

Liverpool District Synod Autumn 2012

If you ever want to plan an event dependant on good weather aim for the same day as the Liverpool District Synod. We gathered at Linacre Mission on Saturday September 8th for a morning of worship and rededication through the Covenant service.

Our Chair, Revd Jim Booth, reflected on the passage from John's gospel, the image of cut, cast aside branches being rooted in Christ resulting in new fruit bearing branches.

Our first guest speaker was Professor Hilary Russell, European Institute for Urban Affairs, John Moores University, who engaged Synod with a brief synopsis of her report 'Resourcing Christian Community Action: Parishes and Partnerships' encouraging discussion on how Christians are already and can continue being vital to communities. www.how2help.net

Mr Michael Harvey encouraged Synod to examine why we don't invite our friends to church, why 8 of every 10 people in a congregation won't invite a friend to church. Recognising that God disciplines us through every experience, Michael's talk was humorous and engaging but obviously touching on a difficult subject for some, both lay and ordained. www.unlockingthegrowth.com.

Synod was treated to a world premier of a new movie about the Hope Journey. Initially a local project in Wirral between a school and church it is developing into a fully fledged programme to work with children of primary school age.

www.ellesmereportmethodist.org.uk/Hope_Journey_Home.html

Despite an engaging and enthusiastic report of a first trip to Conference we had few nominations to go to London in 2013 but have elected: Revd Anthony Clowes, Revd Andrew Fox, Deacon Judith Ireland, Mrs Anne Baldwin, Mrs Elizabeth Hudson and Mr Stephen Cooper.

Basing worship on the Covenant service, the members of Synod rededicated ourselves to God and, as a District, committed ourselves to the Covenant between the North West Districts.

Sarah Blackie