



The Scottish Episcopal Church

Welcomes You

October 2014

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

The first item in this month's newsletter is a copy of the statement issued by the Most Rev David Chillingworth, Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, on behalf of the College of Bishops. This statement was posted on our website and sent to clergy across the Province on 19 September, following the announcement of the Referendum vote. As I highlighted in last month's inspires online, an overview of some of what the Bishops have been saying publicly in relation to the Independence Referendum and Scotland's future can be found at www.scotland.anglican.org/news-and-issues/issues-in-society/independence-referendum/

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

Lorna Finley
Communications Officer

Statement from College of Bishops following Referendum result

Speaking on behalf of the College of Bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Primus, the Most Rev David Chillingworth, says "The people of Scotland have decided that Scotland will continue to be part of the grouping of nations which make up the United Kingdom.

“The Scottish Episcopal Church is an historic Scottish Church. Our story is interwoven with the story of Scotland. We commit ourselves to working with all the people of Scotland as our relationships with our neighbours continue to evolve.

“We hold particularly in our hearts and in our prayers today those for whom this decision brings a feeling of hopes dashed and vision lost. With our partner churches and all in the faith communities, we pledge ourselves to work for reconciliation and pray for healing in our community”

Reconciliation following the Referendum

A Place for Hope - a cross denominational body working to enable reconciliation and deep listening across society - has offered materials for use in the wake of the Referendum decision.

http://www.scotland.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Place-for-Hope_Referendum-Resource-2014_A5-download.pdf

General Synod Committee Vacancies

A number of the General Synod’s committees are currently seeking new members. If you are interested in serving the Church in this way or would like further information please contact the relevant member of staff as detailed below.

Appointments are typically made by the Committee’s parent board and are for a period of four years (with the option to serve a second term of four years). The committees currently seeking new members usually meet during the working day in the General Synod Office in Edinburgh. (Travel expenses are reimbursed.)

Personnel Committee

The Committee is responsible for addressing general personnel policy issues affecting clergy as a whole within the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC). Much of its work is focussed on clergy employment matters and practice and membership of the Committee is therefore suited to those with relevant HR or legal experience and to clergy with a specific interest in this area. Recent work has included appointments processes and policies on relation to capability procedure and long-term sickness. The Committee normally meets four times a year.

Further information from John Stuart – SecGen@scotland.anglican.org

Investment Committee

The Committee is responsible for overseeing the performance of the Scottish Episcopal Church Unit Trust Pool. It meets three or four times a year with the Church's Fund Managers to review performance and to discuss matters of policy. Membership of the Committee is suited to individuals with an active involvement in the investment industry.

Further information from Daphne Audsley – DaphneA@scotland.anglican.org

Retirement Welfare Committee

Much of the Committee's work is concerned with the oversight of the Church's stock of about forty properties occupied by retired clergy. The Committee aims to have a mix of clergy (either serving or retired, who are beneficiaries of the SEC Pension Fund), clergy spouses / civil partners (or widowed spouses / civil partners) and others with an interest in the welfare of beneficiaries of the SEC Pension Fund. Given its focus on housing matters (including considerations of the needs of ageing and infirm tenants) individuals with relevant knowledge and experience are particularly welcome. The Committee normally meets three times a year.

Further information from Daphne Audsley – DaphneA@scotland.anglican.org

Equality and Human Rights Commission

The Scottish Episcopal Church's Committee for Relations with People of Other Faiths encourages members of the Church to participate in research being undertaken by the Equality and Human Rights Commission.

The questionnaire seeks to assess the role that a person's religion or belief, or lack of it, plays at work and when using services. This major call for evidence is part of a three year programme to strengthen understanding of religion or belief in public life, to improve knowledge of what happens in practice and to make sure that the laws which are in place to protect everyone's right to be treated with fairness, dignity and respect are effective. It follows a change in the law, so that discrimination on the basis of religion is now recognised in law. The Commission is interested in hearing about both good and bad experiences, to better understand the role religion plays in public life: both how religion has contributed effectively in shaping a workplace, and how people might have felt discriminated against because of their religion, or lack of it.

The questionnaire must be completed by 14 October and can be found at www.equalityhumanrights.com/religion

Further information from Elspeth Davey, Church Relations Officer
churchrelations@scotland.anglican.org

International Anglican Networks

“It’s easier to traffic women than drugs or weapons”– is the church responding?

Surely this can’t be true? But evidence suggests it is. The Anglican Consultative Council asked both the Family & the Women's Networks to work together on this issue. So it is collaborating on a Newsletter **Church Responses to Human Trafficking**, to describe how the Church is helping tackle this modern slavery and care for survivors, who are vulnerable people - women, children and men - trafficked within and across national borders and exploited for prostitution, forced labour, domestic servitude and other reasons.

If you are aware of actions that any churches are taking, please email Elaine Cameron at elaine.ging@gmail.com.

International Anglican Women’s Network (IAWN)

The Provincial Mission and Ministry Board has appointed Emily Alldritt as the Provincial Link for the Women’s Network. Emily is a member of the Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness, where she has been working recently as a Diocesan Pastoral Assistant. She has been a member of the Scottish Episcopal Church since she was 15. She has a degree in theology , and has always been committed to promoting the rights and standing of women within Church and broader society.

Elaine Cameron has stepped down as Provincial Link on the Network, to give her time to focus on editing the Network’s Newsletter. The IAWN Newsletter August 2014 is on-line at <http://iawn.anglicancommunion.org/newsletters/index.cfm>.

Cascade Conversations

Following on from the Cascade Conversation event in Pitlochry at the end of April, the Design Group established by the Mission and Ministry Board for discussing same-sex relationships met to reflect on and assess progress of the Conversations across the Scottish Episcopal Church and discussions at this year's General Synod. It is expected that the task of the Design Group will be completed by the end of 2014 and that the model of Cascade Conversation will continue to be used throughout the Church to facilitate discussions and conversation on a range of topics and issues.

The Cascade process of discussions and meetings is ongoing within Dioceses. Below is a very brief summary of this, but if you want to find out more about what each diocese is doing as part of the Cascade process to discuss same-sex relationships then please contact the relevant diocesan office or email me at press@scotland.anglican.org

Aberdeen & Orkney – Hugh Donald (Director of *A Place for Hope* and overall facilitator at the Cascade Conversation event in Pitlochry) has met with Bishop Bob Gillies to advise and help in training facilitators for the diocesan cascade process . The facilitators will lead a cascade conversation process at the Diocesan Synod on 7 March. Most of that day of the Diocesan Synod will be spent on the cascade discussions and listening process.

Brechin – Local conversations continue in occasional groups using the summary paper already in circulation; the clergy of the diocese will be devoting their November study day to a discussion of the theological and pastoral issues as the Church moves beyond the cascade conversations towards a synodical process.

Argyll & The Isles - The participants from the Diocese of Argyll & the Isles who attended the Cascade event in Pitlochry all shared their reflections on the diocesan website: <http://www.argyll.anglican.org/argyll-and-the-isles-takes-part-in-cascade-conversation-listening-across-the-spectrum/> to start to show the behaviours and

graciousness that characterised the process. At a local level facilitated discussions within charges will be offered, assisted/facilitated and the issue will also be included on the 2015 Diocesan Synod. A 'mini cascade' took place in Stornoway in July.

Edinburgh – Hugh Donald will help with cascade discussions as part of the Diocese of Edinburgh's autumn synod. The Diocese of Edinburgh representatives who attended the event in Pitlochry have met three times since April and will shortly produce a newsletter in which they will offer their services to Area Councils, congregations and groups of congregations to facilitate local conversations.

Glasgow & Galloway – the Diocese of Glasgow is holding three cascade events in the north, middle and south of the diocese (in September, October and November respectively) and hopes to reproduce basic elements of the Pitlochry experience for as wide a constituency as possible. The Rev David Balfour is facilitating the events for the diocese.

Moray, Ross & Caithness – The Diocese of Moray, Ross & Caithness has held four cascade conversations, these were arranged to allow people from across the diocese to gather without having to travel huge distances. The four cascade conversations were held in Dingwall, Ullapool, Wick and Lossiemouth. The process was well received by most and people had felt confident to share their stories and to discuss the theological and biblical questions the discussions raised. Bishop Mark Strange also welcomed direct communication from those who were unable to attend the conversations and the issues raised in those responses will be added to the reflections from the cascades.

St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane – following a meeting of the group of representatives who attended the event in Pitlochry, plans are being put together for a series of roadshow sessions (about three) in the diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld & Dunblane. It is hoped that these will be carried out by the early part of 2015.

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

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 October asks us to remember the importance of the **Environment**

A prayer for use in October :

Give us eyes to see your new creation, breaking in upon us, frail and beautiful like

*tiny flowers in tarmac cracks –
surprising us as we rush to our business.
We stop, and look, and water it –
although time is money and water is metered helping it grow,
until the earth is filled with knowledge of you,
and the tarmac desert shall rejoice and blossom abundantly.
Amen.*

Aberdeen Cathedral Provost appointed General Secretary of ICMA

The Very Rev Richard Kilgour, Provost of St Andrew's Cathedral, Aberdeen has been appointed as the new General Secretary of the International Christian Maritime Association ((ICMA) in Copenhagen. A press release issued by the ICMA says " On appointment, Mr Kilgour will bring combined personal experience in serving as a British Merchant Navy Officer, with a life in ordained ministry and ecumenical mission in major industry. Mr Kilgour has been involved in planning seafarer's welfare ministry in Scotland with the Mission to Seafarers Scottish Council"

The Very Rev Richard Kilgour will leave St Andrew's Cathedral in December and take up his new post in January 2015.

Further information from provost@aberdeen.anglican.org

Vacancies

Rector in the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney

A position exists for a Rector to serve the congregation of St Mary's Church, Carden Place, Aberdeen.

The Diocese views this position as a key appointment and the successful applicant must have zest and a passion for Christ and his church and be ready to develop the growth of the congregation both numerically and in depth of faith and contribute actively to the life of the diocese.

Standard stipend is payable. Ability to drive with a full and valid driving licence is essential.

The closing date for this position is Monday 3 November 2014.

Further details and diocesan application form from

office@aberdeen.anglican.org

Half-time Assistant Priest for 3 Newly-Linked Charges near Glasgow

The three charges of St Mary's, Port Glasgow, St Fillan's, Kilmacolm and St Mary's, Bridge of Weir, which lie in the Renfrewshire Region of the Diocese of Glasgow & Galloway, have recently come together to form an innovative linked charge to strengthen their mission and ministry. We have newly appointed a full-time Rector for the three charges who lives at Port Glasgow and are now seeking to appoint a half-time Assistant Priest for the three charges, who will live at Kilmacolm.

For this exciting new role we are seeking an inspiring, prayerful, theologically aware and creative Priest, comfortable with traditional as well as contemporary worship. They will be part of a dynamic Ministry Team with a future focus on spiritual and numerical growth including mission, ministry and evangelism.

To receive our Profile please contact: Gill Reynolds gill.reynolds3@btinternet.com

Applications are requested by 31 October 2014.

Companion Partnerships Day

The Provincial Overseas Committee is holding a Companion Partnerships Day in St Paul's Centre, Perth on 15 November (10.30-3.30) - open to anyone who is interested in partnership with the world wide Church. This will offer an opportunity for the sharing of stories and experiences and giving out information on how to set up partnerships and links with churches and/or dioceses across the world.

For further information, or to register for this event, contact Elspeth Davey, Church Relations Officer, churchrelations@scotland.anglican.org



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