

Report for Provincial Meeting April 2015

Membership = 200 down a little, but with new members coming forward. Members serve in 11 branches and individually in churches around the diocese. All members follow the 3 key elements of Prayer, Enabling and Campaigning as best they can..

Spring Council – Thanksgiving to our former links and a welcome to our new links, Service captured on video, on web site and available to our new links.

Communication with our new links is underway with efforts being made to ensure all members involved in these relationships.

Pillar – Prison work

- Girl Guide and Scout Group initiated by MU at HMP Low Moss continues – Group have been invited to extend mission to HMP Shotts
- Publicity for Crèche at HMP Greenock in Greenock Herald – Isabel Cameron a Diocesan member spear headed and continues to lead on this mission – article sent to MSH.
- Christmas cards appreciated by all prisons and prisoners – thanks and a donation received from former inmate at HMP Dumfries
- HMP Low Moss mission continues – with relationship with Families Outside
- Looking forward to liaising with Margaret Slater and HMP Glenochil

Pillar – Violence against women and children

- 16 days of Activism – prayers, church services, hand of friendship offered to Women's Aid staff and women and families in Refuges
- All members encouraged clergy and church members to support White Ribbon Campaign – White Ribbons purchased and worn
- Support for Refuges continues throughout year particularly at Christian Festivals particularly Mothering Sunday
- Human Trafficking (HT) – members sent letters issued by ACTS Group to Members of Parliament – support work of Jackie Stoye and Hilary
- Freedom Sunday – DP preached on HT

Pillar – Knitting for maternity units

- Members pray for the recipients of their garments

Pillar - Service to church

- Trip to Iona with women from Church of Sweden – Porvoo link
- Invited to speak at Diocesan Overseas Day, NE Regional Council, at churches, work with +Gregor on arranging event about Female Genital Mutilation
- Supporting Diocesan Growth Strategy

This paper sets out the thoughts of Glasgow & Galloway trustees on a matter which they request the Board's support to take forward

Members of Mothers' Union believe in the Holy Trinity and support the aims of Mothers' Union which are:-

- To promote and support married life
- To encourage parents in their role to develop the faith of their children
- To maintain a worldwide fellowship of Christians united in prayer, worship and service
- To promote conditions in society favourable to stable family life and the protection of children
- To help those whose family life has met with adversity

Our values state that as a Christian mission organisation members work with people of all faiths and none.

Glasgow & Galloway support an addition to these values - members work with all people irrespective of their gender, marital status, ethnic origin, nationality, disability, sexual orientation or age. This view is supported by +Gregor Duncan, our Patron.

The addition of these words would encompass and accurately describe what members already do, reflecting our Christian values of loving our neighbours as we love ourselves. The addition would prevent the misrepresentation of the organisation in the media.

While the churches and her members discern their position on whether to offer sacramental services to same-sex couples, Mothers' Union members are called to operate in a world where God's love is shown through loving respectful and flourishing relationships to all God's people.

Ann Glenesk
Diocesan President
18th April 2015

PS The additions to our values - above - were adopted by the Provincial Council. These values now appear on the Provincial website and will soon be taken forward by the Provincial President.

AG

