



## From the Diocesan President

Dear Friends

How time flies! We end this Triennium in December. The Provincial End of Triennium Service will be held in Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday 2nd of November at 2pm. All are welcome.

As many officers reach the end of their terms of office, the roles we need to fill on our Trustee Board are VP Northumberland, Deanery Leaders for Bedlington, Morpeth, Newcastle West and Tynemouth, Faith and Policy coordinator, Safeguarding lead and Gift Aid organiser, as well as Branch roles. Please pray about how you might contribute, and come forward if you are interested - talk to me or any Trustee if you have questions.

An exciting year is before us with our Diocesan Festival in June at Benwell and Footsteps in Faith gathering in Morpeth in August. See the details below, and do come along!

Can I recommend our Spring Council meeting in St Johns Kingston Park on March 22nd at 6:20 p.m, where we will hear about organ transplantation. Present will be a doctor, nurse, donor, patient and mother, most of whom are well known to us. What a wonderful story!  
Looking forward to seeing you there.

With love, Margy



**Mothers' UNION**

does **SOMETHING WONDERFUL** In Benwell

**Diocesan Festival**

Festival from 11.30am  
Eucharist Service at 2pm followed by refreshments

Saturday 8 June 2024  
St James' Church Benwell, NE15 6RS

BBQ lunch, cakes, crafts, stalls, historic graveyard tour, art exhibition, music, raffle

## FOOTSTEPS IN FAITH

### ... and an invitation

Mothers' Union is all about Footsteps in Faith. We make them. We look ahead to judge the terrain. We look back to see where we've come from. We journey together, though sometimes we feel alone. Sometimes the light illumines our pathway; sometimes we stumble in the dimness; but always, like the saints of old, we mark the landscape with our footsteps in faith.

**We are invited to make 'Footsteps in Faith' this summer:** to encourage one another in our journey with Mothers' Union; to share our stories at a **Diocesan Gathering in Morpeth**. More information will follow and details will be posted on the website.

**Please save the date: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2024**

**at St George's URC Church, Morpeth**

## March 2024 MU Council AGM – Open Meeting

Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> – St John's, Kingston Park. 6.00 for **6.20** – 8.00 (note time)

### Illustrated Talk: 'The Gift of Life'

with **Dr Frankie Downen, Consultant Nephrologist at Freeman Hospital**

In October, members prayed for Andrew Davison (Sandra's son) as he underwent successful surgery to receive a new kidney. Trustees are delighted that Dr Frankie from the Freeman Transplant Team has agreed to speak at Council. Also hoping to attend the meeting is **Ross Hutchinson**, ITV weather presenter for Tyne Tees, who will tell us about his own recent experience as a kidney donor.

Dr Frankie wishes to broadcast a positive message about life-giving transplant surgery and organ donation. She hopes that MU members can help to spread the message in their local areas. Her talk will be 'visual but not gory' and will address some of the social, cultural and religious issues related to donation. There will be time for questions. Do bring along anyone you know who is interested in this subject.

*Anne Marr, Diocesan Chaplain*



### New members at St. Francis, Heaton

Kathleen Burn (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Doris Clavering (3<sup>rd</sup> from left) were enrolled as new members of MU at St Francis Church. They are pictured here with branch leader Elaine Anderson (right) and vicar Robert Lawrence (left), who is also leading our retreat in June

*Jackie Moore*

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Do visit our website

**[munewcastle.org.uk](http://munewcastle.org.uk)**

including Facebook link

### Calendar

**8<sup>th</sup> March** at 10 a.m. Trustees meet via Zoom

**22<sup>nd</sup> March** at 6 for 6.20 p.m. at St. John, Kingston Park Diocesan AGM and Council. All are welcome. See article above.

**20<sup>th</sup> April** at 10.30 for 11 a.m. at St Nicholas, Gosforth Church Hall Diocesan Members' meeting and presentation about our Worldwide links, followed by lunch

**26<sup>th</sup> April** Deadline for Summer Journal—material to Barbara Packer, please

**8<sup>th</sup> June** Diocesan Festival at Benwell, attended by Bishop Helen -Ann; collection of Summer Journals. See article for details.

**24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> June** Retreat at Shepherds Dene. See page 2 of Winter Journal for details. Only day tickets now available.

**30<sup>th</sup> August** Footsteps in Faith event (see article on p. 1)

**2<sup>nd</sup> November** at 2 p.m. Provincial End of Triennium Service

**29<sup>th</sup> November** Gift Bag Day & collection of Winter Journals