

The Methodist Church



*Durham
and
Deerness Valley
Circuit*



We will monitor and evaluate our mission and ministry over the next few years and, at our review in 2015, we commit to working out ways for letting go those things which are not helping growth and changing those things which need to be better.

***Reshaping for Mission
Action Plan
2012 - 2015***

*The Durham & Deerness Valley Circuit of the Methodist Church seeks to be a close union of its individual Churches.
Everyone connected with an individual Church should expect to feel that they are an important part of the Circuit family, and can expect the support of this family.
Through our common faith in Christ we seek, in prayerful action, to share and spread the love of Jesus throughout the local and wider community.*

Our Aims:-

- **Being an effective Christian presence in our communities and rediscovering a passion for our faith**
- **Offering inspiring, welcoming worship and other events**
- **Recognising, respecting and encouraging the gifts of all, both lay and ordained**
- **Discerning, training and developing our gifts and skills**
- **Communicating the good news enthusiastically, in ways that make sense to people today**

We will do this by:-

- *Making most effective use of our resources*
- *Sharing skills across the circuit*
- *Sharing our plans and activities with partner churches and others*
- *Making the most of opportunities to grow as disciples*

We commit to:

Mission

1. Set up a mission group (with members of Circuit Leadership and Mission and Service teams) to
 - a. Assist churches in exploring their mission,
 - b. Help churches to look at the suitability of their mission statements and review their action plans
 - c. Organise a circuit /ecumenical day looking at contemporary models of mission each year
 - d. Suggest areas where new resources for mission might be focussed
2. Amend circuit vision statement to include positive vision of individual and church growth, and also include ecumenical dimension
3. Appoint a Circuit Learning Champion to enthuse, communicate and co-ordinate courses/learning across churches

Worship

1. Set up a circuit prayer group/church prayer group link
2. Resource churches to effectively use 'Back to Church', 'The Big Welcome' and 'Come and See' materials for special services of invitation to their community.
3. Investigate possibilities of forming a circuit worship – music and drama – team involving worship leaders, preachers and others

Discipleship

1. Enable 'Time to Talk of God'/'Talking of God' in each church/group of churches (including ecumenical) and explore use of other resources from the Deepening Discipleship website
2. 'Mission shaped Intro' to be repeated in area/ecumenical groups of churches
3. Encourage people to take part in 'What Next?' (EDEV) programme

Careful and Efficient use of Resources

1. Use Methodist Church's 'Presence' material to promote effective Christian presence in community around each church (include ecumenical partners)
2. Set up a property advisory group to help churches realistically examine their financial and property needs for the next three years in light of their action plans
3. Implement the staffing resources plan and review number of manses