disturbances making people act indecently and disorderly. The preceding generation got along without it. It's a money making scam and some of these new music upstarts are lewd and loose." These words were written in 1723 by an English church leader, William Romaine, attacking Isaac Watts, the writer of 'When I Survey the Wondrous Cross' and other well known and loved hymns. So there's nothing new about criticising contemporary Christian songs.

But have you ever thought about the hymns sung in your church and when were they written? The Mission Praise website lists their 10 most popular songs which includes six written in the 19th Century and the remainder between 1990 and 2002. We Christians are obviously a conservative bunch! I hold my hand up to that. Some popular traditional hymns are packed with good theology, have wonderful tunes and support our Christian beliefs. But the words are of their period and worse, use theological 'jargon'. That's fine for those grounded in the Scriptures but for newcomers, or seekers to Christianity, the words of some hymns must be

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...the words of some hymns must be unfathomable. Let's think this through and not leave parts of the congregation struggling to understand what's being sung.

I've heard many hymns lifted to new heights by the use of contemporary instruments.

Let's reassess ...

The Holy Spirit Congregations alive with the Holy Spirit will always be changing, growing and bringing glory to God. Without him I think decline is inevitable!

unfathomable. Let's think this through and not leave parts of the congregation struggling to understand what's being sung.

What instrument(s) accompany your worship? It's likely to be the pipe organ (or electronic equivalent) in many churches. Certainly traditional hymns lend themselves to that accompaniment, but I've heard many hymns lifted to new heights by the use of contemporary instruments. Instruments such as guitar and electronic keyboard, that younger people feel more in tune with, can transform worship. Maybe we need to be more adventurous and not be like William Romaine.

The Holy Spirit. Thom Schultz* says, "God has equipped us with his Holy Spirit simply to tell our own story---the good, the bad, and the real. The best part is no one can argue with us. It's our story. And when others realize you don't need a degree in evangelism, they become empowered to tell their own God-story. It's not that complicated. Maybe the early church thrived because they didn't pay people to be the professional 'church people' ... they all were 'it.'" This empowerment to witness was essential to the early Church and still is today. Of course the Holy Spirit has other roles. Growing the 'fruit' of Godly lives and distributing the 'gifts' needed for Godly service are just two examples. Gary Rohrmayer** says, "God makes his gospel attractive through his people." It's only by the work of the Holy Spirit that we, God's people, can make the gospel known and attractive to the lost. The question to be asked of many church



congregations is, 'are they allowing the Holy Spirit to act in their lives individually and corporately?' Congregations alive with the Holy Spirit will always be changing, growing and bringing glory

to God. Without him I think decline is inevitable!

It's unlikely you will agree with all my comments, but my hope is that they will start a debate so please send me your thoughts. My contact details can be found on the inside front cover. Also, these are **my** thoughts and don't necessarily reflect those held by the ARM Wales Executive Committee.

After finishing this article I was reading *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel) published by Pope Francis in 2013. In it he said, "...the Church can also come to see that certain customs not directly connected to the heart of the Gospel, even some which have deep historical roots, are no longer properly understood and appreciated. Some of these customs may be beautiful, but they no longer serve as a means of communicating the Gospel. We should not be afraid to re-examine them. At the same time, the Church has rules or precepts which may have been quite effective in their time, but no longer have the same usefulness for directing and shaping people's lives." I don't need to comment further!

*I analysed the St David's Diocese Attendance Statistics (taken from their Year book) for 2010 and found the median attendance on a Sunday was 14. This means only half the churches in the Diocese (out of a total of 327) had more than 14 people attending. Only 19% of churches had more than 30 people attending on Sundays. I don't imagine the other Dioceses in the Church in Wales will be much different.

* Through writing, speaking and leading, Thom Schultz has served the faith community for 40 years. He's the founder of *Group Publishing* and *Lifetree Café*. He's the author of many books, including 'Why Nobody Wants to Go to Church Anymore.' And he's the founding director of *Group Cares*, a non-profit organization that serves disadvantaged families throughout the world.

** Gary Rohrmayer is the President and Executive Minister of *Converge MidAmerica*, overseeing it's business and ministry interests that supports regional church planting and ongoing care of its partner churches. His desire is to develop not only a premier church planting organization but also a world class church health ministry.

... Pope Francis wrote, "Some of these customs may be beautiful, but they no longer serve as a means of communicating the Gospel. We should not be afraid to re-examine them. At the same time, the Church has rules or precepts which may have been quite effective in their time, but no longer have the same usefulness for directing and shaping people's lives."

Forthcoming Events

Summer Retreat at Coleg Trefeca near Brecon*18th - 20th August 2015*

Speaker is Carol Lawrence from the Harnhill Centre of
Christian Healing

with worship led by Fay Stott

It's not too late to book - see web site for details



~~~~~

**Spring Retreat at Rhowriar Country House near  
Aberdovey in Snowdonia**
*April 12th - 14th 2016*

No details yet - keep an eye on the web site!



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Flames Rekindled 2016 at Builth Wells
Friday evening 27th May and Saturday 28th May 2016

It will be necessary to book tickets for this event to ensure
that our costs are covered

Details to follow - please check the web site



ANGLICAN RENEWAL MINISTRIES

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Kath Shenton

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Steve Waters

Julia Lane

Phil Rees

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

For all enquiries contact:

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To join or renew your subscription contact:

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(please use 'ARM membership' as the subject)



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Datganiad Adnewyddiad Eglwyswyr Cymru

- Llawenhau 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.

www.anglicanrenewalministries-wales.org.uk

