

GPS Sunday 2017 Shorter Version (text for ppt)

Slide 1 This is the second year in which we are encouraging churches to hold a special GPS Global Positioning Sunday. This is a chance to focus on God's worldwide mission. This powerpoint gives some background to world mission in the Lichfield Diocese. It introduces our four established Companion Links overseas and also suggests a number of other ways in which we can engage with world mission. Full resources for GPS Sunday are available on the World Mission Web https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/world_mission/

Slide 2 Bishop Michael's Installation. Bishops from South Africa, Singapore, Sabah, Qu'Appelle, Canada.....

Slide 3 The Anglican Communion, of which the Church of England is a part, has more than 85 million members from over 165 countries. See the four Companion Diocesan links which follow a North, South, East West spread. In the North, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Northern Germany, The Nordkirche; in the South the Diocese of Matlosane in South Africa; in the East the four Dioceses making up the Province of South East Asia: West Malaysia, Singapore, Kuching and Sabah and finally in the West the Diocese of Qu'Appelle in Canada. We have formal covenant agreements with all of these Dioceses and are committed to working together and following Christ in partnership with each other. Whilst the Diocese links with all four of these it may be that particular parishes and benefices are drawn to one in particular.

Slide 4 Our only ecumenical link. Formally with Mecklenburg but now including churches from what was formerly West Germany for instance Hamburg. In post Brexit Britain these European links take on a special new significance.

Slide 5 Matlosane; we see inspiring examples of resilience and joy filled service and worship in post apartheid South Africa and see the challenges of poverty and scarce physical resources.

Slide 6 The Anglican church in South East Asia is vibrant and experiencing the challenges of living as a minority under Islamic dominated leadership. Many of the churches have a deep commitment to evangelism and discipleship. Singapore has developed a ministry to six missionary deaneries including Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam where they use the teaching of English to pioneer missional openings and the planting of churches. There are many openings for volunteers to assist with this.

Slide 7 Much of Qu'Appelle Diocese is rural and many of the challenges being faced are similar to those facing the Church of England. Interestingly 'Truth and Reconciliation' features strongly in the life of the Diocese as the church seeks to build bridges with the First Nation Peoples following a history of abuse and exploitation.

Slide 8 A number of churches throughout the Diocese have developed Parish to Parish Links. These are very much an expression of partnership and need not cost anything in financial terms! The real cost is of time and love as we share together and keep informed on a regular basis. A sheet is available giving guidance as to how this can progressed.

Slide 9 Prayer is at the heart of world mission. The Prayer Mate App makes it so easy to access the Diocesan 'feed' for daily prayer.

Slide 10 Let us remember the persecuted suffering church. There are many ways of focusing on this – here are a few suggestions.

Slide 11 The St Chad's Volunteer Programme is one of the most exciting ways in which the Diocese connects with World Mission particularly amongst young adults. It enables 18-35 year olds to visit any of our Companion Links for between 6-12 months and for young adults to this Diocese to come to serve in different ways based in a church setting often in the capacity of a lay assistant, children or youth worker or worship leader. **Slide 12** St Chad's Volunteers: Kgowe from Matlosane who was based at All Saints Streetly; Jelena from Nordkirche who was based at Forsbrook, Stoke; Christine based at Aldridge Parish Church and Andrew Soon based with the Central Telford Team.

Slide 13 GPS Prayer – closing slide

