**Notes of the Southwark and Newington Deanery Synod Meeting 15 June 2022 (Walworth St John)**

This is the first in-person meeting for ages. We had stimulating conversations and a great sense of being united in Christ. If you missed Synod, do spend a moment reading the notes. Be in touch to join in the discussion and shared life of our churches.

1. ***What are the concerns and methods of our Deanery’s Mission?*** Four themes are a good starting place: prayer and Bible study; children and young people; diversity and tackling discrimination; and homes for all and the changing face of accommodation. We discussed these 4 themes using our four **Southwark & Newington holy guides and counsellors**
	1. **Lancelot Andrewes** Bible study and prayer
	* Focus: *walking* with Jesus and getting to know Him better: Bible study and prayer
	* Achievement: the Old Testament translation for King James, examples of prayers
	* Bible verse: Matthew 6:1-13
	* Find out more: Southwark Cathedral memorial tomb.
* How can we encourage prayer and Bible study across the Deanery?
* Can we encourage individuals to develop skills in leading prayer and Bible Study?
* Can we offer workshops to build skills from the most basic?
* Might this encourage people on the road to study to be Readers or clergy?
	1. **Eglantine Jebb** children and young people
* Focus: *welcoming* all, seeking new ways of being Church: children and young people
* Achievement: Save the Children fund and UN Rights of the Child <https://www.unicef.org.uk/what-we-do/un-convention-child-rights/>
* Bible verse: Matthew 18:1-6
* Find out more: UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. HQ of Save the Children.
* How can adults step back so young people express their concerns and take a lead?
* Make opportunities for young people to plan activities.
* The Deanery group for work with young people met for the support and development of engagement with children and young people. Recent joint trips have been to Birmingham University for the day and to Iona Abbey for a week.
	+ ***NEXT MEETING 23 June at Camberwell St Michael 7-9pm.***
	1. **Desmond Tutu** diversity and tackling discrimination
* Focus: *welcoming* all, embracing our diversity: strategic and practical actions to combat racism and inequality
* Achievement: challenge the racist *apartheid* state, build bonds of peace and justice for a multi-ethnic society.
* Bible verse: Matthew 5:38-48
* Find out more: Southwark Cathedral Sunday 1 February 2004 - 11.00am sermon <https://www.anglicannews.org/news/2004/02/sermon-by-archbishop-desmond-tutu-at-southwark-cathedral.aspx>
* Strong link to the experience of many of the Deanery parishes which are black majority in their leadership. (Majority of black wardens at 9.6.22 service)
* Specific focus of the London Spanish speaking community at the Elephant and the Spanish Mission base at St Matthew’s.
* We experience acceptance and partnership across the diversity of our members.
* Can we appoint more black clergy to the Cathedral (and other parishes)?
	1. **Octavia Hill** homes for all and the changing face of accommodation
* Focus: *growing* in numbers, generosity, faith and discipleship as we grow God’s Kingdom: housing.
* Achievement: better homes for all; well designed and managed social housing.
* Bible verse: Matthew 25:31-45
* Find out more: Red Cross Gardens and Octavia Hill Estate Walworth. National Trust.
* Housing is a tricky and wicked problem in our Deanery.
* For many parishioners getting decent housing remains a problem.
* The new areas of development appear to be taken up by young white professionals as the first step out of University.
* The Right to buy and the sale of the Octavia Hill Church Commissioners’ estate in Walworth has put local people out of the market for social housing that was intended for them.
* Redevelopment and restructuring of the population has led to falling school rolls and the closure of St John’s school with worries about St Peter’s.
* Note the increasing polarity between the very rich and the poor in our Deanery.
1. Deanery Synod Officers appointments
	1. Lay Chair of Deanery Synod Akin Akinwunni akinsamuel@gmail.com
	2. Deanery Secretary Anastasia Obeng anastasiaobeng4@gmail.com
	3. Deanery Treasurer Bett Llewelyn bettllew60@gmail.com
	4. Area Dean Jonathan Roberts Jonathan.Roberts@southwark.anglican.org
2. Lay ministry development and support
	1. We are eager to ***build up lay leaders and lay officers in our parishes by working together as a Deanery***. We said:
		1. We want people to learn the Roles and how to do them well.
		2. We will share experience in workshop meeting (and a WhatsApp group).
		3. Groups should include those who are clearly in the role, but also those who are exploring if they want to do the job (Deputy Wardens, young people who are being encouraged to do a task by a Church Warden)
		4. Group workshops are a good place to share ideas about what we expect and a chance to review and sort out what is being achieved.
		5. We want workshops in the Deanery to develop lay people who can become effective readers of the Bible and intercessors in public worship. These would be good stepping stones to being Licensed Lay Readers.
		6. We want workshops in the Deanery to develop lay people who can become effective local pastors: caring and visiting. These would be good stepping stones to being Licensed Southwark Pastoral Assistants.
	2. **Churchwardens’** Deanery Convenor -a group for all Wardens and Deputies
	3. **Treasurers’** Deanery Convenor -a group for all involved in parish finance
	4. **PCC Secretaries’** Deanery Convenor -a group for all involved in parish administration
3. ***Grants to restart Parish Mission Action Plans***
	1. Each parish is invited to select one project from their Parish Mission Action Plan (MAP) to develop in the next 12 months.
	2. Agree a way of working with the ways in which you will know you have achieved your goal. Write down this plan.
	3. Apply for up to £3000 from the Deanery with a copy of your MAP and your plan. Send it and the Parish Bank details to the Area Dean who will meet with the Deanery Synod Officers before 18 July 2022 to send out the grants.
4. Next
	1. **Churchwarden development meeting** at Trinity House on Saturday 16 July. The session will begin at 09:00 with tea/coffee and the formal training will start at 09:30 and conclude at around 12:30 with a sandwich lunch. Please let Richard Coe know who is coming richard.coe@southwark.anglican.org
	2. Deanery Synod 12 October 7pm-9pm at Camberwell St Michael Wyndham Road SE5 0UB ***Please suggest agenda items by 15 September***.
	3. Set up a meeting about Deanery schools
5. Participants

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| Anastasia Obeng | St Paul |
| Akin Akinwunni | St Paul |
| Desrene Swaby | St Michael |
| Andrew Heaton | Cathedral |
| Matilda Taylor-Young | St John's Walworth |
| Guy Rowstow | Cathedral |
| Laura Elworthy |  |
| Kadijatu Daboh |  |
| Biyi Odusanya | St Christopher |
| Stuart Behall | St John |
| Alan Wild | St Peter |
| John Walker | St John |
| Andrew Moughtin-Mumby | St Peter |
| Philip Batten | Christchurch |
| John Henry | Christchurch |
| John Carruthers | St Paul |
| CJ Ajero | St Michael |
| Bett Llewellyn | St Christopher Deanery Treasurer |
| Jonathan Roberts | St Michael Area Dean |

1. Apologies

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| Stuart Murrell |  |
| Siriol Davies |  |
| Theophilia Shaw |  |
| Deloine Greem |  |
| Gill Reynolds |  |
| Marnella Davies |  |
| Michael Aspell |  |

Notes by Jonathan Roberts: email improvements to: Jonathan.Roberts@Southwark.anglican.org