

Chrissy Smith, North Wales Branch

I was so looking forward to my first CMA women's retreat. I desperately needed some spiritual and emotional space. The journey was lovely and the accommodation comfortable. The conference room was beautifully decorated, with gifts to make us feel welcome. What I remember most was Sandy's opening prayer. She referred to the Lord as 'gentleman God'. I had been struggling with calling God 'Father' the whole time I had been a Christian. But that phrase 'gentleman God' gave me a model I could cope with; my Mum's lovely brothers were gentle men. I had forgotten exactly who I had been in Christ ... a woman in ministry. Over the weekend I was aware that I was showing up, like the Chrissy I remember being. Since then I have stepped out in His strength, especially in the CMA, and I am so grateful to serve with you.