

September 2016



Dear Friends,

Please pass on this information to your branch members.

I hope that you have enjoyed the summer sunshine and have perhaps had a holiday, or days away from home with family and friends. The new school year is a fresh start and opportunity to look ahead to Autumn.

We are looking forward to **Members' Day on Saturday October 8th**, 10am (coffee) for 10.30 – 3pm at St Nicholas Church, Warwick, CV34 4JD. (Nearest car park is St Nicholas Park.) A **Ploughman's lunch** will be provided, so that we can sit down together and chat to others, whilst enjoying lunch. We will ask for a small donation to cover this. **Lynne Tembey, our Worldwide President** will be joining us and we have an exciting day planned, with our theme 140 years: A Celebration of Faith. Lynne will be presenting **50 and 60 years membership certificates**, and **enrolling new members**, as part of our day. Please let me know as soon as possible if you have members who should receive certificates or be enrolled. We are also asking for members to **bring along anything that might be special or important to them, reflecting their membership of Mothers' Union – photographs, artefacts, crafts, outreach initiatives etc, in fact anything that might be of special interest to others on this day of celebration of the work of Mothers' Union.** Maybe a Branch or a Deanery might want to put together a **small display** to bring along? Please get in touch with me if you have questions about any of this.

You will know that Mothers' Union participates in the global **Campaign: 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence** (25th Nov-10th Dec). This year we are holding 2 Diocesan events to highlight this campaign. The first, **"Silent Too Long"** is an **open discussion**, shared with our partners in CCN, based on an article published in Families First. This will be on **Tuesday 4th Oct**, beginning with coffee at 7pm, finishing by 9pm, at St Michael's House, 11 Priory Row, Coventry, CV1 5EX. All are welcome. The second event is on **Thursday 20th October in Coventry Cathedral**. Activities will take place throughout the day, from 10.30, when various local agencies will have displays and be available to chat, through to Choral Evensong at 5.15. There will be Eucharist at mid-day and a speaker during the afternoon. Please feel free to attend part or all of the day. Please also invite friends and church members who may be interested in this topic. I would also encourage Branches to

Charity Number 250129

Diocesan President: Mrs Jane Hill

☎ 024 7652 1350

✉ mu.cov@CovCofE.org

Mothers' Union Office

1 Hill Top

Coventry

CV1 5AB

Diocese of Coventry

organise something locally during the 16 days of the Campaign – prayers, displays, talks - resources on the MU website or from Di Sliwinski 01926 859105 disliwinski@dslpipe.com

On Friday 14th October, 9.30 – 3.30 at St Michael's House, there will be an opportunity for **all UK members of CCN** (Coventry Cross of Nails) to get together to share news about what's happening in the network and look to ways of working together more closely in the future. All are welcome. Further details from Di Sliwinski.

Do you have any **singers or musicians** in your Branch? Gill James is gathering a group of people interested in forming a music group to sing/play at our Diocesan services and events. Please contact her if you or one of your members is interested. 01926 842024 gilljames6@aol.com

One of our members recently asked me about giving a gift to Mothers' Union in her Will. This is a wonderful way to ensure that the work of Mothers' Union continues long into the future. A booklet, giving all the necessary information, has been produced by Mary Sumner House. Please contact Viv in the office if you would like a copy.

Looking ahead, our **Diocesan Advent Carol Service** will be on Monday 28th November, 11am at St Paul's Church, Stockingford, Nuneaton CV10 8LG. Rev Kate Massey will be preaching. I hope that many of you will be able to attend this service, and share a time of worship and preparation for the Christmas Season.

Finally, I am sorry to tell you that 2 of our Trustees have recently stepped down. Rosemary Wiggins has moved to Bradford-on-Avon, to live near to her family, and Vanessa Cooper has had to step down due to work and family pressures. We are very sorry to lose them both, and thank them for the contributions they have made in their roles as Trustees. We wish them well in the future. I know that both Rosemary and Vanessa plan to continue their links with Mothers' Union, so please do keep them both in your prayers. If you know of any member who might be interested in being co-opted onto the Board of Trustees, please do ask them to contact me.

With love and prayers,

Jane

Charity Number 250129

Diocesan President: Mrs Jane Hill

☎ 024 7652 1350

✉ mu.cov@CovCofE.org

Mothers' Union Office

1 Hill Top

Coventry

CV1 5AB

www.mothersunioncoventry.com