

BARNSELY METHODIST CIRCUIT

Circuit Report to Church Councils Autumn 2012

Safeguarding

Thank you to everyone who attended the Creating Safer Space Foundation Module during the summer. Our total attendance over all the sessions was 307 which is excellent. There are a few who were unable to attend a workshop and they will be invited to attend next time.

In future anyone appointed to certain appointments within the church will be required to attend a workshop within 6 months. To facilitate this, the Circuit is offering workshops on:
3rd Nov '12, 1.30pm – 4.00pm
19th Jan '13, 10.00am – 12.30pm
13th June '13, 7.00pm – 9.30pm

Assessments

This is the first year of the new assessment formula. This means that although membership is still taken into account there are also other elements taken into consideration including the decision by the Circuit Meeting to reduce the total assessments by 5% each year. For this year the result is that a number of churches have a reduced assessment charge compared to last year and that no churches have an increase.

Circuit Youth and Family Worker

The steering group that has been working on this project has secured funding for this 3 year appointment. The post is currently being advertised and we hope to hold interviews on 15th November. More details of this post are in the current issue of Spotlight. Anyone who may be interested in applying for the post can request an application pack from the Circuit Office.

Staffing

As outlined at the Circuit Meeting in June and set out in the latest edition of Spotlight the Circuit Staff has been re-allocated to cover the reduction in overall staffing. The Circuit Invitations Committee has submitted the Circuit Profile for a minister to replace Bruce Russell who retires next summer. The first Stationing Matching Group meets in November and we hope to have some news shortly.

Barnsley Circuit Mission Fund

The BCMF was set up during last year to establish a financial resource in the Circuit that was positively focused on Mission. The balance in the fund at the end of August was just over £44,000 (£10,000 is a grant specifically for the Circuit Youth and Family Worker).

Money in this fund is to be made available to churches in the Circuit for Mission Projects but we also need to establish means by which it can receive income. The Circuit Resources Team would like to encourage each church to consider whether it could make a regular contribution to the fund – or even a one off payment, this request is particularly to those churches that have benefitted from a reduced assessment this year. It is also possible for individuals to make donations to this fund (and to gift aid them if that is appropriate) details of how to do this are available from the Circuit Office.

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Circuit Website

www.barnsleymethodist.org

Our new Circuit Website has now gone “live”. If you have access to the internet please have a look – see above for the website address.

We need to make sure that the site is kept up to date which needs us all to inform the Circuit Office of new diary dates and also of news stories from our churches – if possible with photographs. Please keep this in mind when organising events at your church.

Circuit Services

We began this new Connexional Year with a celebration of Holy Communion at Monk Bretton on 2nd September.

The Circuit Services we have planned for the remainder of the year will be:

28th Oct '12 Emmanuel at 6pm

17th Feb '13 at 3pm

12th May '13 at 6pm

We will also be holding our Circuit Easter Offering Service on Wednesday 15th May and weekly Communion Services with lunch during Lent.