

The Vale of Glamorgan  
**Free Churchman**

Nov., 1948.

Two Pence.

IN THINGS ESSENTIAL.      Unity.  
IN THINGS DOUBTFUL.      Liberty.  
IN ALL THINGS              Charity.

**Officers of the Council:**

President—REV. A. E. ROBERTS, Bonvilston and St. Nicholas.

Treasurer—MRS. F. BRAY, Bonvilston.      Secretary—MR. ROBERT EVANS, Glanmorfa, Bonvilston, Cardiff.

Editor—REV. D. BRINLEY RICHARDS, Bro Dawel, Boverton Road, Llantwit Major, Glam.

The Editor cannot accept responsibility for the publication of correspondence and items of news unless they reach him prior to the 15th day of the previous month.

**COMING EVENTS.**

**Libanus Congregational Church, Ebbw Vale.**—The INDUCTION SERVICE of Rev. E. MELVIN JEREMIAH, Maendy, will be held on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10th, 1948. Services at 2.15; 4.15, and 6.30 p.m.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR

**L. G. GREY, M.P.S.,**

*Chemist :: Llantwit Major.*



## Editorial.

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On assuming the editorship of this magazine in succession to my friend and colleague Rev. E Melvin Jeremiah, who will be leaving us shortly, I should like to pay a tribute to him for his services to the religious life of the Vale.

His ministry has been marked throughout by a progressive outlook. He has not been satisfied merely to serve his own immediate ministerial circle, but has always been active in the work of collective Christian witness. To this end, he has been a staunch supporter of the Free Church Council in all phases of its work, and we shall greatly miss his support and enthusiasm in this direction.

It is with genuine regret, therefore, that we bid him farewell, as he leaves us for his new pastorate at Libanus, Ebbw Vale. We wish Rev. and Mrs. Jeremiah God's richest blessing in their new venture. As for me, I find myself in the editorial chair of this magazine, just vacated by my friend! Not only is Mr. Jeremiah's departure a challenge to me personally, but it is to all of us. The departure of a minister from a community is a serious thing, and I hope sincerely that we all realise it. It means that we must close our ranks, and get closer together in Christian fellowship. No society can survive without the co-operation of its members. Let us therefore give our unstinted support to our own churches, to the Free Church Council, and last, but not means least, our Magazine. It is the means by which we announce to the world that we are alive and that we are doing things, and it is also a means by which we may have fellowship with one another as we read of each other's activities. Let us then, in God's name, move forward together.

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### Bethania C.M. Church, Pendoylan.

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On Sunday, August 15th, our pastor, Rev. A. E. Roberts, christened Christopher John, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Hadyn Evans, "Brynhyfryd," Bonvilston.

"Suffer little children to come unto me."

Our Harvest Festival Services this year were held on Tuesday, September 28th, when Rev. Norman Ellis, B.A., Ynysybwl, occupied the pulpit and delivered two inspiring addresses.

As a church we wish to welcome Mrs. D. Wilsom, Llwynrhyddid, Hensol, whose membership has recently been transferred to Bethania from Trinity, Barry.

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### Trehill C.M., Church.

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The Harvest Thanksgiving Services were held on Tuesday, October 4th, 1948, when Rev. E. Rowlands, Y. Graig, Briton Ferry occupied the pulpit and his services were much appreciated by a good congregation present. As in the past the Chapel was beautifully decorated by the ladies. A tea was prepared for all who wished to stay for the evening service.

### Series of Lectures, No. 1.

These educational talks on various topics commenced for the Winter Season, on Wednesday, October 13th, when we were privileged to hear an interesting lecture by Mr. Jack Evans (son of our Senior Deacon, Mr. James Evans, Y Fron, Peterston-super-Ely.) Mr. Evans has lived in Kenya for over 20 years, so he was able to give us a vivid picture of the in that part of the world.

He gave us a detailed account of his farm and the life of the native in general.

Our pastor, Rev. A. E. Roberts presided over the meeting.

Look out for announcement later of our No 2 talk, which will take place in a months' time. A Welcome to All.

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### Maendy Congregational Church.

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Readers of the Free Churchman will be glad to hear of the satisfactory progress now being made by our revered pastor, Rev. E. M. Jeremiah, after his recent operation at the Royal Infirmary, Cardiff. We feel sure that, long before these words are read, he will be out of hospital, and well on the way to a complete



return to normal health. We are sorry that his last few weeks in the joint pastorate of Maendy and Carmel—he takes up his work at Ebbw Vale early in November—should have been spent in hospital and convalescing.

On the morning of Sunday, October 3rd, we were particularly pleased to welcome old friends, Rev. E. J. and Mrs. Edwards, late of Cwmbwrla, Swansea. Mr. Edwards officiated at the Communion Service and his sermon revealed that retirement from the pulpit had not impaired his power as a preacher. May they both long enjoy the retirement they have so richly earned.

In previous issues we have spoken of the delight that Children's Services afford us. We are all aware of the importance of our duty in imparting to the children a sense of responsibility towards the Church. On the morning of September 19th, we had a further opportunity of listening to the children. Such a service holds a freshness that is a source of joy in these difficult days for the church. As hitherto, the lessons and hymns were read by the children who also contributed verses, a duet and solo. We thank Pat, Eileen, Mavis, Marion, David and Christopher, Enfy and Ann for their contributions. To the two youngest children present, Josephine and Margaret, we say "Thank you" for the able manner in which they received the offertory. The Rev. E. M. Jeremiah's address on "Friend" was especially apt and full of that simplicity so essential to the child-listener.

The meeting closed with the presentation, by Mrs. M. B. Edwards, of books to those children who had made such a splendid contribution, by their collections, to the funds of the London Missionary Society.

The Harvest Services of Thanksgiving were held on the afternoon and evening of Thursday, September 30th, with the Rev. Stanley Jones, Waunarlwyd as the officiating minister. The attendance for the afternoon service in Welsh was disappointing, but an excellent congregation was present in the evening for the English service. Mr. Jones, taking his text from 17th Kings v. 20, preached a notable sermon on the law of increase as it operated in the realms of Nature, Character and Religion. We were exhorted to use those gifts and talents, which a kindly Providence had given us, so that they could be constantly exercised. It was only through the donation

of our talents, emotions and virtues that these were increased. A talent neglected or imprisoned within one would ultimately lead to its disappearance.

In the realm of Religion we were advised to share so that our religion might be kept and improved. The address was particularly appropriate to the Harvest Season, and we look forward to hearing Mr. Jones again in the near future. We feel that no better conclusion to these notes is available than the words of Mr. Jones, and they are commended to all who strive to keep a place for the Church in this modern age, "The best thanks for harvest is a consecrated life."

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### **Ebenezer Congregational Church.**

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The Opening Social of the Young People's Society was held at the Presbyterian Church Vestry, kindly lent for the occasion, on Wednesday evening, October 6th. Friends and members of the church provided generously towards the refreshments, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all present. After the sumptuous spread came the games arranged by the pastor, Rev. D. Brinley Richards. Among the games played, was a "Quiz" and two sessions of "Twenty Questions," which were highly entertaining both for the competitors and audience alike. Everyone voted the evening a great success.

The Young People's Society met at the Church Vestry on Wednesday evening, October 13th, to hear an address by Rev. C. F. Davison, R.A.F. The Old Testament lesson was read by Marilyn Higgs, and Barbara Jones read a portion from the New Testament. Miss Ruth Harris was at the piano. Rev. D. Brinley Richards presided.

Mr. Davison spoke on character-building as it affected young people. As in the building of a house, care was to be taken to see that only the best materials was put into it, and afterwards we were to see that it did not deteriorate.

Mr. William Davies expressed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Davison for his fine address.

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## Presbyterian Church, Rhoose.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held on Tuesday evening, October 5th. The service was conducted by our Pastor, Rev. Leonard Jones, who took for his text, "Cast thy bread upon the waters and it shall return to thee after many days." His discourse was such that we all felt it was good to have been in the house of the Lord. Thanks for the Harvest was shown by the congregation in the hearty singing of the hymns, and in the very tasteful way in which the church had been decorated by the sisters, to whom we extend our grateful thanks.

On Tuesday evening, October 12th, a United Meeting of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches was held at the Presbyterian Church. It was decided to commence our winter session with a social evening at Rhoose Presbyterian Church on Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. Meetings will be held every week at each church alternatively.

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### Llantwit Major United Free Church Sisterhood.

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#### 21st September.

Mrs. Pepperell, of Barry, addressed the meeting on "Facing up to life." The address was highly interesting. The President, Mrs. Cummings was in the Chair, and led in prayer. The lesson was read by Mrs. Brinley Richards.

#### 27th September.

This meeting took the usual form of the monthly Magazine meeting, edited and presided over by Mrs. Knott. The Contributions were many and varied, and a large number of those present took part.

#### 5th October.

"Christian action and witness," was the title of the address given by Mrs. Perry, of Cardiff, at this afternoon's meeting. Mrs. Cummings presided. Mrs. Perry spoke of the special contribution that women can make and are making in this sphere. She referred to the many professions and callings which are open to women today. Mrs. Bealing read the lesson, and Mrs. Dashfield led in prayer.

#### 12th October.

The speaker at this meeting was Rev. C. F. Davison, R.A.F. The title of his address was "Who is my neighbour?" He spoke with particular reference to the large R.A.F. population in the neighbourhood. In the course of his address, Mr. Davison described a working day in the life of an R.A.F. padre. His address was highly appreciated. Mrs. Cummings presided and Miss Rees read the lesson. Mrs. Knott led in prayer and also sang a solo.

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### Vale of Glamorgan Free Church Council.

The Autumn Assembly of the Vale of Glamorgan Free Church Council was held at Ebenezer Congregational Church, Llantwit Major, on Monday, September 27th. The President of the Council, Rev. A. E. Roberts, Bonvilston, was in the chair.

The Old Testament reading was taken by Miss Mary Punter, of the Wesley Church, Llantwit Major, and a portion of the New Testament was read by Mr. Alfred Charles, of Maendy Congregational Church. Rev. D. Brinley Richards led in prayer. Miss Mari Powell was at the organ.

The speaker was Rev. D. Hubert Thomas, B.A., Assistant General Secretary of the Free Church Federal Council. In a vigorous and racy speech, with many humorous asides, Mr. Thomas appealed to his audience to be proud of their faith, and not to give way to despair. Though we were living in difficult days, Mr. Thomas said that he would not wish to live at any other time, except that of our Lord's during His earthly ministry, and to have seen the great happenings wrought by Him in those days. Scientists and scientific thought in general, he said, realised, as never before, that great discoveries pointed towards, and revealed religion. Mr. Thomas asserted that the Christian fellowship was supreme, in spite of other claims, and that the world could not provide a fellowship so completely satisfying as it.

It was highly gratifying to see a large number of friends present from distant churches. The churches of the town itself, were also well represented.



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Advertisement Manager—MRS. L. DASHFIELD, Boverton, Llantwit Major.

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### COMING EVENTS.

Llantwit Major Free Churches.—The SINGING FESTIVAL will take place at BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH on GOOD FRIDAY, 23rd MARCH, 1951. Children's Service at 2.30 p.m. Evening Service at 6.30. Conductor: D. JOHN THOMAS, Esq., Llanelly.

Vale of Glamorgan Free Church Council.—SINGING FESTIVAL at COWBRIDGE on WEDNESDAY, 11th April. Further details later.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR

## L. G. GREY, M.P.S.,

Chemist :: Llantwit Major.



## **Ebenezer, Llantwit Major.**

Miss Ruth Harris, secretary of the Young People's Society, has been appointed to represent youth organisations affiliated to the Youth Council, of the East Glamorgan Association, at the Missionary Conference to be held at Glan-y-Mor, Barry, at Easter.

On Thursday evening, 21st December, a party of over twenty Sunday School scholars went out carol-singing. They were accompanied by Mr. Les Williams, conductor, Mrs. Gordon Williams, and Rev. D. Brinley Richards. The party went round and sang at the homes of members, who at the time, were indisposed and unable to attend the Church services. The singers were cordially received everywhere. Though this effort was not organised to raise funds, the friends on whom the choir called, gave generously. The money collected was put into the Sunday School funds.

On Sunday afternoon, December 24th, the Sunday School presented their Christmas Service. Marilyn Higgs was president and announced the items. Passages of Scripture, appropriate to the occasion, were read by Howard Higgs, Ann King and Gordon Shepherd. Duets were given by Nora Jones and Davina Coupland, and Tony and Brian Hallett. The Primary School sang "Away in a Manger." The choir sang "Twas upon this happy morn"; "O happy Nazareth"; "Holy Night"; "Hark, the Herald Angels sing," and "Hoff yw'r Iesu o blant bychain."

The president warmly welcomed the large number of the scholars' parents and friends who were present. Rev. D. Brinley Richards also added his welcome and thanks. Mr. Les Williams conducted the choir, accompanied by Mrs. Gordon Williams at the organ.

On Thursday, 28th December, the Sunday School parties were held in the vestry. The Primary school had their party in the afternoon, and the Seniors from six o'clock onwards. The ladies of the church had prepared splendid teas for both parties, which were thoroughly enjoyed. Mrs. Gordon Williams organised the games for the primary school, and Messrs. Les Williams, William Morgan and Rev. D. Brinley Richards were in charge of the games for the senior school.

## **Bethania, Pendoylan.**

It is with the greatest sorrow and regret that we record the death of another of our members, Mrs. C. Williams, Cefn Llys Farm, Miskin, who passed away after a long illness on Friday, December 22nd. Our hearts go out to her husband, her only son, and all her relatives in their great loss.

Her mortal remains were laid to rest at Welsh-St.-Donats on Tuesday, December 26th, in the presence of a large gathering of relatives and friends. The officiating ministers were the Revs. A. E. Roberts, our pastor; D. E. Davies, vicar of Ystradowen, and D. H. Lloyd, Pontyclun.

## **Maendy Congregational Church.**

An unexpected sight greeted the congregation on entering Maendy Church on the evening of Sunday, December 24th. It was a gaily decorated Christmas tree laden with mysterious and attractive gifts.

And what a pleasant sight this tree was! It provided an ideal setting for the subsequent service of praise. Another departure from custom was the performance, in verse and song, of the "Babe of Bethlehem." Given by the Sunday School scholars, it provided the ideal vehicle for the telling of the miraculous story of the first Christmas. The small cantata was augmented by the general singing of carols.

It seemed to us that this was the perfect way, and certainly the perfect place, in which to spend the Eve before the happiest day of the year and we are grateful to all the scholars, and particularly to their teachers, for the enjoyment they provided. Presiding over the service was our pastor, Rev. H. O. Lewis, who took upon himself the guise, if not the garb, of Father Christmas, and distributing to every scholar a gift from the tree.

We shared the disappointment of both Mr. and Mrs. Lewis at the absence, through illness, of Maralyn. It is, however, good to learn that she is now able to go out after being confined to the house for such a long time. To all the other sick members of the church we send our greetings and express the hope that we shall soon see them in their appointed places at service.



### Trehill C.M. Church.

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On December 28th, 1950, our Christmas Tree and Party were held at the above vestry.

Parents were invited to join and there was an abundance of "dainties" for all present.

In the evening the children gave an enjoyable programme. There were action songs, passages repeated on the Nativity, and carols all given by the pupils of the Sunday School whose ages ranged between 3 and 13 years of age.

At the close of the entertainment, each child was given a beautiful book. These gifts were generously presented to the church by our present senior Deacon, Mr. Talford Williams.

May I also thank all who so generously gave other things that made the children so happy when they went home.

When we thought the entertainment was over, we were taken to see the big Christmas tree hung with gifts and prettily decorated.

Each child was again presented with a parcel, an orange, a bag of sweets, and a big balloon. The children all danced round the tree singing "Goodnight, and thank you for all the nice things."

As a church, we are delighted that our Sunday School has been revived. May it grow in numbers as the New Year advances.

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### Limes Presbyterian Church, Cowbridge.

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A Christmas entertainment and distribution of Sunday School prizes took place at our church shortly before Christmas day. For close on forty years this has been an annual event.

All our thanks for its great success are due to Mrs. G. M. Roberts, who is the energetic superintendent of our Sunday School. She is supported by Mr. Vivian John, one of our elders, and Mr. Edward John, J.P., a Sunday School teacher and Mayor of the town. Other younger teachers in the Sunday School also played their part. The programme was an excellent one—every child contributing in some way or other, to its production. The chair was taken by Rev. Harry Williams, our Pastor, who address the children on the spirit of the Christmas season.

The distribution of the prizes was carried out by Mrs. Edward John, our Mayoress. She spoke to each child individually whilst the look of pleasure on each child's face was sufficient evidence of appreciation to those who had organised the evening's entertainment.

Another very interesting feature of the evening was the presentation by the Mayor, of gifts of pictures, books, etc., for use in the Sunday School. He felt that to mark his year of office as Mayor of the town, he would like to remember the Sunday School, which he loved and where he had been brought up from the days of his early youth. We are most grateful to Mr. John for this gift—we were in need of them, and we are sure that the children will enjoy them and benefit greatly from their use. The teachers will undoubtedly find them most interesting and helpful too, to begin the New Year with new zeal and highest Christian hopes.

The young ones opened the proceedings with an Acrostic—"Christmas." They also sang a carol, "Rocking." Other children who sang were Roy Davies, "Sons Day Carol." Junior girls sang as a party, "Softly the Night is Sleeping." Three junior boys gave us "King's of Orient." Carol Jones, "Thou must leave Thy lonely dwelling." There was a duet from Enfys Rees and Pamela Sanders, a carol from five boys, "Good Christian Men Rejoice," also a solo from Enfys Rees, "The Road to Bethlehem." The party of junior girls also sang "Ring Out, Oh Bells."

Recitations were given by Glyn Kendrick and Emrys Greenway, "Do it Now"; and by Rosemary Carter, "Patience." A dialogue by Howard John and Philip Jones, "A Marvellous Machine." Four girls recited "A Visit from St. Nicholas." Francis Hawkins gave "Other People," and Mary John recited "Mother's Little Worries."

### Obituary.

It came as a great shock to all of us to learn of the death of our former Pastor, Rev. Emrys J. Davies. He had been residing at Rhyl since he had left us, but each summer we had the pleasure of seeing him and Mrs. Davies amongst us for a holiday.

He died at Rhyl Hospital shortly before Christmas. We sympathise deeply with his wife, who unfortunately, was too unwell to attend the funeral.



He was a man dearly loved by everyone, of all denominations, who knew him. He commanded the deepest respect, he was a Christian gentleman; his walk and demeanour being a sermon in itself, as was said by Rev. Hughes of Rhyl, who spoke at the funeral service.

He was interred in the cemetery at Cowbridge, the funeral service being held at the Limes Church, where he had spent nearly forty years of his ministerial life.

Our Pastor, Rev. Harry Williams, officiated, whilst at Mrs. Davies's request, a Welsh hymn was sung; also the address by Rev. Hughes, Rhyl, was given in the Welsh language. He described Mr. Davies's smile of approval as he sat in the "Set Fawr" at his chapel, his hand-clasp of thanks, and the perfect attention which he also gave to all his sermons. Mr. Davies's Christian manner had also impressed the people of Rhyl as it had the Vale of Glamorgan and people further afield.

There were a number of ministers and Christian friends present at the service from the surrounding districts. Mr. Edward John, J.P., a great friend of Mr. Davies's, spoke on behalf of the church.

Mrs. Vivian John, A.L.C.M., officiated at the organ.

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### Zoar, Bonvilston.

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The annual Sunday School Christmas Entertainment was held on Thursday, January 4th. The programme was as follows:--

Christmas Carol: 154, Church Hymnary.

Passage of Scripture: read by Brian Evans.

Chant: The Lord's Prayer.

Solo: "The Children's Carol" Valerie Green.

Recitation: "A Christmas Carol"

Audrey Morgan.

Duet: "Away in a Manger"

Catherine and Ann.

Solo: "Still the Night" Ann Williams.

Recitation: "Looking Two Ways"

Barbara Evans.

The Cycle of the months by the Children.

Solo: "Count your Blessings"

Miss Valerie Howells.

Solo: "Sitting by my Window" Miss James.

Recitation: "Above every Name"

Pamela Green.

Solo: "Holly and the Ivy" Gareth Evans.

Duet: "Joy Bells"

Mary and Ann.

Play: "Brother Wolf" The Senior Boys.

Solo: "A brown Bird singing" Miss James.

Vesper.

The entertainment was presided over by our Pastor, Rev. A. E. Roberts. We would like to thank all friends who took part and helped to make it a success. The collection was given to the British and Foreign Bible Society.

The Sunday School Party was held in Zoar Vestry on Saturday, January 13th. After a splendid tea, the children enjoyed an evening of fun and games.

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### Tabernacle, Llantwit Major.

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Members of the Free Churches of the town were saddened to hear of the death of Miss Mary Lewis, "Arosfa," Boverton Road, who passed away on Wednesday, January 10th.

She was born at Penllin, near Cowbridge, 85 years ago. She had been a School teacher and had held posts at Ogmere Vale, Coity and Porthcawl. She had been retired for over 20 years, and for the greater part of that time she had been the secretary of the Church. She relinquished the position last year.

The funeral took place on Saturday, 13th January. Before the interment a service was held in Tabernacle, conducted by the minister. Rev. Leonard Jones. After the singing of a hymn, Rev. D. Brinley Richards read 90th Psalm.

In a short address, Rev. Leonard Jones paid tribute to the great qualities of the deceased. Her strong character was well-known, and would always be remembered by those who had been her pupils.

Interment took place in the Chapel cemetery. The chief mourners were Miss Ann Roberts (sister), Mr. Robert Roberts (nephew), Mesdames Nellie John, Gwen Thomas, and Elizabeth Jenkins (nieces), Mr. Owen Jenkins (grand-nephew), Mrs. Eleanor Lloyd (grand-niece), Messrs. Evan Watts and John Watts (nephews).

Heartiest congratulations are extended to Mr. John Delahaye, "Fron Deg," Boverton Road, who celebrated his 90th birthday on Thursday, 18th January. There was a small family party to celebrate the event. Mr. Delahaye received numerous birthday greetings from relatives and friends from many parts.

Except for deafness, Mr. Delahaye is in full possession of his faculties, and is extremely active. His keen sense of humour makes it a pleasure to be in his company.