

# SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWS FROM SEI

**New venture:** From 31 August to 4 September SEI staff and students will be resident in St Mary's Monastery Kinnoull for five 'Orientation Days'. Running a Summer School at the end of the academic year was becoming increasingly inappropriate in view of the number of candidates with school-age children, and so it was decided to begin each year with a programme of community-building, worship and study, an extension of the former Induction Day. Core staff will provide the taught input, but a number of visitors will be welcomed throughout the programme: Bishop Kevin as Convenor of the Institute Council, the Revd Graham Taylor as SEI Chaplain (see over) and Edinburgh City Centre Workplace Chaplain Andrew Gregg who will introduce the *Workplace Chaplaincy Scotland* placement to the first year students. Next month's *Newsletter* will feature a report of the residential. Please keep the student body in your prayers as the new formational year begins.

## Diocesan Advisors' Training Day:

On Thursday 30 August 7 new Diocesan Advisors met in the General Synod Office for a day's training. DAs are a crucial part of the students' formation, being the 'local' people who monitor and support each ordinand or Reader candidate, remaining alongside through the two/three-year course. They meet with the student for a time of prayer and reflection every month through the academic year, keeping notes on the candidate's development



and accompanying him/her to the annual Appraisal Conference. The photograph shows back row from left: Grace Redpath and Jenny Wright, (Edinburgh); Grace Siromony (Moray, Ross and Caithness); Samantha Ferguson (St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane); front row: John Starr and Jennie Godfrey (Edinburgh); Liz O'Ryan (Glasgow and Galloway).

Photo taken by Lorna Finley, Director of Communications

## Ordinations and Licensings in September and October



Please pray for those to be ordained to the Diaconate  
at Michaelmas

*Eleanor Charman  
Lee Johnston  
Andrew Philip*

Almighty God, the giver of all good gifts, by your Holy Spirit you have appointed various orders of ministry in the Church: look with mercy on your servants now called to be deacons, maintain them in truth and renew them in holiness, that by word and good example they may faithfully serve you to the glory of your name and the benefit of your Church; through the merits of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Megan Cambridge:** By Bishop Mark on Sunday 28 October at 17.00 in Holy Trinity Keith, to serve there as a Lay Reader.

**Eleanor Charman:** By Bishop Mark on Saturday 15 September at 15:00 in St Andrew's Cathedral Inverness, to serve as Assistant Curate in St John the Evangelist Wick and St Peter and the Holy Rood, Thurso.

**Lee Johnston:** By Bishop Gregor on Sunday 30 September at 18.30 in St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow to serve as Assistant Curate in the congregation of Christ Church Lanark.

**Caroline Longley:** By Bishop John on Tuesday 25 September at 19.00 in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Murrayfield, Edinburgh, to serve there as Lay Reader.

**Andrew Philip:** By Bishop John on Sunday 30 September at 15.00 in St Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, to serve as Chaplain therein.

**SEI Fund:** The Fund has been boosted this past month by generous donations from St Augustine's Dumbarton, Holy Trinity and St Barnabas Paisley, St Margaret's Renfrew and St Mary the Virgin, Hamilton (all Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway). Thanks go also to the Revd Canon Robin Paisley for kindly giving the fees from consultative work he has done in that same diocese to the Fund, and to the Revd Sally Gorton for similarly donating her deputising fees from recent Sunday cover in the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.

### **Meet the Ambassador 8**

Dr Ros Brett writes: I have just become the SEI Ambassador for the Diocese of Argyll and the Isles. I've been a Christian as long as I can remember, coming from a low church Anglican background in the industrial West Midlands of England. Needless to say, my 60-year faith journey has been neither straightforward nor uniform, but I have always been essentially Anglican! I moved up to Glasgow more than 35 years ago when I married Chris, who had come up a couple of years earlier to work there. We have worshipped all that time at St Silas' in Woodlands, but now are moving to Kames by Tighnabruaich and so into Argyll and the Isles, where our home church is Holy Trinity Dunoon. Chris has been a Lay Reader for around 30 years, but I only considered training 6 or so years ago when a friend (herself then an ordinand) asked why, since I had been preaching and teaching on and off for years, I had never trained as a Lay Reader. If I were truthful, one of my major motivations was to study theology, scripture and ministry, and I went on afterwards to do a MTheol in Biblical Studies at New College.



I very much enjoyed my time in TISEC/SEI, especially the residential weekends. One of the strengths of SEI is that all train together – for lay and ordained, stipendiary and non-stipendiary ministry, and whatever our churchmanship. You learn to listen to and respect those who think differently from yourself. It is demanding, especially if you work full-time (I didn't). But the SEI community was simply life-giving and remains hugely supportive long after we have dispersed to our dioceses and ministries.

### **Meet SEI's Chaplain**



I am delighted to have been approached to become the new Chaplain for SEI, especially as a former student of TISEC who has always had an interest in the development of training in the Scottish Episcopal Church. As well as being a former Diocesan Director of Ordinands, in recent years I have organised the Bishop's Reflection Group and led an IME 4-6 course. In addition, as a Rector, both in the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney and in St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane, I have had the privilege of working with three curates.

My ministry has taken me from the Buchan coast to the cities of Aberdeen and Perth. My current charge, St John the Baptist in Perth, is a community gathered from around the area, serving the needs of the city and beyond. I enjoy being part of an active congregation and developing lay ministries within it.

I am involved in various diocesan committees as well as being a member of the provincial Faith and Order Board. I have a passion for ecumenism and have become very involved in Perth Action of Churches Together, recently appointed Convenor. Another enjoyable aspect of my ministry is my work as Chaplain to the local race course.

I was brought up in my local Episcopal church, All Saints Buckie, becoming involved as a teenager in a local ecumenical Youth Group. I was licensed as a Lay Reader at the age of 21, serving a group of three congregations as well as being involved in a range of diocesan events. The call to ordination for me came ten years later, a call which was very difficult for me to resist. The years at TISEC which followed were a time of formation giving me great opportunities to broaden my horizons in ministry. It was also a time when I made enduring friendships across the Province which have helped sustain me in my ministry over the years.

I look forward to spending time with the student body supporting them during this crucial time of preparation for their future ministries.

The Revd Graham Taylor