

DISTRICT MISSION POLICY

The Methodist Church, Lincoln and Grimsby District, exists to support churches in God's mission. To continue the mission of Jesus— bringing good news to the poor, proclaiming liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, setting free the oppressed. (Luke 4;18 GNB adapted)

The District Mission Policy:

Upholds the Connexional Policy of **Our Calling**, which through **Worship, Service, Learning and Caring and Evangelism**, forms the basis of Christian discipleship.

Recognises the Connexional priority to proclaim and affirm God's love for all and the renewal of confidence in God's presence and action in the world.

Accepts the Marks of Mission agreed by Churches Together in All Lincolnshire including its emphasis on justice, the environment and loving service.

District in Partnership:

Seeking to work with other Christians in the best way possible as well as other agencies where we share common values.

District Mission Priorities:

Based on worship and prayer, God's people seek to regenerate faith, church and community through focussing resources on: Engaging with those people Church doesn't usually reach through fresh expressions of Church.

Key areas include:

- Under 40s and newly retired.
- Developing discipleship in order to increase confidence in faith sharing.
- Being a Christian presence in every community.
- Being at the forefront of action for justice, peace and care for creation.

The Process

Starting point:

Mission Enabler's initial visit

By invitation
In response to mission grant application
To facilitate stationing review

Consultancy Discussion

To establish:

- The mission needs of the circuit/church.
- The type of mission envisaged
- What input is expected from the Mission Enabler?
- Involvement of the Training & Development Officer

Discipleship development

Events designed to re-invigorate everyone who could be involved in the project e.g.:

- Circuit service
- Mission day
- Prayer group
- Alpha course
- Know & grow, Natural Church Development, etc.
- Building Confidence

THINK DISTRICT

How does this project fit in with the needs and plans of other organisations e.g.:

- The District (and adjacent districts)
- The Circuit (and adjacent circuits)
- Other denominations, Anglican/Methodist Covenant.
- Non-church organisations including
 - Social services
 - Charities e.g. Age Concern, WRVS

THINK PARTNERSHIPS

THINK ECUMENICAL

THINK CIRCUIT

Mission Enabler Visit

- To help monitor Progress
- Evaluate Outcomes
- Seek examples of good practice to share with others
- Assist in regular reviews

Write the Plan

- What outcomes are aimed for?
- What has to be done & Who will do it?
- Additional resources are required?
 - People, premises, equipment.
 - Ecumenical & non-church partners
- What training is required?
- How will funding be obtained?
- Project plan & timescale?

Create the Vision

- What could be achieved?
- What would it 'look like'?
- Milestones for the journey?
- Have spaces been left for the Holy Spirit to intervene (God is full of surprises!)?