

MOTHER'S UNION REPORT
ST MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AGM 2024

On Nov 6th Marion Reilly and Christine Berry went to Perth for a service and fellowship with MU members from all over Scotland, which was attended by the Worldwide President of MU on her final tour before demitting office after 6 years. It was a perfect day celebrating all that is good about Mothers Union.

At St Mary's, we are now a very small group of 5 following the sad death of our long time branch leader Rosemary Stirling who was aided by her husband Graeme doing so much for MU over many years. Just 18 years ago St Mary's MU had 22 members but with the fall in the number attending church, changes in personnel at church, and changes in lifestyle of women, our numbers have dwindled. Yet MU is still a huge worldwide Christian organisation doing much good. Its most recent 2 year theme to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse has been very successful and the new theme to Empower the literacy of women has just started. See the notice board to find how anybody can support this.

Despite our small number (which includes our Rector, Mark-Aaron) we have been involved in a number of events through the year, though we have not held traditional branch meetings. We promoted the 16 days of activism against Gender Based Violence at the end of last year and also sent gifts for women prisoners in Scotland. We were able to donate £60 for work in Tanzania and our church congregation donated on mothering Sunday.

We welcomed Isabelle Pottinger from the MU Provincial domestic abuse committee to give a presentation to Brechin Diocese at St Mary's in May. We have made links with Women's Aid Dundee and the Rector and Christine Berry will attend their 50th anniversary conference on Nov 26th. We have attended the 2 diocesan meetings held this year with our joint diocese of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane.

Finally, one of the most special things about our small rather elderly group in recent years has been the friendship and support we have shared. We so wish some younger members of our congregation would join us and take the group forward into the future. In 4 years' time our branch would be 70 years old. Can we make it?