

Swansea & Gower Circuit Meeting at Murton Methodist Church
September 4th 2014 at 7.30 pm.

Devotions: Led by Rev. Leslie Noon

Present : Rev. Howard Long in the Chair and 37 members and two guests.

Apologies: Brinley Jones, Owain Davies, Selina Taylor, Alice Rutter, Vi Soo, Michael Roberts, Irene Dendle, Doug Dendle, Joan James.

Rev. Howard Long welcomed Geoff Noon (new Treasurer at Sketty Methodist Church) and Martin Gregson (new Circuit Steward). Also Rev. John Atkinson, who has moved to the Swansea and Gower Circuit as a Supernumerary Minister.

Minutes & Matters Arising: The Minutes of the previous meeting held in June 2014 were accepted by the meeting as a true and accurate record.

Pastoral Concerns: Prayers were asked for the bereaved families of Janet Campbell, Peter McNiven, David Moulson and Christine Cann (whose funeral is on 12th September). Rev. Long asked that we continue praying for Viv Mellor (recovering in Singleton Hospital) Kathryn Lawson (whose parents, Sue and Colin wished to thank everyone for their concern) and Doreen Yorke who is still in hospital, but who will shortly be moving to Campion Gardens.

Margaret Bizzell sent greetings and best wishes from Perth in Australia.
Rev. Long led the Meeting in prayer.

Stationing: Rev. Howard Long explained that the Meeting had been brought forward to 4th September, in order to deal with the matter of stationing and the re-invitation of Rev. Andrew Walker .The Synod Chair had requested to know the decision of the Meeting before the third week in September in order to meet the requirements of connexional stationing.

As there had been no opposition/amendments received to the Circuit Invitation Committee's recommendation that Rev. Walker be offered a further five years extension from August 2015, then a vote on the matter was not required.

Rev. Walker responded to the recommendation and offered his grateful thanks to all those who served on the Invitation Committee and all those involved in the consultation.

Charity Commission Annual Report: Deferred to the next meeting.

Finance: A report was circulated and presented by Bernard Gwyther (Circuit Treasurer)

Local Preachers: A report was received and circulated.

Social |Issues : No report.

Safeguarding: A report was received and circulated. It was noted that Module A Training for those new to posts would take place on October 21st in Mumbles Methodist Church and would be led by Jean Lang the new Safeguarding Officer for South Wales.

M. W. in B: A report was received and circulated.

World Mission: A report was received and circulated.

Methodist Homes: Sandra Pengelly thanked those who sent donations received at Methodist Homes Services. She requested that all monies/donations should be sent to her rather than direct to Methodist Homes.

Sketty/Bethel URC: All technical and legal work has now been completed and goes before the Synod on 13th September. The launch weekend is planned for the last weekend in May 2015.

Mission:

- 1) Circuit Project - 2013/14 - Water Aid. A report was circulated and the current amount raised is £7,941. 00 but there is more to follow. A "Harvest Splash" is planned for Saturday October 4th (See poster)
- 2) Circuit Project 2014/15 - Amelia Trust Farm. A Poster will be circulated regarding the launch of the project.
- 3) City Centre Ministry - Brunswick. Report received and circulated.
- 4) Ogof Adullum Project: Huw Davies gave an update on the work of the Steering Group. Full report to follow.
- 5) Outreach Group. Report received and circulated. Leafleting at Morryston will take place on Tuesday 9th September at 11.45 am. All help gratefully received. Quentin Hawkins also invited members to join him and others to pray for Outreach and Revival on Saturday morning at 7.am. at the home of Siperire Mugadzaweta.
- 6) Street Pastors. Win Hawkins reported that recruiting and training continues in the New Year. Volunteers urgently needed.
- 7) Night Shelter . The Circuit will be fully involved again in 2015 and will be hosted on Saturday evenings by Sketty Methodist Church. All volunteers must attend at least one of the training sessions (November 6th and 26th at Parklands) even if they have been involved on previous occasions.
- 8) Connect : The magazine will be available as usual during the 3rd week in September.
- 9) Ty Croeso and Foodbank : A report was received and circulated. Rev Pam Cram added that the Community Council had chosen the Foodbank as their 'Charity of the Year'.

See also the **list of items required urgently** for the Foodbank.

10) Alpha: Mumbles will be hosting their 14th Alpha Course this Autumn, beginning on Wednesday 17th September at 6.pm. All welcome.
Brunswick will host their first Alpha Course in the New Year.

11) Website : The Circuit Website is running well and is kept up to date, thanks to Selina Taylor.

Property:

1) Schedules : These will be required to be completed as usual.

2) Schemes: - i) Morrison : Heather Coleman reported that all planned work has been completed and that rooms are now ready for church use and for hire to the community.
ii) Capel Y Nant: Report received and circulated.

3) Manses: A report was received and circulated.

4) Quinquennial: The next round of Quinquennial inspections is due and starts with Brunswick on Wednesday 10th September.

A.O.B.

1) The Applecourt Theatre Company will present "I Am Mark" at the Taliesin Theatre on 10th October. This production on Mark's Gospel, which is supported by the Methodist Church, provides outreach opportunity for the churches.

2) A calendar has been produced by Ray Davies (Wesley Church/Eaton Road) featuring a photograph of each one of the Circuit churches, to help raise funds for development work. Donations of £4.95 is recommended.

The Blessing: Before giving the Blessing, Rev. Long read out a message from Rev. Martyn Atkins, the General Secretary of the Methodist Church that stressed the importance of Evangelism and Outreach in our churches.

The Meeting closed at 8. 40pm.

Date of next Meeting : 4th December 2014 at Sketty Methodist Church