

## A Time for Everything President's Letter February, 2023

Dear Sisters,

I hope you all enjoyed Christmas and had a wonderful time with your families. Let's be thankful we are still here to enjoy the New Year. I have heard people say, when asked how they are, 'well I woke up this morning, so I'm fine'. In some ways I think this is a two edged comment. I can see the logic but also thought it a little pessimistic. However one of my best friends lost her husband in the early hours of new year's day so this brought home the relevance of the comment more clearly.

It would appear that I am bringing you a miserable start to the year but I do not mean to be all doom and gloom. To most of us it will seem a long time since Christmas. It is only just over a month. How soon we get back into the 'swing' of things. Most people will be looking forward to holidays and children will already be looking forward to half term. Before we know it, it will be celebrating Easter.

This therefore brings me to what we, as MWA sisters, have to look forward to. Our MWA Away Day is to be held at Hall Green, Birmingham on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. I do hope, this being a more central venue and people willing to travel more, that we will have our usual large gathering. (As we had Pre COVID).

The Central Committee will meet the weekend before to discuss themes, projects and elections. Sr Sandy will have sent you the questionnaire to complete which will include your suggestions for these. The roles of Vice President, Devotional Secretary and Quarterly Secretary are all up for election. Sr Diane Thornton has served her maximum number of terms and is unable to stand for re-election. Please give prayerful consideration to all of these positions.

The other event we can look forward to is the Retreat in September. This is to be held at The Hayes Conference Centre, Swannick 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Hope to see you there.

I would like to leave you with a poem which reflects our journey through life and God's plans for us.

*My life is but a weaving between my Lord and me:  
I cannot choose the colours he worketh steadily.  
Oftentimes he weaveth sorrow and I, in foolish pride,  
forget he seeth the upper and I the underside.  
Not till the loom is silent and the shuttles cease to fly,  
shall God unroll the canvas and explain why.  
The dark threads are needful in the Weaver's skilful hand  
as the threads of gold and silver in the pattern he has planned.*

And a moment of prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. **Amen**

***The Lord watch between me and thee when we are absent one from another***

Yours in Christ

Sr Gillian Taylor