

? What does your branch look like from the outside?

How does the way in which you function affect your relationships with:

- One another as members
- Non-attendees
- Indoor members
- Local Diocesan Members
- Others in your church or parish with an interest in family life
- Local people and groups you seek to serve
- Your clergy and other church leaders

Reg Bailey, MU Chief Executive, has written to remind us that the pound is much devalued as a world currency. Therefore our planned payment of £450,000 to help overseas workers needs to be £600,000 now just to maintain our support at the same level –

? Do you know what is going on in your parish?

- Does the PCC or Minister have any requests for you or involve you in planning
- Is there any work going on in the school(s)
- Who is involved in Baptism or Marriage preparation
- Do MU members attend Home Groups or other discipleship groups
- Do MU members go to diocesan training events
- Are you known for praying for individuals and parish issues

Families First Do all members believe in MU enough to take our magazine, even if only to pass it on?
It would save MSH and Diocesan members lots of trouble and money in delivering **Families Worldwide** too. Please encourage everyone to pay an inclusive subscription, even by standing

? How does your branch decide which aspects of MU

to support?

Overseas.....Emergency

Appeals.....Refuge.....

Parenting or Baptism preparation.....Holiday or Caravan

Wedding Fayres Marriage preparation.....

Development Worker...

Which are your members' interests and priorities most focused on?

If, at Council, you are collecting **Families Worldwide** for branch members not receiving Families First please count out your best guess carefully! Bring some old bags to take them home in – remember you will have **'Windows'** too. Another reason to encourage **ALL** members to take Families First.

No Speaker?

- Use theme material – **Relationship not Rules** in 2010
- Join with another branch occasionally
- Do a Bible Study together
- Virtual 'Prayer Walk' your parish with a map
- Use other prayer resources including **Families Worldwide** to pray for people, MU or parish
- Look up **Policy Watch** and write a letter or invite someone with knowledge of the subject to talk to you. Every branch should have a copy of the tool kit **'Making a Difference'**
- Learn to surf the net!
- Identify members with speaking skills and help them prepare a meeting that could be shared in the deanery.
- There are 5 complete sessions in the [home] pack
- Have you looked at the **'We are created by God'** resource that explores our identity and relationships –

Training

If you identify any training needs please contact Carole Jones 01380 840338

Prayer and Spirituality – Marian Booth has lots of resources and ideas – be courageous and creative with your praying
01929 1729

Development Worker

The process is continuing – keep a prayerful mind on opportunities you may like this person to help you develop in your communities. Whilst we are applying for funding for this post the actual cost of 4 years is equivalent to only 20p per week per member over that period. Perhaps we could consider some special giving for this post?

Action & Outreach

Please contact Ann Cowburn 01380 816878 ann-mac@sky.com

or Sue Gallagher 01722 332619 sigall@aol.com

Both are new to post but happy to help

MU Office no. 01722 333402 mothers.union@btconnect.com
Jenny Harrison knows loads

Marketing continues to be led by Rosemary Allen 01722 333819 house.steps@virgin.net

Festival Service in Salisbury Cathedral Saturday 13th March

10.00 – 1.00

Opening worship at the West End at 10.00 followed by a 'Homes Journey', reconvening in the Nave ready for midday prayers, the commissioning of officers and further worship to include an address by Bishop Stephen.

Banners welcome if you have a stand – taken to deanery 'Home' on arrival.

Find out the area of our ministry being depicted in your deanery 'Home'

The MU office will be open after the service for sales of MU materials

Remember to book somewhere to eat in Salisbury if you are

This is our Life 2010

January 19th Trustees Festival Planning/Development Worker Finance

February Parenting Facilitator Training through to April
7-14th Marriage Week
10-12th Worldwide Council Derbyshire
22nd – 7th March Fair Trade Fortnight
26th Spring Council meeting Sherborne

Lent Feature in Relationship not Rules material and Families First
Make a Mothers' Day resources for Mothering Sunday

March Easter Baskets
13th Diocesan Festival
14th Mothering Sunday
16th Trustee Training Exeter with visit to Holiday venue Caravan open

April 4th Easter Sunday
20th Trustees
29th Unit Meetings

May 4-6th Spring Retreat Glastonbury
10th Provincial Festival Coventry
17-19th Canterbury Provincial Conference
26th – 28th Deanery Chair Conference
31st – June 7th National Family Week

June 15th Trustees
24 MU AGM Preston

July 26th – 1 August Wave of Prayer

August 14-21st Exmouth Holiday

September 14th Trustees
20th Windows deadline

October 15th – 17 October Autumn Retreat Ivy House, Warminster
23rd Autumn Council and AGM St. Francis Salisbury

November 17th Trustees
Faith and A&O Unit Representatives meetings to be advised