

We welcome anyone who would like to join us at our meetings.

.At our afternoon meeting on 22nd April, Stuart Gay and David Johnson showed slides and talked about Coastal Watch when 19 were present. On 27th May, 11 attended the Church Drive which we enjoyed in groups on a hot afternoon. We also had a quiz. On 24th June, Roger Hussey talked about Fraud and Safety to 14 members. Our evening group and friends enjoyed the outing to see Barnum on Tuesday 9th June. On the evening of 14th July, we had an Open House in my garden, when 14 enjoyed a lovely sunny evening giving us time to chat and enjoy snacks. Three of 3 of us attended the Deanery 150th Celebration at Christ Church Thornton on 17th June.

At the last 2 afternoon meetings and the July evening we collected donations for the 150th Anniversary Appeal. This is for Central Mothers' Union and for the MU Blackburn Diocese Caravan. It is hoped to replace the caravan for Away From It All in time for the 2027 season. I am grateful to all who made donations and we have collected over £150.

We are planning an Open Celebration on Wednesday 22nd July for our 150 years of MU. We hope this will be a time of information and fun for us all including activities for children..

We look forward to celebrating our 150th Anniversary at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday 8th August at 2pm. We plan to take our banner and travel by train.

Finally, the evening MU will meet on Tuesday 8th September at 7.30pm for our planning meeting for 2027..

We continue to collect items for the Fylde, Wyre and Blackpool Women's Refuges and a Men's Refuge. They are very grateful for all we collect from MU members and the congregation.

The theme for August is 'Be still - a time to rest, reflect, rejoice, replenish.' This August, let us take time to reflect, rejoice and replenish ourselves for future faithful actions

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.' Psalm 46 vv1-3 and 10

Lord, in this quiet month of August, help us to be still, to rest from our busyness, reflect on Your goodness, rejoice in Your faithfulness, and replenish our hearts with Your peace. As we remember Mary Sumner, we thank You for her vision and love. May her example inspire us to walk in faith, speak with courage, and serve with joy. Amen

June Challis