OCTOBER NEWS FROM SEI

The First Residential Weekend of the 2017-18 academic year took place from Friday 29 September to Sunday 1 October in St Mary’s Monastery, Perth. The programme was a blend of community building, worship, small group prayer, module teaching and seminars. We were privileged to have amongst us Elaine Cameron, Wendy Young, Kathy Galloway and Lis Burke who led a session from Loving One Another, a resource produced by Christian Aid Scotland and the Scottish Episcopal Church which addresses the issue of gender-based violence by means of Contextual Bible Studies.

On Saturday evening the final year students met with Professor Ewan Kelly, Visiting Professor at the University of Leuven and author of Personhood and Presence, the core text used by those students in the realm of reflective practice and pastoralia. On Sunday morning, several students’ families came for the Eucharist and lunch, enlivening both gatherings considerably; a similar invitation will be extended at a weekend towards the end of the academic year. It was also delightful to have 6-month old Roddy MacLean with us throughout the weekend, as it has been to have had toddler Daniel Edwards present these past six weekends. Thanks to the boys’ respective fathers, Ruairidh and Peter, who have provided childcare while their wives have been engaging in formation.

Placement Supervisors’ Training Day; this was held on Thursday 21 September, attended by Scott Robertson, St Margaret’s Newlands (Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway); Debbie Jones, Chaplain to the Royal Edinburgh Hospital; Claire Benton-Evans, Edinburgh Diocesan Children and Youth Officer; David Paton-Williams, St Columba’s by the Castle; Dean Fostekew, Church of the Good Shepherd, Murrayfield; Willie Shaw, St Mary’s Grangemouth and St Catherine’s Bo’ness (all Diocese of Edinburgh). SEI is grateful to all those who have agreed to supervise a student during his or her Field Education practicum, and also to the host congregations, chaplaincies or Third Sector organisations for helping to form the next generation of leadership in the SEC in this way. Having a student on placement can be a refreshing experience for supervisor and laity alike; many charges eagerly seek a placement student each year for that reason. All 26 IME 1-3 students now have placements arranged, and these cover a wide range of contexts: church-based placements, both SEC and other denominations; chaplaincy placements - including HMP Grampian and hospitals in Aberdeen, Inverness and Edinburgh; and community-based placements - Street Pastors, Inverness and the Hub Community Care Centre, Brora (both in the Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness).
SEI Journal
The Autumn 1.3 issue of the SEI Journal was published on 20 September and can be found on the SEI web site at http://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/vocation-and-ministry/sei/sei-journal/ It contains an article about church planting by the Revd Carol Latimer, recently ordained and serving her Title at All Souls, Fife (Diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane), and a review of a monograph on Sin by the Revd Canon Dr Scott Robertson, Rector of St Margaret’s Newlands (Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway).

Michaelmas Ordinations
The Revd Jane Green (right) was ordained Priest by Bishop John on Holy Cross Day at St Ninian’s Comely Bank (Diocese of Edinburgh). The Revd Oliver Brewer-Lennon was ordained Priest by Bishop John on the Feast of St Matthew in St Peter’s Lutton Place (Diocese of Edinburgh). Jacqui du Rocher and Margaret Pedersen were ordained Deacon by Bishop John in St Mary’s Cathedral on 24 September to serve in St Leonard, Lasswade and St Mary the Virgin, Dalkeith and the congregation of Holy Trinity, Melrose, (Diocese of Edinburgh) respectively.

Jonathan Livingstone (left) was ordained Deacon by Bishop Gregor on 1 October in St. Mary’s Cathedral, Glasgow to serve in the congregations of St Mary’s Hamilton and St Andrew’s Uddingston, (Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway). The service was a sumptuous feast of stunning Michaelmas music sung by the combined choirs of St Mary’s Hamilton, Old St Paul’s, Edinburgh and the Cathedral’s own musicians. The Cathedral was also home to a 10-foot tall angel made from dried teabags built by Suzanne Horne from Bridge of Allan. It was made to raise funds for Syrian people from bags donated by churches in Bridge of Allan, Dunblane, the Islamic Centre in Stirling, Cornton Vale Prison and the University of Stirling Chaplaincy. (Photo courtesy of Stewart Macfarlane.)

The SEI Training Fund benefited last month from offerings taken at the induction of the Revd Andrew Cooper at St John’s Jedburgh (Diocese of Edinburgh); the ordination to the priesthood of the Revd Jane Green at St Ninian’s Comely Bank and that of the Revd Oliver Brewer-Lennon at St Peter’s Lutton Place (Diocese of Edinburgh); and continued regular contributions from the Revd Sally Gorton for Sunday cover at Holy Trinity Motherwell and St Andrew’s Wishaw (Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway). SEI is deeply grateful to all who have made these generous contributions to the Training Fund, thus supporting our full-time stipendiary ordinands in their IME 1-6 years.