

**MINUTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING**

**Held on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at 10.30am at St John's Church Kenilworth and livestreamed**

**1. Opening Worship & Welcome**

Lynda Howells welcomed everyone to the meeting, read a poem and led us in prayers. Felicity Hawke read Psalm 67. Hymn Tell Out My Soul.

**2. Welcome**

Jane then welcomed everyone to the meeting and reflected on her time as Diocesan President.

**3. Minutes of the 2020 Annual Members' Meeting**

The Minutes from the 2020 Annual Members' Meeting were forwarded to members prior to the meeting. No matters were raised from members on these.

**4. 2020 Accounts**

The 2020 accounts were approved by Trustees on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021 and they have been independently examined. No matters were raised from members on these. Lynda thanked Margaret Siggers for her help with the finances.

**5. Reports from Officers**

The Officers' Reports were sent out prior to the meeting:-

- Lynda talked about the Emergency Prayer Circle. If anyone would like to join the circle please let Ann Gibbons know;
- Lynda spoke about Onley Prison and there may be a Christmas party this year. She will keep us informed as to whether presents will be needed and can be taken to the Advent Service;
- Chris Cooke spoke about Rye Hill Prison. She normally takes Christmas cards written by us to Rye Hill and she thinks this will be happening this year.

**6. AOB/Questions**

No AOB/questions were raised.

**7. Branch/Member News**

- Rosie Lee who became a member last year of St John's Kenilworth spoke about her faith and how she is looking forward to 2022 and what this will bring for Coventry Diocese MU;
- Rev Pam Gould reminded everyone about the Advent Service which is being held at her church, St Andrew's Rugby on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> November. St Andrew's MU branch is being reinstated during the service;
- Karen Morris spoke about Passionate about Parenting. She joins a group online every week with facilitators around the world. There is no Agenda and they all come together to talk.

#### **8. Our New Diocesan President Elect and Trustee Board**

Jane introduced our new Diocesan President, Karen Morris, and our new Trustee Board, Lynette Askew, Jackie Gardiner, Annie Lane, Mary Leeson, Paul Morris and Ann Gibbons (Vice President). Karen spoke about her MU journey and then introduced Annie, Mary, Paul and Ann who also spoke about their faith and MU journey.

Jane also mentioned that Rev Pam Gould is stepping down as Diocesan Chaplain. Jane confirmed she is speaking to someone about becoming the next Diocesan Chaplain.

Our Indoor Members were faithfully looked after by Pauline Wilkes who sadly died back in July. Elizabeth Smitham, who was a close friend of Pauline's, contacted Jane about carrying on Pauline's wonderful work in her memory. Elizabeth will become the new Indoor Member Officer.

The Commissioning Service for the new Trustee Board is taking place on Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at St John Baptist Church, Berkswell.

Rosie Lee led us in Midday Prayers

Break for lunch

#### **9. Re-imagining MU: Discussion and Activity**

Jane welcomed everyone back to the meeting. She talked about a conference taking place in January called Re-imagining MU and our thoughts on the future of MU will be collected and fed back to MSH. This conference is significant across Britain and Ireland, it'll be an opportunity for ideas for the future. Members went off into groups to discuss the following:-

What is your wish for MU?

What would you really want to keep?

What do you think is no longer needed?

What is there/what is already happening in our Diocese that we can build on?

What is holding us back?

#### **10. Closing Worship**

Lynda closed the meeting with prayers. Hymn Great Is Thy Faithfulness. Final prayers and a blessing was led by Rev Pam Gould.