

Liverpool District Synod 27th April 2013

Welcoming the President and Vice-president of Conference to Liverpool District, members of Synod were also made to feel very welcome by the delightful stewards in St Luke's, on a sunny day in Hoylake. Combining business with worship, one of the early items of business was the vote to nominate the Revd Dr Sheryl Anderson to Conference 2013 to be the next Chair of the District with effect from September 2014. The vote was overwhelmingly positive and we will be delighted to welcome Sheryl to the District and future Synods when Conference endorse the invitation.

Following the theme of Mission - Where are we now? Where are we going? – and building on the Chair's comments on our journey so far, Mr Mike King addressed Synod highlighting that Mission is not an optional extra; it happens on a 'glocal' level, global action acting locally – local action acting globally; it is God's mission we are invited to share, not Our mission for God; his Biblically based, thought provoking words highlighting that in serving God we need to move towards the needs of others and where God's love is needed most. It is our presence as Salt and Light for God that makes the difference in areas, reflecting that God's love is for the whole world, not just for the church.

Before moving into discussion groups to address key questions on Mission, Synod heard from the Revd Dr Mark Wakelin who reminded us to recognise the good work going on already in many areas. Asking us to focus in our discussions on the Sovereignty of God, the Church is here because God is Sovereign Lord of All. If we focus on the Kingdom rather than the church we can be assured that God will provide – His grace is sufficient. We need to focus on what differences we would like to see – that is our mission for God.

The outcomes from the group discussions will be written up and reported back to circuits and future Synods. Business after lunch was concluded swiftly and Synod members were delighted to go back out into the sun, as the President suggested, trusting in the Utterly Incredible rather than believing in the unbelievable.

Sarah Blackie