

Jubilee summer of hope

Dear Member

May 2022

This year, our love, prayers, and strength are needed for families and communities everywhere, whether they are experiencing tragedy and disruption from conflict, hardship due to rising costs of living, or sadness in illness and bereavement.

Like the sunflower which stands tall and faces the sunlight, so should we all turn towards the light for strength, courage and hope in times of darkness, if we can.

Our Jubilee Summer of Hope is very special this year and is dedicated to women in leadership whose light has been and continues to be a source of inspiration and encouragement to us. We have the amazing opportunity to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of our Patron, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II; reflect on the life and work of our founder Mary Sumner; and appreciate all our members who have faithfully served Mothers' Union.

I find myself inspired again and again by your courage, generosity, and strong faith and belief in Mothers' Union to transform individuals, families and communities. Our many gatherings for fellowship and even the conferences, courses and bake sales have tremendous impact – any one of these or any other MU activity can sow a seed that grows and helps someone somewhere to experience God's love and hear God's calling.

This Jubilee Summer of Hope, you can sow a sunflower seed and rejoice with neighbours as it blooms, arrange a picnic or garden tea party, or even organise an evening of fun and fellowship.

Whatever you do, you will be a shining light as you open your heart to receive and share God's love, bringing much needed joy to so many near and far.

That's how Caritas Kanyamuneza in Burundi became a leader. She trained as a Literacy Facilitator, and today supports 175 people in her community.



Sunflowers have been a symbol around the world of hope and solidarity, so it's fitting that they play their part in our Jubilee Summer of Hope.

Registered Charity Number 240531

Please turn over

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Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families



£18 could help women to complete a literacy programme and go on to be leaders in their communities just like Caritas.

God's calling to Caritas in Burundi

Caritas remembers, "I first joined the Mothers' Union Literacy programme as a learner. When I became literate, I decided to volunteer to become a facilitator myself, inspired by the love and care I saw in our facilitator and trainers."

Caritas received training to teach literacy, form savings groups, business skills and parenting, and used her training to support others. "I started with a group of 25 illiterate people, and continued to form new groups," she says. "The 175 people I support today are now involved in savings groups, parenting and fighting sexual and gender-based violence."



Supporting women and families in the UK

Here in Britain, Karen Morris took her first steps on her leadership journey when she was adjusting to life as a new mum. She remembers, "It was when I was first introduced to MU's Passionate about Parenting Programme that I felt God's calling. It was as if a seed was being planted deep within my heart."

Karen went on to train as a Parents Group Facilitator and says that, "Having supported many parents, I have observed transformational things happen, relationships restored and family life flourishing. My prayer is that more women will be called to serve in this way and that their lives will also be transformed in Christ." Karen is now a Diocesan President, and supports even more women through other leadership roles she has taken on in her community.

This Jubilee Summer of Hope, I pray that you too can feel God's calling and the blessing of our worldwide community as you support one other.

I am enclosing with my letter, an Activities Booklet filled with ideas, prayers and ways you can celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Together, we can make this a bright and memorable Jubilee Summer of Hope. You can also read Jocelyn's story from her experience as a leader in Madagascar, and celebrate this outstanding woman who continues to be a ray of sunshine and hope for me and you.

As I think of Mothers' Union supporting more women worldwide to step out in faith and answer God's call to leadership, may I kindly ask you, if you can, to reach out and bless them with a donation and a prayer to make their dreams a reality.

May God continue to shower his blessings of peace, love and joy on you and your families for a glorious Summer of Hope.

In love and prayer,

Sheran Harper

Sheran Harper
Worldwide President, Mothers' Union

PS. Local groups and branches would welcome your presence and participation in the fundraising Summer of Hope events. I look forward to you joining with me and helping to light the way for more women like Carita.



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

You can return this form or any cheque donations to:
Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB

You can also donate online at www.mothersunion.org/soh2022
or by calling us on 020 7222 5533



Yes, I want to inspire and support more women worldwide this Jubilee Summer of Hope

Please accept my gift of: £

1. My details (Please change if incorrect)

<Account No> <Source Code>
<Title> <First Name> <Surname>
<address 1>
<address 2>
<address 3>
<Town>
<County>
<Postcode/Country>

2. My donation

Please enclose a cheque made payable to Mothers' Union or complete the credit/debit card details below.

Visa MasterCard Switch CAF Charity Card

Card No

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To help Mothers' Union save costs, I do not require an acknowledgement.

3. Please return this form or any cheque donations to:
Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB

Tick this box to make every £1 of your gift worth 25p more for FREE.

Yes, I want to Gift Aid any donations made to Mothers' Union now, in the future and in the past four years until I notify you otherwise.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

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4. Staying in contact

Gaming - If you tick this you **WILL NOT** receive any raffles, lotteries or free prize draws.

Campaigns and Resources - Tick to **NOT** receive mail that contains membership resources, campaign materials, or appeals. **This includes Connected and the Prayer Diary.**

Non-essential - Tick this box to opt out of all mail apart from essential (membership renewal). Ticking this box automatically opts you out of the other 2 options.