

THE METHODIST CHURCH

BARNESLEY CIRCUIT

Policy and Vision Statement 2012

- To be approved at Circuit Meeting 19 September 2012

CIRCUIT MISSION STATEMENT

The Vision of the Barnsley Methodist Circuit is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ by encouraging, resourcing and enabling the people and churches of the Circuit to serve their communities and the wider world

In seeking to fulfil this vision we commit ourselves to:

- Nurture and inspire lifelong discipleship
- Encourage and equip people to share their faith
- Provide worship opportunities that are helpful, relevant and accessible
- Provide pastoral care for all people at all stages of their life
- Maintain a passion for working with children, young people and families
- Live out the practical Christian life by working together for justice and peace
- Support and encourage fresh expressions of Church
- Be aware of and respond to wider global issues
- Provide appropriate training for people in the churches
- Work in partnership across the Circuit including working with other organisations and denominations
- Support the mission and witness of the whole church of God

Over the next five years the Barnsley Circuit will work together to fulfil the vision set out above. Ministers will work together as a Circuit team, each one with Pastoral responsibility for a designated group of local churches. The ministers will be supported by the work of the Circuit Teams

CORE TEAM will:

- meet regularly to monitor the progress of work throughout the Circuit
- receive regular reports from the Circuit Teams and respond to any issues identified by them
- communicate progress and implementations to the Circuit Meeting
- review requests for grants from the Circuit Mission Fund and report progress to the Circuit meeting

CIRCUIT STEWARDS will:

- be part of the Invitations committee dealing with all aspects of the appointment and welcome of new members of staff
- support ministerial colleagues on a 1:1 basis, monitoring workloads and ensuring appropriate pastoral support is offered to them and their families
- have a presence at all Church Council meetings, whenever possible and be available for consultation and communication where needed
- uphold and act upon the decisions of the Circuit Meeting

RESOURCES TEAM will:

- maintain and monitor a three year budget and all Circuit properties by maintaining an inclusive agenda and forum for all churches and teams to participate in the management of Circuit Resources
- be aware of current legislation that affects the Circuit and ensure all legal duties and obligations are met
- maintain relationships with external bodies that receive Circuit funding e.g. Exodus, Street Pastors, Church Action on Poverty (CAP) and manage relationships with the District and Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes (TMCP)

- promote and administer the Mission Fund and seek innovative ways of funding
- provide financial analysis and support to Fresh Expression projects and crisis appeals
- promote best practise and management of resources across the Circuit e.g. cloud, website, management of accounts

CHURCH AND SOCIETY TEAM will:

- aim each year to highlight their main focus, as detailed below. This will then be developed through worship, prayer, Bible Study, local events, national initiatives and campaigns, in partnership with local and national issues (so the focus may change accordingly)

Poverty - local food banks, Christian Aid, CAP, unemployment

Environment - circuit audit, gardens, ECO congregations, recycling, community partnerships

Older People in Society - national economic issues, impact on families, loneliness, MHA, how churches can be involved, support for carers

Relationships with others - asylum seekers, racism, refugees, homophobia, other faiths

Vulnerable people/groups - Action 4 children, street pastors, prisoners, mental health

WORSHIP AND NURTURE TEAM will:

- provide training for Church Stewards, pastoral visitors, being a Methodist and Worship leaders, aiming to have a continuous cycle of training and development
- offer lay support for staff providing baptism, marriage and membership classes
- facilitate Circuit services of Welcome, Farewell and Lent
- respond to the needs of individual churches for training and creating meaningful styles of worship by sharing current expertise

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TEAM will:

- support churches wishing to run annual holiday clubs
- network with other group leaders and develop a passion for youth work
- enable a presence and participation of Youth at all circuit events
- aim to provide transport within the Circuit to allow all interested parties to attend events
- grow the Circuit Youth Team to a Music group, a drama group and a bigger church!

SAFEGUARDING TEAM will:

- immediately monitor all new appointments to ensure relevant training is delivered
- set up a framework to ensure regular safeguarding training is available
- offer the Leadership Module training where needed
- be aware and respond to changes in policy and law by keeping the Circuit informed