

**DIOCESE IN EUROPE
ARCHDEACONRY OF SWITZERLAND
Archdeaconry Synod
Saturday, 26 January 2019
St. Ursula's Church, Jubiläumsplatz, 3005 Bern**

Present

Archdeacon	Revd Canon Adèle Kelham
Basel St. Nicholas	Revd Hilary Jones, Revd Anne Lowen, Nigel Spencer, Robin Hall, Jane Weber-Miller
Bern St. Ursula's	Hector Davie
Geneva Holy Trinity	Revd Canon Alex Gordon, Mary Talbot, Clare Amos, Ursula McGregor
La Côte	David Bramley, Trevor Davies
Lausanne Christ Church	Revd Christine Bloomfield, Angela Fall, Vahe Jebejian
Lugano St. Edward's	Revd Nigel Gibson, Linda Denkinger, Sandra Pianezzi
Montreux St. John's	Revd Paul Ormrod
Vevey All Saints	Claire Dalgish
Zurich St. Andrew's	Revd Paul Brice, Miriam Keller, Joanna Koch, Peter Spychal
PTO	Revd Canon Peter Hawker, Revd Mark Pogson
Emmanuel Episcopal Church	Helena Mbele-Mbong

AD Treasurer	John Waygood	Diocesan Representative	Diana Dell'Acqua
Partner Sein	Robert Amstutz	Speakers & Locum Bern	Revd Ian & Revd Caroline Eglin
Safeguarding	Jane François	Dio. Common Fund Rep.	Rosemary Raedler
Rep. Villars	Isabelle da Lara	Newly elected Treasurer	Neil Kirby

Apologies Basel Revd Russell Hilliard **Bern** Donna Goepfert, Richard King
La Côte Revd Carolyn Cooke, Revd Julia Chambeyron **Emmanuel Church** Revd Michael Rusk,
 Revd Richard Cole **Montreux** Mid Squier **Neuchâtel** Jenny Veenendaal **Vevey** Revd Clive
 Atkinson, Revd Elizabeth Bussmann, Mark Jones **Zurich** Julianne Funk, Harry Devonshire
PTO Revd Canon Alan Amos, Revd Nick Peacock, Revd Lars Simpson, Revd Maree Wilson
Old Catholics Rt Revd Harald Rein, Revd Sarah Böhm-Aebersold, Revd Ulrike Henkenmeier

Archdeacon Revd Canon Adèle Kelham opened the synod with a prayer and welcomed visitors and newcomers. The members present were asked to remember Revd Roy Farrer, Revd Zechariah Schariah and Roy Damary from Geneva, all of whom died within the past 6 months.

1. Approval of Minutes 16 June 2018

The minutes were approved and signed without any amendments.

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

3. Archdeaconry Finance

- ***Presentation and approval of accounts for 2018***

The Treasurer, John Waygood, presented the 2018 accounts. Total capital and funds increased in 2018 by CHF 1'832 to CHF 34'337. An administrative surplus increased capital by CHF 3'689, but this was partly offset by a reduction of CHF (1'857) in the Swiss Archdeaconry Ministry Training Scheme ("SAMTS") Fund. The administrative surplus was the result of lower than expected expenses on travel (administration and safeguarding), on the continuing education programme ("SACEP"), and other activities, partly offset by higher net costs absorbed by the archdeaconry at the synods and the Chapter meetings. All questions having been satisfactorily answered, the auditor, Hector Davie, recommended the 2018 accounts to the members for approval, the accounts were unanimously adopted, and the Treasurer and the Auditor were thanked.

- ***Ratification of Archdeaconry support payments***

The members unanimously accepted the recommendation of the Standing Committee for continuation of our CHF 250 monthly support for the Athens Anglican Chaplaincy Refugee Programme, in addition to maintaining our ongoing level of commitment to the Aid Agency "Partner Sein".

- ***Presentation and approval of the budget for 2019***

The Treasurer presented the 2019 Budget proposed by the Standing Committee. In addition to our support payments, the budget is based on a continuation of our administrative expenses fairly close to 2018 levels, except for safeguarding expenses, which were abnormally low in 2018. The Ministry Training Scheme Fund would require around CHF 1'200 to bring it up to CHF 20'000, but, since the fund will be partly utilised in 2019 to finance attendance by our women clergy at their diocesan conference in Lyon in June, the budget includes an additional CHF 1'000 injection into that Fund, which brings the 2019 SAMTS cost to CHF 2'200. The Chaplaincy Quotas for 2019 required to finance this budget come to CHF 22'050, which is in total CHF (780) less than in 2018, a small reduction which is shared across all chaplaincies (pro rata to the distribution of the Common Fund in 2018). This 2019 budget proposal was adopted by the members.

- ***Auditor 2019*** Hector Davie was re-elected as Hon. Auditor for a further year.

- ***Change of Treasurer and bank signatories***

Neil Kirby of Montreux, having agreed to take over from John Waygood as Treasurer, introduced himself to the members. He was thanked and unanimously approved as our new Archdeaconry Treasurer. It was resolved that Neil Kirby and Archdeacon Adele Kelham should be the archdeaconry's two Post Finance bank signatories, each with sole signatory authority over the two bank accounts. John Waygood was thanked for his years of service. Following a suggestion by Robert Amstutz, the

Standing Committee will, later this year, consider possible changes to bank signatory authorities.

- **Standing Committee** Following his appointment as Archdeaconry Treasurer, Neil Kirby becomes a member of the Standing Committee. This is now made up as follows

Revd Canon Adèle Kelham, Archdeacon Revd Anne Lowen, Basel
Revd Canon Alex Gordon, Geneva, Miriam Keller, Zurich, Lay Secretary,
Neil Kirby, Montreux, Treasurer Mary Talbot, Geneva Diocesan Representative
Diana Dell'Acqua, Lugano Diocesan Representative, Ursula McGregor, Geneva

- **"Partner Sein"**. Robert Amstutz (Anglican representative for Partner Sein) Robert outlined the work being done on some of the projects run by Partner Sein, the Old Catholic Aid Agency and the Anglican Church in Third World countries. This is often in conjunction with local organisations or governmental agencies, depending on on-the-spot circumstances.

4. Report on Bishop's Council 18/19 October 2018

The report by Diocesan Representative, Mary Talbot, had already been distributed to members. The question of future Archdeacons, Area Deans and possibly a third bishop (very over-optimistic!) is being looked at closely, also the financial limits. Mary reiterated the need to focus more on the needs of young people. The Episcopal Church is holding an Ascension Meeting, to which young people and leaders are invited. Rosemary Raedler, a member of the Common Fund "Sharing Formula" Working Group then presented an up-to-date report on the discussions of this group. See her report attached to these minutes.

5. Reports

- **Archdeacon's Report**

This report covered the *Bishop's Appeal for Advent and Lent*: whether we would have any project for this. *Safeguarding*: we are looking for an insurance company which would offer liability cover for a church council. No success so far. Safeguarding in general has to be more rigorously enforced in the chaplaincies. *Statistics for Mission*: due in at Diocesan Office by the end of the month. *Locum costs*: Practices vary greatly from chaplaincy to chaplaincy in Switzerland. The topic will be reviewed. *"Thy Kingdom come" movement*: Ascension to Pentecost. Sign up if your chaplaincy wants to take part. *Partner Sein*: Letter of thanks for our co-operation. *Decade of Resurrection 2023-2033*: Committee JC 2033 is working on this project.

- **SACEP** SACEP Day in Vevey 9 March on "Migration" with Rebecca Broadmann from USPG. Leaflets are available in all chaplaincies. Diana Dell'Acqua reiterated her request for a training session for Sunday School teachers. Elizabeth Bussmann (not present) is following this up, but contact her with suggestions.
- **Environment** Elizabeth Bussmann's report was already distributed.

- **Old Catholics** Unfortunately no representative from the Old Catholics was able to be present. A message from Bishop Harald sent us greetings. Adèle pointed out that Revd Christine Bloomfield (Chaplain in Lausanne), who also looks after the Old Catholic community in Lausanne, was licensed in Lausanne by Bishop Harald. Revd Mark Pogson mentioned that a recent joint project of Anglicans and Old Catholics in Biel was very successful.
- **Safeguarding** Jane François, one of the four Safeguarding Instructors in Switzerland, outlined the general procedure. This is completion of the online level 1 course for everyone involved in church organisation and which as many other people as possible should be encouraged to do. Then further obligatory training of a day/half-day level 2 session for everyone. Background checks, despite the hassle in some cases of obtaining police clearance following residence in certain other countries, are necessary for Junior Church teachers, Church Wardens etc. It is important to remember that Safeguarding is not confined to contact with children. Vulnerable adults are just as much at risk from abuse. Any suspected cases of abuse or concerns must be reported to your Safeguarding Officer or chaplain, who will liaise with the Diocesan Safeguarding Team in the UK. A suggestion was made that this could be handled on a more local basis, but this provision is not in place. So far no insurer here has been found who would offer liability insurance, which makes it even more important that the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy is strictly adhered to when recruiting and checking. In reply to a question, the day/half-day sessions are usually held on a Saturday. This is not always possible for some people to attend. It could exceptionally be possible to hold the course on two evenings if Trainers are available. We also hold cross-chaplaincy sessions where only a few candidates from one particular church are involved.

Lay Discipleship Report by Dr Clare Amos, Diocesan Director of Lay Discipleship See also report distributed in advance “Journeying to Emmaus: a reflection and a rule of life”

In addition, Clare has set up a blog to explore the lectionary readings each week. She would be glad to have more contributions. Also look at Google “Setting God’s People Free”, which is a Church of England programme of change to enable Christian people to live out their faith naturally and openly. The Ministry Experience Scheme gives young people aged between 18 and 30 the opportunity to work in a chaplaincy for 10 months. Costs to the chaplaincy depend on what accommodation is available, work related travel expenses and the journey at the start and finish, plus once during the apprenticeship. Other costs are paid by the Scheme. Further plans include production of videos for church wardens and church council members and pastoral assistant training. Clare encouraged us all to link our “rule of life” to aspects of the story of the road to Emmaus. We are a journeying church: *Know God Grow in Christ Build community Live beyond ourselves.*

6. Future Dates 2019

- Saturday, 16 February Study Day in Basel with Graham Tomlin
- Saturday, 2 March Study morning in Geneva: The Book of Psalms

- Saturday, 9 March SACEP Day in Vevey on “Migration”
- Fri.-Sun. 26-28 April Choir Festival in Geneva
- Saturday, 22 June Archdeaconry Synod in Montreux

Are we a welcoming church?

In the afternoon session Revd Ian and Revd Caroline Eglin, at present Locums in Bern and well-known to many of us, gave an entertaining but thought-provoking talk on the subject of **Welcome**. Are WE welcoming? We live in a fast-changing world and churches are often not the most welcoming of places. From their own experience, Ian and Caroline have seen how strangers are left to themselves. Yet the first minutes are decisive and initial impressions so important. Do I feel welcome here? A few words, invitation to coffee after the service, introductions, explanation about the service can make all the difference. We should also in general be sure that our church caters for people with a disability – sight, hearing, mobility. We like to feel welcome wherever we go and so does everyone else.

Many thanks to Bern chaplaincy for their hospitality.

Miriam Keller

Archdeaconry Synod Secretary

30 January 2019