



ANGLICAN
MOTHERS UNION
AUSTRALIA

3/10/2024

Dear Mothers Union leaders and members

I pray this letter finds you well, continuing with the enthusiasm generated by the visit of our Worldwide President Sheran Harper. While Sheran was in Australia, she was encouraged by her experiences of Mothers Union and commended you all on the great work you are doing for God through Mothers Union. During the Australia Council meeting Sheran was excited by our Australian Council theme:

‘Being inwardly nurtured to be outwardly focused’.

Please continue to pray for Sheran as she completes her term as Worldwide President and for Kathleen Snow as she prepares to take up the role in January 2025.

THEME FOR 2024/25

Sheran advised that ‘Transformation now’ had run its course and ‘Being inwardly nurtured to be outwardly focused’ should be Australia’s theme for the remainder of this triennium. Please adopt this theme from now until the end of 2025.

FINISHING 2024 WELL

I do enjoy this time of year with its Spring flowers and the warmer weather. We have native trees beside our home and the nectar birds have been having a field day with the callistemon and grevillea flowers. October also signals that the end of the calendar year is approaching. I hear from many of you that preparation for regular prayer, activities and events associated with the 16 Days of Activism are well under way. Additionally, I’m sure many of you are participating in AGMs and planning meetings. I pray you can reflect on a year of wonderful MOTHERS UNION work, with thankfulness to God for all the blessings that you and your branch have received.

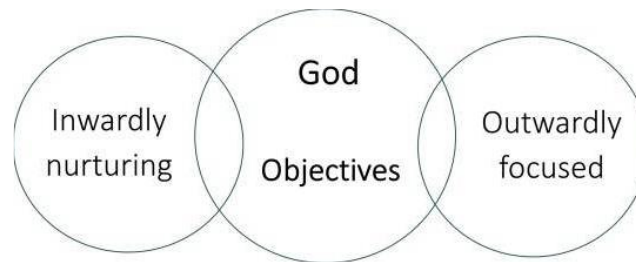
As 1 Chronicles 16:34 urges us, let us all:

‘Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures for ever.’

REVIEWING 2024

When preparing for your planning day, I ask you to prayerfully use the Vision and Program Framework for **Anglican Mothers Union Australia** and the resources that begin on **page 34** of the new **Anglican Mothers Union Australia Handbook** to assist you. The Framework is a valuable tool for reviewing what you have achieved over the past year. You may like to consider times when you have been particularly God centred, explored/enacted some of the Objectives, been inwardly nurtured, as well as any outwardly focused actions.

A Worldwide Fellowship of Christians United in Prayer, Worship and Service



When arranging your end of year event, I encourage you to use the time to celebrate your work for God through Mothers Union. We all belong to a great organisation proclaiming God's love through providing Christian care for families in so many and varied ways.

PLANNING FOR 2025

Likewise, the Framework can be applied to your forward planning. Your review of the year may have identified areas of the Framework that you would like to focus on more in 2025. It may have helped you to consider any refinements to the outwardly focused action and events you are participating in. Sometimes it is helpful to meet with our project partners (other community organisations like women's shelters), to see if what we are providing is still meeting their needs or if other organisations are covering that need and Mothers Union can provide something else that is more relevant. Other times we might find that our branch is over committed and its time to refocus to avoid 'burnout' among our members. Sometimes it is better to do fewer outwardly actions more thoroughly and effectively than to spread ourselves too thin. Consider ways you and other members may need to be inwardly nurtured. Times when you could gain further knowledge and skills as well as times to relax and support each other.

When I think of you all and your dedication to the work of Mothers Union in your churches, community wider, I am reminded of that great harvest festival hymn:

“Praise God from whom all blessing flow,
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above you heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Please be assured of my continued prayers for you all.

Robin