

## **Taking the Leadership lessons of Naaman home**

These are some of the commitments made by members of the London District Synod. What will you do to make a difference?

### **What one thing will you, your church, or your Circuit do (small, concrete) to make a difference in your community, right now?**

- Speak to young people in a friendly manner whenever/whatever we can. DO NOT BE AFRAID OF GROUPS OF YOUNG PEOPLE.
- Challenge in a non-confrontational way – language that gives a negative view of anyone.
- Connect with the FOYER homeless/young people project opposite our church in Edmonton.
- To do a cooking night led by the older members of the church with the young people.
- A community walk to the shops and businesses in Bermondsey.
- Write to Julian Bell to offer thanks for Ealing Council's response to riots and offer support.
- Join in community initiative with local council, 25 September.
- Circuit to form a letter writing group – to write to newspapers (local and national) MPs, councillors, portfolio holders and leaders, the Mayor of London, etc.
- Listen and hear the groans of the people. Take ameliorating measures to correct and improve the status quo for the better.
- Email local councillor about traffic lights which have been removed this week, leaving no safe crossing place for pedestrians.
- From Naaman's wife: 'Listen to the whispers, and to the voices of the unheard.'
- To tell Strategic partnership group in Kensington and Chelsea that there is a two way conversation to take place about responsibility. That expecting to do the job with homelessness is not enough.
- Promote the London District youth plan.
- Speak to my local MP for Battersea to open up more local resources eg centres, youth clubs. Speaking to our young people.
- Pray on this matter and raise it as a Circuit concern.
- Stop and chat with the Big Issue seller when I buy him a cup of tea.
- Share relevant knowledge and information.
- To meet with and talk to the 100 or so youths who gather outside the church every break and lunchtime from the school next door.
- Speak to South Norwood churches together meeting (Croydon) about local ecumenical churches open day to increase lets for youth activities.
- Most groups have lost funding in our area - give young people in our own congregation a voice.

- To support those who DO go to bed hungry in our country today by our involvement with the foodbank project.
- Seek out the unexpected voices who may be afraid to speak and not to fear being weak.
- Set up a local meeting with local councillors the Circuit to look at 'what positive action could be taken.'
- We need to reach out to the young people in their own environment because they will not come to church. We need to give the parent the responsibility to being up their children with discipline – the church has a great role to play in the community.
- It is our intention to encourage the youth in our Circuit to invite their friends from the community to church.
- Interact more with people in the local community who feel different or excluded (the people we exclude!)
- Make an effort to talk to the young people in our churches and families and to LISTEN to what they say.
- To listen more to those around, especially young people.
- Offer people a place to contribute, listen, and really hear.
- Talk talk talk; listen listen listen; react react react.
- To participate in a forthcoming community conference, to work in unity and involve young people in all we do.
- One voice of Methodism to challenge the national inequality between rich and poor – that's discipleship!
- Work with the young people, find out the issues that concern them, what it is they need, befriend them, establish relationship with them, minister, witness about Jesus to them.
- To really listen to the frustration and share that with my next meeting with my MP in ten days' time.
- I will talk to one neglected youth
- A new challenge to the Church to speak boldly Word of God which is able to change lives and bring our communities together.
- To engage a group of boys who loiter in the lobby of my block of flats to develop their literacy and numeracy skills, this I think will be a great help to them as they will spend their spare time more usefully. I find them polite. While others find them a nuisance.