

Synod Ministries Report

1. The Committee met most recently on 15th July 2020 at a time of great uncertainty due to Covid-19 and the ensuing restrictions. The inability of Churches to meet physically and the need to find alternative ways of sharing the gospel and pastoring to the flock had led to much innovation, but also pressure at this time. It also meant some hiatus in ongoing discussions and some events were still being cancelled.
2. Role of Pastoral Committees – there remained some ambiguity of understanding of the roles, plus the discussion on expenses for Synod/Synod Area work has not yet been fully resolved. This will be taken forward.
3. Special Category Ministries – the reports by the Mission Development officer were accepted and commended to Synod Council.
4. Training and Development – several sessions have been arranged via Zoom on a variety of topics and these have been well received in these changing and challenging times.
5. Analysis of Church Survey – The Mission Development Officer had also undertaken a review of churches in the Synod and most had responded they hoped to resume where they had left off pre-covid, or thereabouts. The results were passed to Pastoral Committees.
6. Deployment – the use and direction of stipendiary ministry in a changing and evolving world remains an area of deep concern. This will need further attention in the New Year.

Rev Helen Warmington
October 2020