

In 2014 our work will include:

Supporting those discerning vocation

Resourcing Circuit Stewards.

Supporting lay people in various ministries

Safeguarding support.



Working within the Connexional Discipleship Ministries and Learning Network.

“Let your light shine before others....” (Matthew 5: 16)

Accompanying candidates for ordained ministries

Communicate the purpose, aims and people of the DMLN NE Regional Team.

These are areas suggested as the initial focus for exploration in this region.

**We welcome and invite your help in the development of our priorities.**

In many of these areas our first action will be to ask what you would really find useful. Please help us to develop and deliver the support you need.

**Deepening Discipleship... Resourcing Ministry... Inspiring Mission**



Introducing the

## North East Region

of the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network



**Tricia Mitchell** is our Regional Co-ordinator in the NE. Previously District Development Enabler in the York & Hull District, she is married with two school age sons. She is passionate about our faith reaching our communities. She hopes to help build confidence in everyday, real-life discipleship.

Specialism: **Discipleship Development**

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**Martin Ramsden** will join the team in September 2014. He is currently serving as the superintendent minister in the Middlesbrough and Eston Circuit. Martin is married with two children. He is passionate about supporting God's people as they grow in discipleship, service and witness.

Specialism: **Ministry Development**

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**John Boyd** was previously the Participation Project Manager in the North East and Yorkshire. He lives in Sunderland with his wife and daughter. He has particular expertise in community development, inter-faith sports work and international youth exchanges.

Specialism: **Church and Community Development**

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**We all look forward to meeting you and working with you.**

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## Introducing the

### Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network

1 September 2013 saw the launch of the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network (DMLN) within the Methodist Church. The start of the DMLN followed a period of preparation, yet also marked the beginning not the end of a journey. A journey we hope will help us all to explore what it means to be God's people in new ways, looking from different perspectives and growing together as disciples of Jesus.



The DMLN is a national network with 11 regional or national teams serving Circuits and Districts in particular areas of the country. Our North East Region supports the Newcastle upon Tyne and Darlington Districts. The DMLN is also a network of people with particular specialisms within the team. The focus of each specialist area is outlined on the next page.

In addition to the regional teams there are two Network Centres at Queens in Birmingham and Cliff College in Derbyshire. These will play a major role in training and equipping Methodist people in their discipleship and ministries. New models for supporting those training for ordination as well as a new portfolio approach for Lay Preacher and Worship Leader training are already being developed.

#### DMLN: Equipping the Equippers:

Equipping people..... so that they can in turn

equip the world changing discipleship of the wider people of God.

*Together we can make a real difference.*

## More about those specialisms...

Across the Methodist connexion we are building a network of people with particular expertise in the 3 specialist areas. Together we hope to offer a wide range of ideas and resources to help encourage and enrich local church life and to nurture faith and discipleship.

**Discipleship Development** – equipping ministries which help people to grow and learn as Christians and equipping ministries which encourage patterns of witness and evangelism:

What does it really mean to be a “discipleship movement shaped for mission”? – We will support you as you explore this in your own context.

- Exploring deepening discipleship for the whole people of God.
- Enabling evangelism.
- Mission development.



**Ministry Development** – equipping ministries which enable God-centred worship and prayer

- Local Preacher and Worship Leader resources.
- Training and support for candidates, students and probationers.
- Encouragement of new and diverse lay ministries.
- Providing access to study materials.
- Supporting vocational discernment.
- Continuing ministerial learning and development.

**Church and Community Development** – equipping ministries which engage with the everyday acts of love, kindness, and service of the people of God in the world

Enabling review and reorganisation for mission.

Enabling and equipping:

- Diverse and cultural congregations development
- Chaplaincy development
- Children & youth development
- Other specialists areas of engagement e.g. third age, missing generation



Other important areas of our work include

Safeguarding.

Research and development.

Planning a programme of work to support regional needs.