

AUGUST NEWS FROM SEI



Summer School was held this year in the Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness July 9-15. Its theme was *'attending'*. Throughout the first part of the week we 'attended to what is before us', expressions of missional ministry across this largely rural diocese, seeking to notice, learn from and reflect upon what is happening there in a variety of exciting new ways. For the first three days, 24 students visited different contexts in groups of three, from Tongue to Badenoch, Ullapool to Huntly. Clergy and congregational members hosted the eight groupings, outlining the ministry and mission going on in those settings. Students experienced the ministry of Street Pastors and L'Arche in Inverness and outreach to

visitors to the Cathedral, resilient prayerful gatherings in remote rural settings, missional endeavours in small towns, and ecumenical work in which 'denominational boundaries blurred into insignificance'.

One student said, *'I really appreciated the immersive experience for three days being alongside someone who knows the place really well but also prepared to be honest about the challenges and joys of ministry in MRC and the places they're responsible for. It was a good opportunity to see the breadth and variety within our church'*.

Following that, students went on Retreat, one group being housed in Pluscarden Abbey, the other in The Coach House, Kilmuir; a silent three days after the busyness of the previous days' programme. This was about 'attending in silence to God'.



The week ended with a glorious Valedictory Service in Inverness Cathedral at which Bishop Mark presided and three of the students - first year ordinands Katrina O'Neill (Moray, Ross and Caithness) and Jane Edwards (Edinburgh) and second year ordinand Andy Philip (Edinburgh) - offered reflections in word and symbol upon their experience of Summer School 2017.

Summer Placements: first year stipendiary ordinand Jenny Holden from the Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney (right) is spending August as a guest in the Anglican Communion Center in Virginia Theological Seminary, helping with student programmes there and



in organising Chapel worship. Another first year stipendiary ordinand from the Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway, Harriet Oxley (left), is on placement in Bergsjön parish, Diocese of



Gothenburg, Sweden, working on their programmes with refugees and other community outreach work. Congratulations to Harriet on being awarded two prizes in the School of Divinity, New College: Christian Theology – ‘Doctrines and Debates’ and ‘Paul and his Letters’.

The new academic year begins on 2 September with the Induction Day. The student cohort will be 26-strong this coming year. 6 new students will be joining the existing cohort: Alice Amies (Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness); Jenny Cornfield, Joanna Leidenhag and Thomas Ware (Diocese of Edinburgh); Roxanne Campbell (Diocese of Brechin) and Jean Souter (Diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney). Jenny is a Lay Reader candidate and Jean a vocational diaconate candidate. Alice, Thomas, Joanna and Roxanne are stipendiary ordinands. Thomas will study at New College bringing our total of full-time students to 4.

The Prayer Cycle for 2017-18 has been published and is available on the SEI web site at <http://www.scotland.anglican.org/who-we-are/vocation-and-ministry/sei/> Also on that page can be found the new Initial Ministerial Education Handbook for 2017-18 and that for Field Education. Placements have already been set up for three-quarters of the students, and these range from those in hospital settings (Royal Infirmary of Aberdeen; Royal Edinburgh and New Craigs Inverness psychiatric hospitals), ecumenical contexts (in Keith and Inverness), large urban congregations (Old St Paul’s and St John’s Edinburgh; St Margaret’s Newlands, Glasgow) and rural contexts (St Andrews, Kelso; St Peter’s Peebles). One student will study ministry with children and young people across a number of sites; another will be attached to a community care project in Brora; another with Highland Food Bank.

The following ordinations to the diaconate will take place at Michaelmas:

- ✚ Margaret Pedersen. By Bishop John on Sunday 24 September at 15.30 in St Mary’s Cathedral, Edinburgh to serve in the congregation of Holy Trinity, Melrose, Diocese of Edinburgh.
- ✚ Jacqui du Rocher. By Bishop John on Sunday 24 September at 15.30 in St Mary’s Cathedral, Edinburgh to serve in the congregations of St Leonard, Lasswade and St Mary the Virgin, Dalkeith, Diocese of Edinburgh.
- ✚ Jonathan Livingstone. By Bishop Gregor on Sunday 1 October at 18.30 in St. Mary’s Cathedral, Glasgow, to serve in the congregations of St Mary’s Hamilton and St Andrew’s Uddingston, Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway.