

Yn Agglish Haasilagh ayns Mannin



The Methodist Church

in the Isle of Man

Twinned with the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone

29th August 2021

District Synod September 11th 2021

Dear friends,

Thank you for your warm welcome 'back home' to the Isle of Man District.

I am now looking forward to being with you for Synod on 11th September at **St Ninian's Church and Parish Centre**. Please note the change of venue from that announced in the Plan. The agenda for the meeting is attached.

'God for All'

We are entering a year of discernment, supported by the Connexional Team, to listen for God's call and guidance as we long to know more of God's love in Christ, and seek to 'be good news' and 'share good news'. We will be joined by Deacon Eunice Attwood who is the 'Mission at the Margins' officer in the Connexional Team.

Business Booklet

In order to make space in our agenda for this work of discernment with Eunice, we are asking, where possible, for summary **reports to be submitted to the District Office in writing by 3rd September**. We will then prepare a Synod 'booklet' electronically and in hard copy. I am aware that this is short notice for many people – but the booklet will give everyone chance to engage with the business ahead of time – and will also be a handy resource for Synod representatives to share in their congregations. Please also send us ahead of time any 'dates for the diary'.

Covid considerations – be safe, be smart, be kind!

Because we love you, we want you to be safe and well. We will be actively encouraging everyone to wear face-coverings while in-doors and to 'social distance'. Please do not come to Synod if you are feeling unwell in any way. Please consider using a lateral flow test kit regularly. Please do not come to Synod if someone in your household has tested positive and is isolating at home. If you wish to join by zoom link, please let John Binns know as soon as possible at jbinns39@gmail.com or to leave a voicemail on 837143.

Dispensations

Any ministers in the active work who are unable to attend Synod need to obtain a dispensation from the Chair of District. Please apply in writing/by email, if possible, at least 7 working days before the Synod.

My apologies that this calling letter is going out a little late – I am still unpacking and was taken by surprise by the Friday Bank Holiday! I am very pleased to be with you and ask for your prayers during the steep learning curve that is inevitable.

Grace and peace

Rev Dr Janet Corlett