

March 2020

To: All members via Branch Leaders/contacts, Deanery Chairs and other Diocesan contacts:

"Building Hope and Confidence"

Friends,

Thank you to all of you who have sent 2020 subscriptions, Branch database returns, and Branch accounts. There are still a few outstanding, so please send them to the Diocesan Office as soon as you can. We are in the process of updating all our records and databases, with any changes.



Mothering Sunday on March 22nd is a special time to say thank you to all mothers and caregivers for the selflessness with which they nurture, love and help us to grow. Maybe you are already planning to use some of the excellent prayer and worship resources available on the MU website?

Please also support and advertise Mothers' Union **"Make a Mother's Day" Appeal**, if you can. This year, they are particularly promoting **"A Gift that Grows"**: ethical gifts, with an additional seeded card. More information from www.mothersunion.org or from Nicola in the Diocesan Office.

The work of MU will feature on **"Songs of Praise"** on Mothering Sunday, so please look out for that.

Our **Lady Day Diocesan Service** will be on Wednesday **25th March, 11am at St Giles Church Exhall**, St Giles Rd, Ash Green Coventry CV7 9GZ. Refreshments will be served following the service. I am delighted that Revd Gail Phillip, Vicar of St Giles will be preaching. All are very welcome to join us – worshipping together is one of the joys of Mothers' Union, as we gather together from all parts of the diocese.

Wellesbourne, St Peter's Church Hall is the venue for our **Members' Evening on May 13th**. Coffee will be served from 6.30pm with the meeting from 7pm until 9pm. As well as the usual business items, and opportunity to hear about MU developments in our diocese, Catherine Bartlem will tell us about the inspiring work of **Coffee Tots** in Coventry. I know that some of you have been supporting Coffee Tots for many years, but there are always new developments and new ideas for future work. Please bring friends along with you who may enjoy hearing the very positive stories of families involved in this project.

Many of you came to **"Thy Kingdom Come" service at Coventry Cathedral** last year – a wonderful occasion with hundreds of MU members and friends worshipping together. I'm delighted to say that we have been asked to host this again on **Friday May 22nd at 2pm**. Our new Central Chaplain, Bishop Emma Ineson will be preaching. Others will also be involved in the service – more details to follow. Please do come along to this service, it's an opportunity for us as Coventry Diocese MU to welcome members and friends from around the country. If you are able to help in any way – refreshments, welcoming, distributing service sheets, collecting the offering etc. please get in touch.



Being part of Mothers' Union is a privilege and a gift from God – how many of us have thanked God for our friends in MU, or have benefitted in some way from being part of this very special movement? I believe we all want MU to thrive and develop in serving families, and for membership to grow in the years ahead.

To achieve this, we need to be thinking ahead, looking out for and nurturing future leaders. Of course, prayer is the most powerful tool we have, and a gracious God, who wants to enable and empower us to fulfil His mission in the communities in which we live and work.

So, Mothers' Union is planning a 3 day residential conference, 16th-19th June:

“Going Forward in Hope and Confidence Together”



– an opportunity for members to gather together to shape the future of MU in Britain and Ireland.

If you feel that this is something you, or someone you know, might like to be part of, please prayerfully consider this opportunity. More details attached, or from: janehillcovmu@gmail.com

Or, if you're unable to attend this conference, but you would like to be part of future developments in Mothers' Union locally, please contact me. I would love to hear from you.

Thank you, as you pray and continue your ministry with individuals and families in your community.

With love and prayers, Jane

