

Plymouth & Exeter District

REPRESENTATIVE SYNOD - 8TH SEPTEMBER 2018

Plymouth Central Hall, Plymouth

Dear Friend,

I look forward to welcoming you to our next Synod, to be held in Plymouth at the start of a new Connexional year. We will begin our time together with an act of worship during which we will focus on prayer. And, later in the day, there will be opportunity for members of Synod to reflect on their experiences of prayer and the place of prayer in the life of the church today.

As part of our deliberations, I will be inviting Synod to commit to making 2018-19 a time of prayer across the District. This comes out of a sense of call, over recent weeks, that we need to focus much more intentionally on the things of God. Also, at the recent Conference, it was agreed that the following year (2019-20) will be a 'Year of Testimony' across the Connexion. The proposal for this was made by the young people of our church. Commitment to testimony and prayer chime with our heritage, whilst ensuring that we make God central to all that we do, say and are.

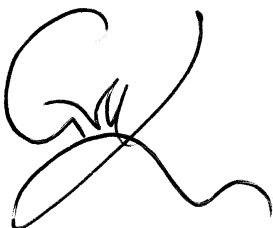
At recent Synods we have heard Jo Simpson (District Evangelism Enabler) speak of a project that the District is investing significant resource into - Christian Communities in Conversation (CCiC). As part of our time together, we will meet in conversational groups to hear more about this work and experience what the project is all about.

As well as the usual business, we will hear more about the 2018 Conference that met during some of the hottest days of the year in Nottingham. We will also elect our representatives for future Conferences. Please give some prayerful thought as to whether you can offer to be a member of Conference. We need a balanced team of people who properly represent our District.

Finally, a reminder that Synod is not a closed meeting. We are pleased to welcome any who wish to join us. I am aware that former members of Synod appreciate the opportunity to share in the occasion, without the responsibility of speaking or voting. All are welcome! However, please can I remind those who attend that we need to share what we hear at Synod with the groups that we represent, particularly the churches and Circuits who send us to Synod in their name.

Please will you remember Synod in your prayers? Please come ready to listen and learn as we seek to be open to all that God has for us.

Yours in His service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. K.', written in a cursive style.