

Give thanks

There are so many things we can say thank you for :

Food and shelter

Health and strength

Grace

Forgiveness

Hope

Freedom and Responsibility

The ability to give and receive Love

Family and Friends

Thank you God.

Amen



July 2017

Focus on: Conference

The theme of the conference was Day by Day. Based on Saint Richard of Chichester's Prayer

*Thanks be to you, our Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits which you have given us,
for all the pains and insults which you have borne for us.
Most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly,
day by day.
Amen.*

All the worship for the Conference followed this theme.

We were introduced to our **Spiritual five –a-day** :

Give Thanks
Pray

Read and Reflect

Keep Silence
Act

On Sunday we welcomed ordinand deacons and presbyters into full connexion before their ordinations. We continue to pray for Kan as she takes this next step on her journey.

And please pray for all the others who were ordained this year .Please also pray for those still in training prior to ordination .

A great many issues were raised at conference as always this year .

Issues for Prayer include:

Mission .We looked at dwindling numbers in our churches and discussed different ways of doing church, different days for attending church where Sunday may cause problems for some , ways of linking in with people to offer or to show them Christ in action .

We looked at ways we could improve and we looked at ways of **Mission** that are working .

We heard from overseas churches, other denominations and even other faiths how we can learn from each other.

We heard of many Christian initiatives ,Methodist and ecumenical, where work is being done on a myriad of issues

Such as

Famine relief

Fair trade

Building project

Support for Mission at Home and abroad .

We looked at Inclusion issues in terms of race,gender and disability, both physical and mental . Every effort had been made to make Conference as accessible as possible to allow the representatives to best represent the whole spectrum of our congregations and our clergy .

We looked in detail at a 30 page document designed to better integrate Anglicans and Methodists working together and parity between Methodist and Anglican clergy.

Before our discussions on this we were asked to submit questions to the working party who will be submitting the report to next year's Conference.

Minus duplicates they have 210 questions to look at !