

Pool Mission Area News

11th Issue – June 2017

MA service this Sunday evening

As mentioned last issue the next MA service is this coming Sunday evening. We'll be celebrating the Feast of Pentecost together and also 'swearing in' our Churchwardens. It'll be a fairly informal service of celebration lasting about 45 minutes. The service starts at 6pm at St Mary's Welshpool. Please will all Wardens endeavor to attend and encourage members of their church to come and support them and enjoy the festival.

MA Conference

The first meeting of the MA Conference is on Tuesday 13th June, 7.30pm at the Old School in Berriew. Agendas will be sent to MA reps next week assuming I've been given their contact details (see below). Please can any nominated reps unable to attend ensure that one of the reserves on their churches supplementary list is able to attend instead?

PCC Secretaries

If you haven't already sent me details of those elected to represent your church on the MA Conference, please can you do so as soon as possible? I will need contact details for your elected rep and those on the supplementary list. Also, please could you let me (as well as the Diocesan Office) know if you changed any of your parish officers (Wardens, Treasurer, Secretary, Gift Aid Secretary or Safeguarding Officer). My contact details are at the end of this newsletter. Thanks.

Cycle of Prayer

The Diocese produces a Cycle of Prayer, inviting us to pray for part of our Diocese each day so the whole Teulu Asaph is remembered during the year. It's Pool MA's turn to be prayed for in July. If there is something particular happening in your church or community currently that you would like the rest of the Diocese to be praying for please let me know by 7th June and I will see that it's included.

Living with Dementia

We are all aware of the increasing number of people living with dementia and many of us will know a friend, parent or spouse living with various forms of dementia, and the challenges that they face. We want to help make the church 'dementia friendly', a place where people living with dementia feel safe and supported.

On Sunday 18th June we are looking forward to hear Chris and Jayne Roberts talking about living with dementia. Chris was diagnosed with a mixed form of dementia at the age of 50 about 6 years ago. He and his family were the subject of a BBC Panorama program last year, having allowed the production team to follow them about for 18 months. They now travel around the world speaking to groups, about the challenges, (and inevitable humorous incidents) that confront them daily. Many of us find thinking about dementia difficult and painful, but Chris and Jayne are truly inspirational, showing us that it is possible to have a very good quality of life in spite of having dementia.

Chris & Jayne will be speaking in the Old School on School Lane in Guilsfield on Sunday 18th June after a bring and share buffet lunch 12.30 for 1pm. Come and join us after your morning service or, if you prefer, join the folks of Guilsfield at their 11.00 service.

After we've heard from Chris & Jayne we'll be announcing how the Mission Area can help churches to support people living with dementia in their own communities. The event will conclude at about 3.30pm. Contact Rev Caroline Rhodes for more info – 01938 554245.

BBC Radio Wales coming to Guilsfield

We have BBC Radio Wales recording a couple of services at Guilsfield on Tuesday 20th June. St Aelhaiarn's church offer a warm welcome to anyone who wants to join them singing the hymns. The plan is to record the spoken parts of the service in the afternoon and the hymns in the evening from about 6pm. Contact Rev Caroline Rhodes for more info – 01938 554245.

School's Ministry

We are looking to try and enhance our ministry to schools in the Mission Area by improved co-ordination, sharing ideas & resources, training if desired, etc. We will shortly be contacting people we know to be involved in schools ministry about this. However, there may be other people who either aren't on our list of Youth & Children's workers or perhaps who aren't currently working with children but would be interested in getting involved. This could be anything from reading with infants to leading collective worship in juniors to sharing in discussion-based work with high school students. If you are interested in knowing more about this please get in touch with me.

(NB. Because of the nature of this work DBS checking will be required for Safeguarding purposes and you will need to work within certain guidelines.)

Ordination

The annual Ordination service at St Asaph Cathedral is on 24th June at 10.00am. Two of the newly ordained ministers will be serving in this MA. Alexis Smith, who has been working in Llandyssil and Castle Caereinion for the last year, is being ordained deacon, as is Jeanette Wilkes who will be taking up the post of Curate in the MA, based primarily in Welshpool. Please do keep them both in your prayers as they prepare for the ordination and come up to St Asaph to support them if you are able. Contact me if you need a lift or could offer one.

Confirmation Service

There will be a confirmation service for the Archdeaconry on 15th October at 3.30pm at Meifod Church. Please contact me as soon as possible if you know of anyone interested in being confirmed this year. Most (though not all) churches nowadays are willing to offer confirmation from around 14 years and upwards.

Bishop's Visitation

Bishop Gregory is visiting all the Mission Areas this year for a formal Episcopal Visitation. This will take place on Sunday 3rd September at 3.30pm at Berriew church. All are welcome and licensed ministers & some parish officers will be required to attend, either this or one of the other Visitations.

The Candles

A reminder that the candles representing our 16 churches that were part of the Commissioning Service can be borrowed for any service or other event to symbolize our togetherness and how much more we can achieve by co-operating in our work together. Contact me at the address below if you want to use them.

Here's a space!

Maybe there is something your church is doing that could be filling it?

Drop me a line with the details for next time.

Corrections? Things missing? An event you'd like us to advertise?

Interesting news to share? Questions?

Any of the above can be sent to the Mission Area Leader, Rev'd Steve Willson, at:
The Vicarage Church Street, Welshpool. SY21 7DP 01938 553164 revswillson@btinternet.com