



The Scottish Episcopal Church

Welcomes You

September 2014

Welcome to the September 2014 edition of inspires online - the monthly electronic newsletter of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

As 18 September approaches members of the College of Bishops have been voicing their views in a range of articles for the Press and on websites. A selection of these articles are available on the Scottish Episcopal Church website <http://www.scotland.anglican.org/news-and-issues/issues-in-society/independence-referendum/>

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of inspires online and that you continue to send me any comments you may have - it is always good to receive feedback!

Lorna Finley

Communications Officer

The Scottish Episcopal Institute

The Scottish Episcopal Institute (SEI) came into being on 1 September, replacing the Theological Institute of the Scottish Episcopal Church (TISEC). Its task is to form those preparing for a variety of authorised ministries in the Scottish Episcopal Church, lay and ordained, and in the United

Reformed Church in Scotland, shaping vibrant missional ministers for today's world. More generally it will encourage an ethos of ongoing learning for all involved in ministry, both through its oversight of Continuing Ministerial Development and in the encouragement and resourcing of lifelong enquiry in a learning church.

True to the brief for SEI to have a formation-led emphasis, the new Principal, the Rev Dr Anne Tomlinson, has written an introduction to the Handbook which the 26 students will receive at the start of term in a few weeks time. This stresses the characteristics of the SEI learning community as it seeks to shape the character and quality of the church's leadership in the next generation.

You can read the vision and values of the SEI, and further details on the Scottish Episcopal Church website

<http://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/vocation-and-ministry/sei/>

Service of the Word

The Service of the Word, drafted for experimental use, has had its experimental period extended to June 2015 to allow further time for the suggestion of revisions.

Lay readers and other lay ministers, in particular, are urged to trial the Liturgy for non-sacramental services, and to send feedback to the Liturgy Committee. All suggestions are welcome; about revisions to the text; about other material that can be added; about ways of using it that work well.

Please contact Elspeth Davey at churchrelations@scotland.anglican.org

Further information is available from the Scottish Episcopal Church website

<http://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/publications/liturgies/service-of-the-word-2011/>

Across the Dioceses

For news of activities and events across the seven dioceses of the Scottish Episcopal Church, check out the diocesan websites:

Aberdeen & Orkney www.aberdeen.anglican.org

Argyll & The Isles www.argyll.anglican.org

Brechin www.brechin.anglican.org

Edinburgh www.edinburgh.anglican.org

Glasgow & Galloway www.glasgow.anglican.org

Moray, Ross & Caithness www.moray.anglican.org

St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane www.standrews.anglican.org

Referendum Prayer

A Prayer from the Joint Liturgical Group of Great Britain, on which the Scottish Episcopal Church is represented, to be said at the time of the Scottish Independence Referendum. The prayer is inspired by Psalm 104:

Lord, we bless you

for you have fashioned our land and daily refresh it;

you have sent forth your spirit and created us;

you have opened your hand and filled us with good things.

Bless us, your people, as we consider the future of our nation.

May your glory endure here for ever and may we sing to you as long as we live;

through Jesus Christ our Lord,

who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS) has also produced liturgical resources to be used at this time which are now available on its website: www.acts-scotland.org

Scottish Guild of Servers Questionnaire

The Scottish Guild of Servers, founded eighty five years ago, is conducting a simple survey to understand how best to support altar servers in the twenty first century. The survey includes questions for members of the Guild and for the Clergy of the Scottish Episcopal Church - whether their Church has altar servers or not. The survey can be completed on line at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ScottishGuildofServers>

Faith in Action

The Faith in Action guide for the year (produced by the Provincial Church in Society Committee) is on the Scottish Episcopal Church website <http://www.scotland.anglican.org/spirituality/prayer/faith-in-action/>

and covers a separate theme each month.

The guide includes prayer suggestions which could be used for Intercessions for the month as well as ideas for actions which either individuals or groups within congregations and communities could become involved with. Feedback on the prayer guide is always welcome, so please contact Elspeth Davey at ChurchRelations@scotland.anglican.org with any comments or suggestions for additional resource material or contacts

Faith in Action in September asks us to remember the importance of Racial Justice

Prayer for racial justice

Our heavenly Father,

You made us in your own image and likeness.

Help us to treat everyone with dignity and respect.

You sent your only Son to show us how to live.

Teach us to live like him, loving and caring for everyone.

Help us to remember that we are all members of the same human family, your family.

Help us to remember that we all experience grief, hunger, pain, joy and happiness in the same way whatever our creed, the colour of our skins or our status in life.

Help us not to judge and be prejudiced but to be compassionate and kind.

Loving Father, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen

Scottish Episcopal Church commends use of World Council of Churches Unity Statement Study Guide

The World Council of Churches' Unity Statement Study Guide is commended for use by Dioceses and congregations of the Scottish Episcopal Church

This year's General Synod passed the following motions which had been proposed by the Inter-Church Relations Committee:

That this Synod receive the Unity Statement adopted by the 10th World Council of Churches' Assembly and commend it for discussion to the Boards of the General Synod and to the dioceses and congregations of the Church.

That this Synod note the production of a Study Guide regarding the Unity Statement adopted by the 10th World Council of Churches' Assembly and commend the Study Guide for use in dioceses and congregations of the Church.

A copy of the Study Guide, which includes the Unity Statement within it, has been sent to every Scottish Episcopal Church congregation.

The Inter-Church Relations Committee is interested in receiving feedback on the Study Guide and if you would wish to provide feedback and how you fit in your local context please email: Elspeth Davey at churchrelations@scotland.anglican.org

You can download the Study Guide from the Scottish Episcopal Church website at <http://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/organisation/boards-and-committees/interchurch-relations-committee/>. Or contact the General Synod Office (0131 225 6357) for a printed copy.

World Council of Churches' World Week of Peace for Palestine Israel

21 - 27 September 2014

During the week following the International Day of Prayer for Peace, The Palestine Israel Ecumenical Forum (PIEF) of the World Council of Churches invites church organisations, congregations, and people of faith to make a common witness by participating in worship services, educational events, and acts of advocacy in support of a just peace for Israelis and Palestinians. The theme of the week is: "Let my people go!" More information on how to get involved can be found at www.wcc-coe.org

Christian Aid resources for Harvest

New resources for Harvest and Quizaid are available on Christian Aid's web-site on <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/getinvolved/harvest/index.aspx>

Christian Aid staff would be happy to attend any church, perhaps a Harvest Service, to speak about its work.. Contact: Mary Mulligan, Churches Development Officer, Christian Aid Scotland mmulligan@christian-aid.org or call her on 0131 240 1523

Still Pilgrims Together

The annual Action of Churches Together in Scotland (ACTS) / Church of Scotland joint conference 'Still pilgrims together' will take place on Saturday 11 October at Augustine United Church, 41 George IV Bridge, Edinburgh, EH1 1EL, starting at 10.30 am (registration/tea & coffee from 10.00 am) and finishing at 3.15 pm. Full details, including a registration form, are available on the ACTS website at: http://www.acts-scotland.org/images/stories/autumn_conference_2014/autumn_conf_2014.pdf

Vacancies

Rector to be based in the Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane

Dunfermline and Rosyth are attractive and historic towns just across the Forth Bridge from Edinburgh.

Holy Trinity is a well-established congregation – St Margaret's is a Local Ecumenical Partnership with the local Methodist congregations which are committed to growth.

They seek a pastor and missional leader who will help them to grow and to explore what it means to be disciples of Jesus Christ in today's world.

For an application pack, please contact Fay Cuthbertson, Telephone: 01383 726243 or email fay.cuthbertson@btopenworld.com

Further information is available from:

Holy Trinity www.holytrinitychurch.org.uk

St Margaret's www.stmargaretsrosyth.org.uk

Closing Date: Friday 3rd October 2014

Provisional dates for interview: 29th and 30th October

A Priest to minister in the Outer Hebrides

St Peter's Church, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis seeks a priest to lead us confidently in our pastoral and sacramental life. Our priorities are prayer, liturgy, preaching & teaching the gospel, addressing contemporary questions and developing a relevant and accessible church.

Do you have a vision for mission in our island church community? Are you called to minister in one of the most beautiful parts of Scotland? If so, we invite you to consider joining us on our journey.

We are looking for a Priest who:-

- Is able to lead and minister to the congregation and wider community, celebrating the Eucharist, and undertaking pastoral ministry;
- Will preach and teach the scriptures in an engaging and relevant way;
- Is sensitive to our islands' culture.

Profile at <http://www.argyll.anglican.org/vacancy/>

For application forms contact Ian Coulson, Vestry Secretary, Tel: 01851 840446

e-mail: ircoulson@googlemail.com

Closing date for applications: 6 October 2014

(interviews 4/5 November)

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Comments and feedback are always welcome and can be directed to the Communications Officer, Lorna Finley on press@scotland.anglican.org

Please note that the views expressed on websites linked in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

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