

Election Address – Margaret Carr

Proposed by Graham Berry Seconded by Ruth Nightingale (Lancaster & Morecambe Deanery)



Who am I?

My name is Margaret Carr, I'm usually known as Mags.

My background is in education, working for over 30 years as a teacher, Advisory Teacher and Lecturer across all phases of Education from Nursery to University.

I recently worked as a Caseworker for a Teachers' Union, helping to resolve issues, manage conflict, negotiate solutions and access benevolence assistance for serving and retired members. I have been active in debates at local level and have spoken on issues at National Conference. These experiences have enabled me to make my voice heard and encourage others to be proactive in making changes in their organisations.

I have been a Christian for over 50 years, worshipping and serving God as a Sunday School teacher, Youth Leader, Parish Safeguarding Officer, Deanery Synod Representative and Licensed Lay Minister.

My many years working in churches, along with my career have equipped me to be an effective communicator, to be able to identify and address areas of concern and speak out for those who need support.

My current church has now been in vacancy for a year and I have been active in ensuring that our governance, administration, day to day work and worship in the Parish has continued. I have learned a great deal about how the church functions during this time!

Why am I standing for election?

Although I was not brought up in the Church of England, I love the diversity and breadth of experience it offers. I believe we must be an inclusive and welcoming Church which offers practical theology, inspiring worship and relevant teaching for today.

Our Churches must be safe places where all are welcomed, loved and nurtured in the Christian Faith.

I feel that my previous employment has prepared me well to help in ensuring that issues are raised, and change is implemented where necessary.

I am passionate about my faith and want to see others working well together in a church with clear values, policies and procedures, based on Christ's teaching.

I want to make a difference!

What matters most to me?

A Church that follows true Christian principles

- As Christians we must aim to be the best we can be, in all aspects of Church life.
- In our Churches, Parishes, Deaneries and Diocese, we must be transparent, honest and beyond reproach in the way we conduct our affairs.
- From appointments and financial dealings to pastoral care we must aspire to the highest standards and be prepared to call out things that are wrong.
- We need Senior Leaders who are gracious, accountable and prepared to communicate effectively with those who they serve.

Ethical and responsible stewardship

- We must be committed to being good stewards of all the we have and value.
- We must aim to 'tread lightly' on the earth, by being responsible with natural and manufactured resources.
- We need buildings to be valued and maintained for use by our communities

A Safe and Inclusive Church

- We must be committed to equality for everyone, at all levels and roles within the church, regardless of disability, economic power, ethnicity, sex, gender identity, learning disability, mental health, neurodiversity, or sexuality.
- We must continue to review and develop our Safeguarding practices and be honest about where failures have occurred.

Parish ministry

- We must commit to a structure that enables parishes to have sufficient clergy resources to serve the needs of the community
- We need clergy to have an appropriate work / life balance
- We must train and use our Lay Leaders effectively

Please give me your first preference vote

Thank you for reading!

Mags

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