

District Resource and Training Guide

Opportunities within the London District and Region



2016 -2017

NB other opportunities are around...

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Introduction

In this guide we have drawn together some of the learning and development opportunities that exist for the London District of the Methodist Church. There are a number of different opportunities for learning and development and the focus of this guide is on what is especially provided for Methodists across the Connexion and within the London District working in partnership with the Discipleship & Ministries Learning Network London Regional Team. We hope that the information is presented in an easily accessible format through the various section headings we have selected.

The guide points to opportunities that are known about, however we recognise that alongside the information listed there are a myriad of additional opportunities that exist in a range of different formats including on-line material, ecumenical initiatives, inter-faith initiatives, local community initiatives, university and college courses to name a few. We hope that the guide will develop over time to provide links to some of these wider opportunities.

The booklet is intended to highlight opportunities for circuit, church and individuals as we together seek to build each other up and grow together in our discipleship, ministry and mission.

This is the first attempt at bringing together in one place many of the activities that are available. As such we recognise that this initial guide is not comprehensive and will undoubtedly have some gaps. The intention is to continue to provide updates to the online version of the booklet and to provide information on these updates through the weekly mailing. We would love to hear of resources that you have used and found helpful in your context.

The hope is that this guide will stimulate thought, discussion, participation and feedback on what is offered already within the life of the London District and beyond. We hope that it will trigger feedback as to what you'd like to see being offered in the future to resource you in your discipleship and ministry so that together we might equip more faithful and fruitful congregations, circuits and disciples across the District.

The District Chairs and Regional Co-ordinator

Who's who in the London District

The District Chairs

- **Revd Nigel Cowgill**



Alongside oversight of Circuits and Ministers in the North of London and circuits in the south-east, Nigel relates the Authorised Ministries Commission

The Authorised Ministries Commission, known as AMC, exists to facilitate one of the three key parts of the District Vision: *'Equipping and developing faithful and fruitful preachers and ordained ministers'*. A key goal of the current year is to ensure

that every minister and Local Preacher is engaged in an intentional review and development of their ministry.

Contact: nigel@methodistlondon.org.uk Tel: 07881 966912

- **Revd Michaela Youngson**



Alongside oversight of Circuits and Ministers in the West and south west of London, Michaela relates to the Social Responsibility Commission and the Discipleship and Congregational Development Commission.

The Social Responsibility Commission, known as SRC, exists to facilitate one of the three key parts of the District Vision: *'Engaging pastorally and prophetically with the communities in which our churches are located and with the wider region'*. A key goal of the current year is to develop lay leadership – in breadth, depth, numbers and confidence

The Discipleship and Congregational Development Commission, known as DCDC, exists to facilitate one of the three key parts of the District Vision: *'Equipping and developing faithful and fruitful disciples and congregations'*. A key goal of the current year is to increase participation in social and civic action by identifying and sharing good practice and promoting networks of practitioners – rooting such engagement in our Methodist identity

Contact: michaela@methodistlondon.org.uk Tel: 07541 754607

The Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network Regional Team

The London Regional team of 3 ½ together with a co-ordinator work together and with the District to deliver, enable and promote all aspects of the Learning and Development Network of the Methodist Church.

▪ **Richard Armiger**

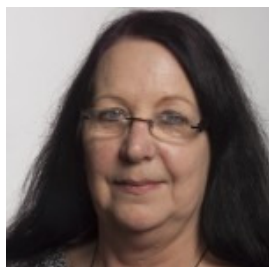


Richard is currently working as the acting Learning & Development Coordinator for the London Regional Team, alongside his role as Learning & Development Coordinator for the East of England Regional Team. Richard will continue to provide coordination for the team, based on a day week on average, through until April 2017 when a full time coordinator will have been appointed to the London region. Richard plans to be in

London most Tuesday's during this period working from the District Resource Centre in Methodist Central Hall.

Contact: armigerr@methodistchurch.org.uk 07799 900490

▪ **Wendy Beard**



Regional Learning and Development Officer: Church and Community Development ~ challenging and equipping mission-shaped communities ~ for those of different ages, from different cultures, in different communities and in a variety of places.

My role includes:

- To be an advocate and catalyst for church and community development as part of a Discipleship Movement Shaped for Mission both regionally and connexionally;
- Enabling the connexion, regions, districts, circuits and local churches to engage in processes of review and reorganisation for mission.
- Chaplaincy development
- Children & youth development
- Other specialists areas of engagement e.g. third age, missing generation
- Diverse and cultural congregations development

Contact: beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk 07799 900458

▪ **Joanne Cox-Darling**



Regional Learning & Development Officer- Discipleship Development

Joanne has returned from maternity leave and will be working within the regional team as Learning & Development Officer having previously served as the Coordinator. Joanne will be sharing in the lead work of Ministry Development and Discipleship development within the region.

Contact: cox-darlingj@methodistchurch.org.uk 07969 292581

▪ **Jonathan Mead**



Regional Learning and Development Officer – Ministry Development

My role is focussed on continuing development for ministers, local preachers and worship leaders as well as overseeing and supporting the implementation of the new course Worship: Leading and Preaching. I am available to work alongside local churches and circuits in areas of ministry development.

Contact: meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk 07799 900483 020 7624 3075

▪ **Sharon Nugent**



Regional Learning and Development Officer – Discipleship Development

My role is focused on helping Methodists across London explore what it means to live out their faith in life (whole life discipleship) and discern their own call to ministry (whether lay or ordained ministry). In particular, I offer circuits and churches learning and development opportunities that facilitate the nurturing of small groups, and which enables people of all ages to:

- Experience and explore faith at an introductory level
- Identify, understand and develop their vocation and gifting as disciples
- Engage in spiritual practices which deepen discipleship (e.g., studying the Bible, prayer, worship, communion)

- Live missionally and evangelistically
- Journey faithfully together through life

Please get in touch if you have any support needs around discipleship development.

Contact: nugents@methodistchurch.org 07799 902 585

District Resource Centre Staff

- **Chairs PA** *vacancy*
- **Administrative Officer: Mmasape Zihle**



Mmasape works from the London District Resource Centre. Mmasape keeps the District Directory up to date and organises events within the District. She is a great source of information about things in the District. Her regular working week is Monday-Wednesday.

Contact: admin@methodistlondon.org.uk Tel: 020 7654 3850

- **Communications Officer: Bijou Senayah**

Bijou works from the London District Resource Centre. Bijou creates the Weekly Update, a weekly newsletter of events and stories from around the District, and is content writer for the website. Her regular working week is Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Contact: communications@methodistlondon.org.uk Tel: 020 7654 3845

- **Safeguarding Officer: Sandra Oborski**



Sandra is the District Safeguarding Officer. Sandra is the go to person if you have a safeguarding issue or query.

Contact: safeguarding@methodistlondon.org.uk Tel: 07960 877740

- **Property Schemes and Funding Officer: Chris Linford**



Chris is based at the District Resource Centre. Chris oversees property purchasing, redevelopments and other funding issues from around the District. His regular working week is Monday-Friday.

Contact: Chris@methodistlondon.org.uk Tel: 020 7654 3847

- **Youth and Children's Co-ordinator: Brian Smith**



Brian is the Youth & Children's Coordinator for the London District. With over 24 years youth work experience so far, he is a seasoned pro at reaching out to young people. Brian organizes events and training across the District - liaising with churches, Circuits and the Regional & District teams.

Contact: brian@methodistlondon.org.uk Tel: 07951 408379

- **Chaplaincy Co-ordinator: Ian Worsfold**



Ian is Chaplaincy Coordinator at City, University of London, but also serves the District as Chaplaincy Coordinator. His role is to be a support to the Chaplains around the district in their various contexts, to facilitate conversations in Circuits about Chaplaincy and to work with the Regional Team in delivering Chaplaincy Training. Among his other responsibilities, Ian helps to coordinate the worship at the Methodist Conference. He enjoys good food and a night out at the theatre!

Contact: Ian.Worsfold.1@city.ac.uk

Presidential Visit to the London District

Overview

The Revd Roger Walton and Ms Rachel Lampard, the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference for 2016-2017 developed the theme of Holiness and Justice in their Presidential addresses. Videos and text of their addresses can be found at: <http://methodist.org.uk/news-and-events/news-releases/new-methodist-president-calls-for-holiness> and <http://methodist.org.uk/news-and-events/news-releases/stop-trying-to-fix-the-poor-says-methodist-vice-president>

They will be visiting the District from 20th to 24th May 2017. Further details will be available nearer to the time but they will be sharing in the District Ordinands Testimony service at Wesley's Chapel on the 21st May and participating in the Wesley Day events on the 24th.

As they travel around the Connexion they will be building on the Conference theme of holiness and justice. Churches, circuits and house groups and individuals are invited to reflect on their theme for the year.

Suggested resources include:

- **Political Theology: A Guide for the Perplexed – Elizabeth Phillips:** an accessible introduction to issues and writers of political theology
- **Just Mission – Helen Cameron:** an introduction to practical politics for local churches
- **Holiness - Donald Nichols** - an accessible exploration of the nature of holiness written from a Christian faith perspective but drawing on insights from world faiths.
- **Struggling to be Holy - Judy Hirst** - an easy and engaging read full of good stories and taking the reader to the heart of Christian holiness with humour and profundity. It would work well in a house group or cell group.
- **Something Beautiful for God: Mother Teresa of Calcutta** by Malcolm Muggeridge and Cormac Murphy O'Connor: an insight into lived Holiness
- **Pioneers of Social Passion: London's Cosmopolitan Methodism – Brian Frost:** London Methodists living out holiness and justice
- **Good times, bad times – John Hills:** an accessible exploration of the myths and facts of welfare in the UK, one of the key justice issues of today.

- **Injustice: why social inequality still exists – Danny Dorling:** Argues that Economic inequalities will persist and continue to grow for as long as we tolerate the injustices which underpin them
- **The wild places – Robert MacFarlane:** a man's encounters with the wild places of Britain. Where do you experience closeness to God?
- **My little book of Big Freedoms – Chris Ridell:** human rights in illustrated form for children
- **The year of the runaways – Sunjeev Sahota:** thirteen young men live in a house in Sheffield, each in flight from India. Explores what justice, and our society, looks like to humans living under pressure.
- **The City and the City – China Mieville:** two cities co-exist in one space, with contact between them forbidden. What do we see and what do we avoid?
- **A Perfectly Good Man – Patrick Gale:** the aftershocks of a suicide in a local community. What is goodness?
- **The Road – Cormac McCarthy:** what does it mean to re-establish goodness and justice when the concepts themselves seem to have disappeared?
- **Of Gods and Men –** a group of Cistercian monks, living in and supporting their local community, face the threat of Islamic fundamentalists. Should they stay or flee? What is it to be a holy presence?
- **The Railway Man – (2013)** A former British Army officer, who was tormented as a prisoner of war at a Japanese labour camp during World War II, revisits his experience and meets the man responsible for much of his mistreatment.
- **Goodnight, and Good Luck –** Set during the McCarthy investigations, this film looks at justice and the media at a time of extreme bigotry
- **The Help -** An aspiring author during the civil rights movement of the 1960s decides to write a book detailing the African-American maids' point of view on the white families for which they work, and the hardships they go through on a daily basis. Gives insights into injustice and holiness.

Further details of these resources and some additions will be added via the weekly mailing or contact nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk.

Equipping and enabling faithful and fruitful ordained ministers and preachers

Overview from the Conference

By receiving persons into Full Connexion as Methodist presbyters and deacons the Conference enters into a covenant relationship with them in which they are held accountable by the Church in respect of their ministry and Christian discipleship, and are accounted for by the Church in respect of their deployment and the support they require for their ministry. (Section 7 CPD).

The primary constitutional forum in which presbyters account for their ministry and are accounted for by the church is the Presbyteral session of the Synod. For deacons the principal constitutional forum in which deacons account for their servant ministry and watch over and support one another as members of a dispersed religious order is the Convocation of the Methodist Diaconal Order.

Local Preachers have both rights and duties as they fulfil their life long calling (SO563) and the primary forum in which they account for their ministry is in the Local Preachers meeting.

The Conference calls on all ministers and preachers to continue learning and growing in the understanding and practice of their calling. Within a Connexional church this calling is never simply “my” calling but rather something to be exercised in the company of and with the support of others. We are to “watch over one another in love”

The Connexional discipline calls on us to watch over one another in love as we continue learning and growing in the understanding and practice of our calling. Within that common discipline, preachers and ministers are expected to engage in continuing development through Continuing Local Preacher Development and Continuing Development In Ministry. All are expected to attend the local preachers meeting and a class meeting (local preachers) or staff meeting (ministers) regularly.

Ministers who are stationed to circuit appointments are required to undergo a MDR (Ministerial Development Review each year) and the Conference is beginning to pilot pastoral supervision for all presbyters and deacons. Ministers are given the gift of sabbatical every 7 (first one after 10) years in order to be refreshed and renewed

Within the District

It is the responsibility of the Authorised Ministries Commission (Convenors: Revd. Tim Bradshaw (timothy.bradshaw@methodist.org.uk) and Revd. Faith Nyota (jfnyota@btinternet.com) to support the District and the circuits in equipping and developing faithful and fruitful ordained ministers and preachers. The Synod has set the Commission's goal in the coming year which is "to ensure that every minister and Local Preacher is engaged in an intentional review and development of their ministry."

At the Synod in April 2013 all circuits committed themselves to offering at least £100 per minister per year towards Continuing Development in Ministry and many circuits are able to be more generous than this. The District offers up to a 1/3 of the cost of courses for ordained ministers.

Within the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network (DMLN), Jonathan Mead (meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk) has a lead focus on Authorised Ministries. It is anticipated that Joanne Cox (cox-darlingj@methodistchurch.org.uk) will be sharing in some of this work over the Connexional year. Contact Jonathan in the first instance.

Questions for all ministers and local preachers

How am I discerning and developing the gifts that I've been given? What do I need to sustain me in this ministry? What are others saying about the ministry I exercise and its development? How do I see that ministry developing and what support and training do I need if I'm to be faithful to my calling?

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12)

Resources and opportunities especially for Ministers

Support, accountability and training for all ministers (Attendance and participated expected)

- **The Circuit staff meeting** is an opportunity for presbyters and deacons to take counsel together. At best they also provide an opportunity for prayer, mutual support and for study amongst other things.
- **Presbyteral session of the Synod and Diaconal Convocation** provide opportunities for presbyters or deacons to confer together, encourage and watch over one another in love. The relevant Chair or Warden are required by the Conference to give dispensation of absence only upon compelling grounds. The sessions this year are 14th March 2017 (Synod) and 2-5 May 2017 (Convocation)
- **Local Preachers meetings** provide opportunity for presbyters and local preachers to worship together and share fellowship, to consider the state of the work of God in the circuit, to hold local preachers accountable for their ministry and oversee a programme of continuing development in ministry.
- **Safeguarding Foundational Module and refresher course.** The focus of the foundation Module is to promote awareness of possible safeguarding concerns. This training aims to equip all adults, both volunteer and paid, working in different roles in the Methodist Church to feel confident to share safeguarding concerns with the appropriate person. All ministers with a pastoral or preaching ministry and all local preachers – including those in training are required to complete the foundation model and undertake a refresher course every 5 years. Contact your Superintendent minister or Circuit Safeguarding officer for details of courses.
- **Safeguarding Leadership Module** completion is required for all ministers and preachers. They are people to whom others may go for advice, guidance and leadership about a safeguarding matter. By virtue of their position in the Methodist Church they are seen as someone who will be a role model for others in relation to ministry, behaviour, attitudes and responses to safeguarding matters. This training aims to enable Safeguarding Officers, Ministers and other leaders in churches to develop a deeper understanding of their role and

responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and to develop confidence in carrying out this role. Contact the District Safeguarding Officer Mrs Sandra Oborski safeguarding@methodistlondon.org.uk for details of courses.

Support, accountability and training for all ministers(Voluntary/additional)

- **District Ministers Retreat** The annual retreat is organised by the Revd Andrew Dart (andrew.dart@methodist.org.uk) and this year will take place from 13 – 15 June 2017 at St Katharine’s Parmoor. A new feature this year will be the opportunity for one to one conversation with a spiritual director. Places can be booked via the District resource centre: Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk
- **Spiritual Direction** offers opportunity for ministers and preachers to meeting with someone — a spiritual director or guide — to foster your spiritual growth as you share thoughts and reflections about your life and faith. (for further information contact the District Spirituality Advisor: michael@chelseamethodist.org.uk)
- **Co-Consultancy Groups** provide opportunity for small groups of ministers to support one another through providing opportunity to reflect with peers on current situations in ministry. There are a number that meet in the District. If you’d like to join one or form a new group contact Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk.
- **Pastoral Supervision** is regular, planned intentional and bounded space in which a practitioner skilled in supervision meets with one or more other practitioners to look together at the supervisees’ practice. All District Chairs are required to have pastoral supervision and it is anticipated that it will be rolled out across the Connexion in due course, however in the meantime information about supervisors in the London area can be found at <http://www.pastoralsupervision.org.uk/finding-supervision/england/>
- **Counselling** offers a listening ear and special skills that enable the person being counselled to reach a deeper understanding of the situation they need to talk about, so that they can make their own decisions about coping and living more effectively. Counselling for ministers can be provided by the Churches’ Ministerial

Counselling Service. The contact for London is Menna Bonsels: 07867 229296 menna.cmincs@gmail.com. Financial support for Counselling is available from the District Benevolent Fund. Contact your District Chair.

- **Exploring chaplaincy and Chaplaincy Essentials** Chaplaincy can be broadly termed 'ministry beyond the Church's walls' and can take a variety of guises. These two courses encourage participants to think how the local church can engage in local ministry, by building successful partnerships with a variety of community groups and projects. In this last year, participants have explored possibilities of town centre ministry along the 'Street Pastor' model, and offering Chaplaincy to a school who has a programme of Saturday detentions for children with challenging behaviour. Chaplaincy Everywhere is likely to run in the Autumn at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, and be followed by Chaplaincy Essentials in the Spring. For details of the courses, please see: www.methodist.org.uk/chaplaincyeverywhere. For further details about Chaplaincy in general please contact the District Chaplaincy Coordinator: Ian.Worsfold.1@city.ac.uk or Wendy Beard: beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk

Especially for Supernumeraries

- **Supernumeraries gatherings** happen once or twice a year. They usually combine a visit to somewhere in London with opportunity for theological reflection, food and fellowship. Details will be circulated once dates become available – suggestions for visits are welcomed by the District Resource Centre Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk

Especially for Ordained ministers

- **Support, accountability and training (Attendance and participation expected)**
 - **Early years in ministry group** is essential for all those who are post ordination but who have served less than 5 years in pastoral ministry. It provides important continuing support and further reflection on ministry post ordination. There will be a residential shared with the Probationers on 14-15 September at the Emmaus Centre in West

Wickham. Details of other meetings can be obtained from the District Early Years Co-ordinator, the Revd. Cameron Kirkwood cameron.kirkwood@btinternet.com

- **District Superintendents Residentials** provide opportunity for Superintendents to take counsel together, support one another and undertake training and development. The gatherings this year will be 12th – 13th October 2016 and 7th – 8th February 2017. Further information from Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk.
- **Stationing Training** is for all ministers whose appointments are due to be reviewed in 2017. There are two identical sessions on the evening of the 15th May and the afternoon of the 16th May 2017. Further information from Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk
- **Sabbaticals** are a period of 3 months of release from the ordinary duties of the appointment, in addition to normal holidays, for the purpose of pursuing an approved programme of study, research, work or experience, taken every 7 years (10 for the first one). The timing is negotiated with the circuit and a prospectus should be completed at least a year in advance of the proposed sabbatical. District Sabbaticals Secretary: Mr Alan Jameson alanjameson@btinternet.com.
- **CDIM** After reception into Full Connexion and ordination all ministers are entitled to 5 days leave, in each connexional year in addition to normal periods of leave for the purpose of study, training or development. They are all required to engage in further study, training and professional development under each of the following headings:
 - engagement with peers in considering issues of the mission and worship of the church in the world and of presbyteral or diaconal practice;
 - specific training when entering a new context or mode of ministry;
 - personal and vocational development.

Ministers are normally expected to contribute at least 1/3 of the cost but support is available from the circuit or the district.

- **MDR** or Ministerial Development Review is a process which requires ministers to reflect, with input from others, on how his or her ministry is being experienced and fulfilled both in relation to the church as a whole and within the particular context in which his or her ministry is being exercised. Contact your Superintendent or Chair of District to fix your MDR.

- **Additional Support, accountability and training**
 - **New to London** The District welcomes ministers new to London with a lunch on Tuesday 30th August 2016 and then offers various meetings and opportunities during the year for support and learning more about ministry in London. For further information contact your Chair of District.

 - **New to superintendency course** The Connexion offers a two part course each year for those who are newly appointed to Superintendency. Dates for those who will be stationed in 2017 are not yet available but will be published at <http://methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/leadership-and-ministry/superintendents/supers-conferences-2017-2018>

 - **Connexional Superintendents Meetings** offer opportunity for support and training and updates on Connexional initiatives. The dates for 2017 are:
 - Wednesday 10th - Friday 12th May 2017 in Chesham
 - Monday 5th - Wednesday 7th June 2017 in Blackpool.

 - **Course for those who are asked to supervise probationers** All who supervise probationers are required to attend the Supervision course at the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham. The dates of the two course are
 - **19-20 January and 16-17 February 2017**
 - **16-17 March and 6-7 April 2017**

Contact Gail Harris: harrisg@queens.ac.uk.

- **Preparation for Retirement 'A Practical Guide to Retirement' Course 2016 – 2017.** The Connexional Team runs 'a practical guide to retirement' course for Methodist ministers approaching retirement. Ideally, we recommend that people attend this course 18-24 months before they are due to sit down. An external retirement consultant, along with a retired minister and his wife, runs the course in conjunction with the Connexional Team's pensions and housing experts. Partners are also invited to attend the course. The dates are:
 - 11-13 October 2016 Dunford House, Midhurst, West Sussex
 - 8-10 November 2016 Hinsley Hall, Leeds
 - 7-9 March 2017 Launde Abbey, Leicestershire

To reserve a place on any of the courses go to

<http://methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/leadership-and-ministry/retirement>. If you have any further questions about the courses, please email cdim@methodistchurch.org.uk.

- **Visit to Ghana** The Chaplain to the Ghanaian Fellowship regularly arranges visits for ministers to Ghana. The next one will be 2–13 January 2017. Contact Revd. William Davis: william14d@yahoo.co.uk

- **Positive Working Together** Following on from the Conference report of 2015 Positive Working Together Guidelines have been produced along with 'A Short Guide' to the report. These guidelines provide information for people who feel they are experiencing bullying or harassment. They may also be useful for those who have been accused of behaving in this way. The intention of the guidelines is to provide help with the informal resolution of these issues, recognising that in some cases it is appropriate to seek to resolve these matters formally through appropriate Church procedures. The guidelines and short guide can be accessed at: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/pwt>. There are a number of additional resources that are being produced to help in this important aspect of church life. The two resources currently available are:
 - **Shared Commitments** – A reflective half-day session that explores good working relationships in the Church, and looks at effective ways of managing conflict in the Church. Shared Commitments draws on the Positive Working Together – A Short Guide.

- **Growing Through Conflict** – a one day course which aims to give an understanding of how we respond to conflict, learning how conflict escalates and exploring basic skills to de-escalate conflict.

We are currently in the process of training a team of facilitators who will work with the regional team in offering the ‘Growing Through Conflict’ one day training course across the District. More information will follow early in 2017.

Please contact Wendy Beard beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk for more information on these resources/courses.

- **Methodist Courses**

Methodist and Ecumenical Colleges Offer a number of opportunities for study and further development – see their websites for further information.

- **Cliff College** <http://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/>

Cliff College provides education and training with a particular focus on mission and evangelism. Historically, Cliff was a Methodist Lay Training college. Today our student body is both lay and ordained and from a range of denominational backgrounds. The College’s defining characteristic has always been training in mission and evangelism and we consider ourselves to be at the cutting edge of contemporary missional thinking. In recent years, we have prioritised evangelism in contemporary culture, pioneer ministry and fresh expressions, evangelical and biblical theology, and ministry among children, young people and the Third Age. We continue to explore new areas, most recently in public theology, the creative arts and family ministry, and are this year launch a new course in sports ministry. We recognise the full diversity of theological opinion in these studies. Courses include MAs and a Summer School.

- **The Queen’s Foundation** <http://www.queens.ac.uk/>

People come to Queen's for a variety of reasons, but a unifying feature is that they come to study theology. All of our qualifications and awards are linked to the study of theology; conversely, we do not offer any awards in other disciplines - though, of course, we want to consider

how theology engages with all aspects of life, and filters into areas such as literature, music or poetry. Under the broad "umbrella" of theology come a variety of theological sub-disciplines, and these feature within the curricula at Queen's. Students typically encounter topic areas such as mission studies or liturgy, biblical studies or doctrine; equally, they find themselves grappling with the way in which context shapes theological enquiry – for example, in terms of concepts such as gender or ethnicity.

- **Wesley House** <http://www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/courses/>
The formal degree programmes on which our staff teach and supervise are awards of either the University of Cambridge or one of the other partner universities with which the Cambridge Theological Federation has a relationship, Anglia Ruskin University and the University of Durham. This section provides details of the various Wesley House courses. Our full-time and part-time formal courses offer the chance to be taught by an expert staff within an ecumenical environment. At the same time, the small Methodist community provides a supportive environment for living the life of faith whilst studying. The community also helps focus questions of particular relevance for Methodists today. Associate Membership of Wesley House offers library facilities, common room facilities and an opportunity to be part of the worshipping and studying community. Cost: £250 for 2016-2017. Membership open to those doing degrees through other universities or engaged in personal academic study. To find out more email: principal@wesley.cam.ac.uk.

- **Suzannah Wesley Foundation** www.susannawesleyfoundation.org
Creating and promoting opportunities for research, enquiry and dialogue around questions of management, leadership and organisation in the context of faith communities and religious institutions. The work of the Foundation focuses on four overlapping themes:
 - Learning for management, leadership and ministry. Exploring the processes of equipping people for ministry and leadership in churches and faith communities, both lay and ordained.

- Work, life and identity in ministry. Exploring ways in which those called to roles in churches shape their contributions and how this work impacts on identity and well-being.
- Diversity in leadership and ministry. Exploring issues around difference, inclusion and participation in relation to leadership and ministry in churches and faith communities.
- Governance, management and organisation in churches. Exploring structures, systems, decision-making and transformative change processes within churches and faith communities.

We encourage conversation and dialogue. We value interdisciplinary study. We promote action research. We understand learning as a social process and organisations as complex systems. Our agenda is transformation. They encourage you to look at the short courses offered by their partner, the Catherine of Siena College.

<http://www.roehampton.ac.uk/Catherine-of-Siena/Courses/>

Especially for Probationers

(Attendance and participation expected)

For information about support and training for probationers contact the District Probationers Secretary, Revd. Hazel Forecast: hmforecast@btinternet.com

- **Probationers Group** meets regularly and is led by the District Probationers Secretary.
- **Probationers Residential** happens annually in September and this year will be a joint residential with the early years in ministry group at the Emmaus Centre in West Wickham on 14 – 15 September 2016.
- **Probationers Retreat** is shared with the South East and Beds, Essex & Herts Districts and will be held at the Kairos Centre in Roehampton 17-19 January 2017.
- **Ordinands Retreat** All presbyters and deacons who are to be ordained are required to attend the presbyteral or diaconal ordinands' retreat. The presbyteral retreat is 19-23 June and the diaconal one the previous week. Ordinands' should then be free from responsibilities until after they are ordained. They are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to attend the whole of the Representative Session of the Conference.

Especially for those exploring a call to ministry

- **Growing London Leaders** is a year-long course to encourage, enable and equip lay people in the London Methodist District to have confidence in their knowledge and skills in order to fulfil leadership roles. The course begins on 12 October 2016 and finishes on 20 September 2017. Evening sessions are fortnightly and there are 3 residential. The course is heavily subsidised by the District and therefore circuit support is required for you to participate in this course. For more information about fees and bursaries and to enquire about joining the course please discuss it with your Circuit Superintendent and contact administration@methodistlondon.org.uk for an application form.
- **Encounter** is a programme for anyone who wishes to understand more fully their calling to follow Christ and to live as Christ's disciples in the world. It will help people to explore further, know themselves better, identify their gifts and explore the various possibilities of ministry and service. For further information see <http://www.methodistencounter.org.uk/home.htm>. To join the District course in the autumn which begins on Saturday 3 September and ends on Saturday 1 July 2017 contact nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk. The first and last sessions are on Saturdays. In between are monthly Monday evening sessions.
- **Portfolio Day** gives opportunity for candidates to hear about the contents and requirements of the portfolio that needs to be prepared as the offer for ministry. Saturday 10 June 2017 at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster. Contact Jonathan Mead: meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk
- **Vocations Day** is an opportunity to think, reflect, pray and explore a sense of calling to ministry in the Methodist church. Saturday 18th March 2017 at Chislehurst Methodist Church. Contact Jonathan Mead: meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk
- **Ordinands' Testimony Service** will be held on Sunday 21 May at 6.30pm at Wesley's Chapel. The President and Vice-President will be sharing in the service and churches are invited to consider cancelling their evening services on that day and joining together in this District service which celebrates what God has been doing in the lives of those who are preparing to be ordained. If you're thinking

about offering for ministry, why not come and hear the testimony of those who have walked the journey?

- **People** If you're considering offering as a Candidate for presbyteral or diaconal ministry then speak with your minister, Circuit Superintendent or the District Candidate's Secretary the Revd. Barbara Calvert:
barbara.calvert@methodist.org.uk

Especially for Local Preachers and Worship Leaders

- **Preachers meeting:** A vital opportunity to share in worship, fellowship, study and learning together with ordained colleagues. Jonathan Mead is available to come and lead study session and continuing development days at local preachers meetings as well as offer support and advice as the new course **Worship: Leading and Preaching** is implemented. Contact:
meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk
- **Faith and Worship** is now closed to new preachers in training but is still continuing for those who have already started the course. It must be completed by August 2021. Local Preachers can switch from Faith and Worship to the new course **Worship: Leading and Preaching**.
- **Worship: Leading and Preaching** is the new course for training worship leaders and preachers. Jonathan Mead is available to offer support and advice. Contact meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk or your superintendent.
- **Training and support for mentors and tutors** will take place on 5th November at Chelsea Methodist Church. Please contact the District Resource Centre: Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk or Jonathan Mead meadj@methodistlondon.org.uk for details. Jonathan is also available to provide ongoing support for mentors and tutors.
- **Continuing Local Preacher Development** There is a rich and varied programme of Local Preacher Development days which are available for all local preachers in the district. The next two events are: Preaching on Revelation on 17 September 2016 and The Art of Preaching on 12 November

2016 at Wesley's chapel. Please contact the District Resource Centre: Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk or Jonathan Mead meadj@methodistlondon.org.uk for more information.

- **Safeguarding Foundational Module and refresher course.** The focus of the foundation Module is to promote awareness of possible safeguarding concerns. This training aims to equip all adults, both volunteer and paid, working in different roles in the Methodist Church to feel confident to share safeguarding concerns with the appropriate person. All ministers with a pastoral or preaching ministry and all local preachers – including those in training are required to complete the foundation model and undertake a refresher course every 5 years.

Key contacts

- Your Circuit Superintendent
- Your Circuit Local Preacher's Secretary
- Your District Chair
- The Authorised Ministries Commission convenors
- DLMN Officer: The Revd. Jonathan Mead meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk
- District Candidates Secretary: Revd Barbara Calvert
barbara.calvert@methodist.org.uk
- District Probationers Secretary: Revd Hazel Forecast
hmforecast@btinternet.com
- District Early years Secretary: Revd Cameron Kirkwood
Cameron.kirkwood@btopenworld.com
- District Sabbaticals Group convenor: Mr Alan Jameson
alanjameson@btinternet.com
- District Spirituality Advisor: Revd Michael Sawyer
michael@chelseamethodist.org.uk

Websites:

- London District <http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/AMC>
- The Methodist Church <http://methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/leadership-and-ministry>

Equipping faithful and fruitful Disciples

Overview from the Conference

All members of the Methodist church are called to:

- **worship** within the local church, including regular sharing in Holy Communion, and through personal prayer
- **learning and caring**, through Bible study and meeting for fellowship, so that we may grow in faith and support others in their discipleship
- **service**, by being a good neighbour in the community, challenging injustice and using our resources to support the Church in its mission in the world
- **evangelism**, through working out our faith in daily life and sharing Christ with others.

All members are given a pastoral visitor or class leader and encouraged to meet with others in a class meeting or fellowship group.

Ministry is shared by the whole people of God. We are challenged to use and develop our gifts and resources in the church and in the wider world. Those who are appointed to hold office or responsibility within the church need to be supported, prepared and equipped for service. It is vital that new members have opportunity to serve within the church, that new leaders are developed and that those who have served faithfully over a period of time have opportunity to step down and be refreshed, therefore most appointments are for one year only which can be renewed annually for a maximum of 6 years.

Learning and development across the connexion is supported by the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network (DMLN). This work has four aims:

- nurturing and equipping Christ-like disciples
- challenging and equipping mission-shaped communities
- forming and equipping those who share in lay and ordained ministry
- enabling and encouraging creative thinkers in an environment of scholarship, research and innovation

Within the District

It is the responsibility of the Congregational Development Commission (Convenor: Judith Jewell (judithjewell@hotmail.co.uk) to support the District and the circuits in equipping and developing faithful and fruitful disciples. The Synod has set the Commission's goal in the coming year which is "to develop lay leadership – in breadth, depth, numbers and confidence".

The District provides regularly opportunities for those who serve in particular offices within circuits to gather together and works in partnership with the Regional Team and wider Connexion to support churches and circuits in developing faithful and fruitful disciples. This year marks the start of a new leadership development course in the District.

Within the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network (DMLN) two officers, Sharon Nugent (nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk) and Joanne Cox-Darling (cox-darlingj@methodistchurch.org.uk) have a lead focus on discipleship development. Where a name is not specified, contact Sharon in the first instance.

Questions for all church members and leaders

How am I discerning and developing the gifts that I've been given? What do I need to sustain me in my discipleship? What are others saying about the gifts I have and the leadership/service I offer? How do I see that discipleship developing and what support and training do I need if I'm to be faithful to my calling?

For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness. (Romans 12)

Resources and opportunities for Lay people

- **Encounter** is for anyone who wishes to understand more fully their calling to follow Christ and to live as Christ's disciples in the world. It will help people to explore further, know themselves better, identify their gifts and explore the various possibilities of ministry and service. For further information see <http://www.methodistencounter.org.uk/home.htm>. To join the District course in the autumn which begins on Saturday 3 September and ends on Saturday 1 July 2017 contact nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk. The first and last sessions are on Saturdays. In between are monthly Monday evening sessions.
- **Growing London Leaders** is a year-long course to encourage, enable and equip lay people in the London Methodist District to have confidence in their knowledge and skills in order to fulfil leadership roles. The course begins on 12 October 2016 and finishes on 20 September 2017. Evening sessions are fortnightly and there are 3 residential. The course is heavily subsidised by the District and therefore circuit support is required for you to participate in this course. For more information about fees and bursaries and to enquire about joining the course please discuss it with your Circuit Superintendent and contact administration@methodistlondon.org.uk for an application form.
- **Representative Synod** meets twice a year on 10 September 2016 and 6 May 2017 at Methodist Central Hall Westminster. Whilst only members of the Synod can vote, the formal business usually takes up only a small part of the day. The rest is dedicated to worship, to keynote addresses on various topics and the sharing of stories, information and testimony about of the work of God in the London District. Contact administration@methodistlondon.org.uk or have a word with your minister.
- **Spiritual Direction** offers opportunity for you to meet with someone — a spiritual director or guide — to foster your spiritual growth as you share thoughts and reflections about your life and faith. For further information contact the District Spirituality Advisor: michael@chelseamethodist.org.uk
- **Other Courses** Most circuits and churches in the District offer a variety of courses, fellowship groups, class meetings, prayer meetings and Bible studies

but if you want to develop your understanding in a deeper and more formal way there are various colleges and foundations with strong Methodist links which offer a number of opportunities for study and further development – see their websites for further information.

- **Cliff College** <http://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/>
- **The Queen's Foundation** <http://www.queens.ac.uk/>
- **Wesley House** <http://www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/courses/>
- **Suzannah Wesley Foundation** www.susannawesleyfoundation.org

Especially for Office holders and members of Church Councils/Circuit meetings

- **Regular meetings for support and training**

For further information on these gatherings contact the District Resource Centre on 020 7654 3850 or Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk

- **Circuit Treasurers** meet together with the District Treasurer at Central Hall, Westminster on 24 November 2016
- **Circuit Stewards** meet together with the Synod Secretary and the lay representatives on the District Council on 25 October 2016 and 13 February 2017. There are also meetings for all who are involved in the invitations of presbyters and deacons in 2017 on the afternoon of 15 May 2017 and the evening of 16 May (duplicate sessions). New circuit stewards are especially encouraged to attend.
- **Church and Circuit Property Secretaries** meet together with Chris Linford on the 8 November 2016 at Methodist Central Hall Westminster
- **Local Preachers Secretaries** meet together from time to time.
- **Circuit Safeguarding Officers** meet together with the District Safeguarding officer on a regular basis. The next meeting will be on Saturday 28 January 2017. Contact Sandra Oborski: safeguarding@methodistlondon.org.uk

- **Opportunities for support and training**

- **New Circuit Stewards** Support and induction is usually offered by the District but dates are yet to be set. If you're a new circuit steward please contact the District Resource Centre on Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk who will forward your details to the Synod Secretary.

- **Circuit stewards** Useful information can be found on the District website at [http://methodistlondon.org.uk/Circuit Stewards](http://methodistlondon.org.uk/Circuit_Stewards)

- **Church Stewards**
 - **Stationing Training** All church stewards who will be involved in considering the extension of an invitations to their minister or in stationing are strongly encouraged to attend the stationing training offered for stewards and circuit stewards at Methodist Central Hall Westminster on the afternoon of the 15 May 2017 or the afternoon of the 16 May 2017. Contact administration@methodistlondon.org.uk
 - **Bespoke training sessions** are offered through the Regional DMLN team. Duties and responsibilities of these offices together with interactive exercises, the Methodist Church, help and support. The sessions are designed for a particular church or circuit for a half or whole day to meet their particular needs. Contact Wendy Beard: beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk or 07799 900458

- **Church and Circuit Treasurers** A useful guide to Methodist Money can be found at: <http://methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/managing-trustees/managing-trustees-and-methodist-money>. There is also a section on the Connexional website on Finance:

- **Pastoral Visitors** If you are looking for a resource to train, empower and enable pastoral visitors and others to share in Christ's caring ministry, 'Encircled in care' is for you. The pack contains three foundation sessions, focussing on why we care, skills needed in our caring and the development of good practice. There are nine issue-based sessions, covering some of the situations that pastoral visitors might need to respond to or be involved with. The pack contains a CD-ROM with PowerPoint presentations of each session, as well as the text of handouts and prayers. Available from Methodist Publishing, Ref. No. ME157, price £17.50. Order online at: www.methodistpublishing.org.uk or from Norwich Books and Music, 13a Hellesdon Park Road, Norwich, Norfolk, NR6 5DR. Telephone: 0845 017 8220. <http://www.methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/pastoral-care/training-in-pastoral-care>

- **Safeguarding foundation module** See the separate section on Safeguarding training and who is required to undergo foundation training and refresher courses. If you are required to attend or wish to discover more contact your circuit safeguarding officer or your Superintendent minister.
- **Safeguarding leadership module** See the separate section on Safeguarding training and who is required to undergo foundation training and refresher courses. If you are required to attend or wish to discover more contact your circuit safeguarding officer or the District Safeguarding Officer Sandra Oborski
safeguarding@methodistlondon.org.uk
- **Trusteeship** All members of Church Councils and Circuit Meetings are Charity Trustees. There is a lot of useful information on the Connexional website: <http://methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/managing-trustees>. The Charity Commissioners also produce a useful handbook, the Essential Trustee:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>
- **Connexionalism and CPD** A former Chair of the London District produced a Powerpoint presentation for use in circuits in 2016. It can be found on the District website at
[http://methodistlondon.org.uk/Circuit Stewards](http://methodistlondon.org.uk/Circuit_Stewards)
- **Positive Working Together** The DMLN Regional team offer a reflective half day session for churches using the Positive Working Together resource “Shared Commitments”. This explores good working relationships in the church and effective ways of managing conflict. An easy going, varied session suitable for church congregations and councils. Contact Wendy Beard; beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk or 07799 900458.

Especially for youth and children’s workers

All who work with children and young people in the Methodist Church are required to undertake appropriate training for their role. Contact Brian Smith, the District Children’s and Youth Work Co-ordinator for information on where courses are being held or for information about other courses: Brian@methodistlondon.org.uk

- **Core skills for Children's Work:**

- **Developing and extending key skills for Children's ministry**

- This short course for volunteer children's workers: including, Sunday school, junior church, messy church, Godly play workers. Providing volunteers and/or paid workers with the 'Core'/foundational skills needed by all those involved in church based children's ministry.

- **More Core skills**

- Building on the foundational learning of Core Skills, More Core Skills is modular in design to enable circuits/churches and groups to design their own bespoke program of training to meet their needs. To delve deeper into the understanding and widen knowledge of what it means to undertake the vital role of nurturing children in the church.

- Modules Currently Available:**

- **Challenging Behaviour: Responding to and dealing with**

- This practical and interactive one day course will equip workers with the tools needed to respond and deal with challenging behaviour.

- **Additional Needs**

- This module will give participants a basic knowledge of the differing types of additional needs and techniques as to ways of working with them.

- **Voice Activated: Developing Participation**

- Based on Voice Activated (produced by the Well) this interactive module will take attendees through the theories behind youth participation, equipping them with the knowledge and techniques to enable them to empower children and young people in the decision-making process of your church or project.

- **Mentoring**

- This 'How-To' guide workshop will take you through the process of setting up and running a mentoring network.

- **Developing Young Leaders**

- This 'train the trainers' course is designed equip workers with the resources to enable them to run a Young Leaders Discipleship training course within their setting.

- **Jesus of the Big Screen: Film & Theology**

- Exploring how films can be used as 'modern day parables'.

- **Reaching and Keeping Volunteers**

This practical and interactive module will explore how we can reach new volunteers as well as keeping the ones we have.

- **Children and Community – Reaching Out into the Community**

This module explores ways of identifying and reaching out to the children in the local community.

- **Creative ways to teach the bible and prayer**

This practical and interactive workshop explores ways of helping children to engage with the bible and prayer more.

- **Youth Work Core skills training - Spectrum:**

Core Skills training is designed to equip volunteer youth workers with the 'core' skills needed to develop and build a sustainable youth provision in your church. This is not about teaching you to suck eggs, but arming you with the tools to better suck those eggs. Based on the Spectrum training resource created at Wesley College, Bristol in partnership with Churches Together and the Baptist Union of Great Britain. This training consists of 3 levels;

- **Getting started** is a short course for anyone beginning work with young people: offering an easy to use work book for those who are just beginning work with young people. This is square one of the board game called youth ministry, and consists of a workbook that is worked through as a youth team, asking questions to help form your youth provision, this can be done in your own teams, or ideally with an outside facilitator.
- **Level 1: Moving On** is a short course for volunteer youth workers, providing training, equivalent to 2 days or 4 evenings (10 hours total). Suitable for those new or with some experience of youth work, combining face to face training with exercises to do within their placement. Providing a supportive environment to offer participants the opportunity to explore and develop basic skills and knowledge that will enable good youth work practice.
- **Level 2: Deeper** training for youth workers consists of a series of 'modular' training opportunity's module last various lengths of time, ranging from 2 hours up to 1 day, depending on the module chosen. This 'deeper' level is very much of a bespoke programme of training for circuits, building on people' experiences of youth work and core skills of level one. Modules currently available include:

course blends the practical experience with reflective learning and online activities to build a working portfolio that demonstrates your competence. You can gain the understanding you need to be a qualified youth support worker, and the opportunity to put the learning into practice in the volunteering or part-time work you are engaged in. Contact Brian Smith: brian@methodistlondon.org.uk

- **Safeguarding foundation module**

See the separate section on Safeguarding training and who is required to undergo foundation training and refresher courses. If you are required to attend or wish to discover more contact your circuit safeguarding officer or your Superintendent minister

- **Safeguarding leadership module**

See the separate section on Safeguarding training and who is required to undergo foundation training and refresher courses. If you are required to attend or wish to discover more contact your circuit safeguarding officer or the District Safeguarding Officer Sandra Oborski safeguarding@methodistlondon.org.uk

Especially for Lay employees

- **Connecting Disciples** is a National Conference for Lay Employees and Volunteers. The following dates of two Connecting Disciples Conference in 2017:

- 6-9 March 2017, High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon
- 9-11 June 2017, Cliff College, Calver

Further details about the conferences and information about bookings will be available in the autumn. Contact Beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk

- **Connecting Disciples Local** A Local day event once a year for London Lay Employees and Volunteers. This combines training workshops, speakers and a reflective retreat element 1 December 2016. Venue and programme to be arranged Contact Beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk

- **Lay employee support group** Open to all London Methodist Lay Employees and Volunteers, this group meets every 2 months at Wesley's Chapel from 12 noon until 4.00pm. It is a self-supported group where all can share work and

church issues, good practice, food, laughter and pray together and for each other. Next meeting 11 October 2016. Facebook group: London Methodist District Lay Workers Contact Wendy Beard 0799 900458

beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk

- **Circuit Administrators Day** Open to all Circuit Administrators for support and training led by the District Admin and Comms Team. 23 November 2016. Contact Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk
- **Lay employee training course for new employees** An induction course is available on the Methodist church website: [http://www.methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/employees-and-volunteers/church-\(lay\)-employees](http://www.methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/employees-and-volunteers/church-(lay)-employees)
- **Chaplaincy everywhere and Chaplaincy essentials** Chaplaincy can be broadly termed 'ministry beyond the Church's walls' and can take a variety of guises. These two courses encourage participants to think how the local church can engage in local ministry, by building successful partnerships with a variety of community groups and projects. In this last year, participants have explored possibilities of town centre ministry along the 'Street Pastor' model, and offering Chaplaincy to a school who has a programme of Saturday detentions for children with challenging behaviour. Chaplaincy Everywhere is likely to run in the Autumn at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster, and be followed by Chaplaincy Essentials in the Spring. For details of the courses, please see: www.methodist.org.uk/chaplaincyeverywhere. For further details about Chaplaincy in general please contact the District Chaplaincy Coordinator: Ian.Worsfold.1@city.ac.uk or Wendy Beard: beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk

Especially for young people

- **3 Generate**
 - **What is 3Generate?**
<http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/3generate/find-out-more>
A weekend planned and shaped by children, young people - and their workers - for children and young people. A chance to meet up with friends and make new ones - from other Methodist Churches all over the country. A weekend of conversation, debate, indoor and outdoor activities, games, music, sport, crafts and challenges. An opportunity to talk about the issues that affect you and really matter to you, the world

and the Church - to listen to each other and to God. Time and space to worship together in a range of creative and imaginative ways. Your chance to have a say - vote for the young people who represent you

- **Who is 3Generate for?**

If you're aged between 8 and 23, 3Generate is for you! Activities and accommodation are organised in three separate age groups - 8-11s (school years 4-6), 11-18s (school years 7-13) and 18-23s. There are lots of activities and entertainment for you to choose from - with a separate chill out and live lounge for each of the three age groups which will be running all weekend. You can come along by yourself, with friends, or as part of a bigger group from your church or district.

- **3Generate 2016**

This year the event will take place over the weekend 25-27 November 2016 and we will again enjoy the hospitality at PGL Liddington, near Swindon. This year's event is now fully booked, but it is likely that a District event will happen if there is sufficient demand. For further information contact Brian@methodistlondon.org.uk

- **One Programme Participants**

The One Programme is a great opportunity for people aged 16 to 23. One Programme Participants (OPPs) are paid a living wage to work an average of 15 hours a week - most of which is spent in a local project but with some connexional (national) responsibilities, including working at 3Generate Children's and Youth Assembly and attending four training weekends. For further information contact Wendy Beard: beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk

- **Ghana Exchange** The Chaplain to the Ghanaian Fellowship regularly takes young people on mission trips to Ghana. For further information about the next trip 1-12 April 2017 contact William Davis william14d@yahoo.com

- **Sacred Activists** Sacred Activists: Leadership & spirituality in action. For 18 to 36-year olds. Contact Wendy Beard: beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk or 07799 900458

- **Youth Board** A sub group of DCDC this group meets once a quarter to enable and equip youth and children's participation in the District. It has the aim of

Creating a joined up discipleship movement shaped for mission where young people and children's voices are heard; their needs are met and opportunities are generated for them to grow confidence as members and leaders in a world-wide Christian community known as church. Contact Wendy Beard beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk or 0779 9900458 or Brian Smith brian@methodistlondon.org.uk

- **Participate!** A seven week course exploring discipleship and vocation. Aimed at 9-14s, but could easily be adapted for older young people. Available from BRF <http://www.brfonline.org.uk/9781841018546/>
- **Navigate** A short course (5 sessions) to enable 10-15s to explore the basics of the Bible and how they might engage with it. Produced by Methodist Children and Youth and the Bible Society. To download the course, see www.methodist.org.uk/navigate

Especially for small groups and their leaders

- **Walking with God's people – resourcing leaders** is intended to help those who want to explore how they can develop or improve their skills as facilitators of Christian study or learning groups. Over four sessions, the programme covers: How Adults Learn; How Groups Work; The Role of the Facilitator; and Facilitating a Christian Group. The programme builds in opportunities for meditation, reflection and worship. The WWGP resource is free to download at www.ertp.org.uk/index.php/resources. Please contact Sharon Nugent: nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk for details of training days.
- **Disciple** is a 34-session Bible study programme that takes participants through the biblical story from Creation in Genesis to the New Jerusalem in Revelation. The course is intensive but non-academic; participants follow a disciplined pattern of daily home study leading up to a regular group meeting. DISCIPLE is suitable for a wide variety of learners over the age of 16. <http://www.methodist.org.uk/disciple>
- **Step Forward** is a resource for developing discipleship through small groups, grounded in Methodist principles. Each group is provided with material for 32

sessions, based on the Cell Church model of Welcome, Word, Worship and Witness. Free training for group facilitators is included in the package. Step Forward is designed to be delivered through small groups and run over a 12 month period for groups that meet on a weekly basis.

<http://www.methodist.org.uk/deepening-discipleship/small-groups/key-resources/step-forward>

- **Methodism** A six week course looking at Methodism produced by members of the London District. The course can be downloaded at:
<http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk>

- **Made in God's Image: Discovering our Place in the Body of Christ** written by the London District Disability Advisor, Karen Bell, this is course is full of great insights on what it means to be at home in that most complex and wonderful of God's gifts: our bodies. Download this free course for use in your churches at: <http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/node/1763>

- **SRC's Lent course** can also be used at other times of the year but was produced as a six part Lent Course to enable London Methodists (and others) to engage in reflection on some of the most important realities of our day.
<http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/SRC>

- **Talking of God** A free small-group resource produced by the Methodist Church to help Christians develop confidence in sharing the stories of their faith in everyday life. Talking of God is made up of four sessions:
 - Starting the Conversation - each of us has a story to share
 - Conversation Stoppers - conversations can be hard
 - Conversations in Context - how our world can frame our conversations
 - Living the Conversation - conversations are more than just wordsThe resource can be used over consecutive weeks, a weekend or within one day. For a free download, see www.methodist.org.uk/talkingofgod

- **Compass** is a six-week course that introduces the Christian faith to those who wish to explore its meaning, and includes a particular focus on Methodist identity. It could be used as a membership course, or for those exploring faith for the first time. The Leader's guides are available for download at
www.methodist.org.uk/deepening-discipleship/small-groups/key-

[resources/compass](#), and participant's workbooks can be ordered for £5 each (+ P&P) from Methodist Publishing.

- **Seasons of My Soul: conversations in the second half of life** focuses on eight themes for conversations and opens these up for exploration using interactive conversation tools, Bible texts, creative activities, social action topics, prayer and worship. Seasons of My Soul will enable participants to explore and deepen their faith and discipleship by discussing and challenging inherited assumptions, nurturing the wisdom they already possess and finding new meaning in aspects of their life. Produced in partnership between the Methodist Church in Britain and the Church of England, the resource cost £8.99 and is available from www.methodistpublishing.org.uk/books/9781858523989/seasons-of-my-soul

Key contacts

- Your minister/superintendent
- DMLN Network Officers:
 - Wendy Beard bearw@methodistchurch.org.uk
 - Joanne Cox-Darling cox-darlingj@methodistchurch.org.uk
 - Sharon Nugent nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk
- District Youth and Children's Co-ordinator: Brian Smith brian@methodistlondon.org.uk
- District Disability Advisor: Karen Bell revkarenbell@gmail.com
- Safeguarding Officer: Sandra Oborski safeguarding@methodistlondon.org.uk
- District Spirituality Advisor: Michael Sawyer michael@chelseamethodist.org.uk

Websites:

- London District <http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/DCDC>
- The Methodist Church
 - <http://methodist.org.uk/deepening-discipleship>
 - <http://methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/leadership-and-ministry>

Equipping faithful and fruitful congregations and circuits

Overview from the Conference

In partnership with others wherever possible, the Methodist Church will concentrate its prayers, resources, imagination and commitments on this priority: *To proclaim and affirm its conviction of God's love in Christ, for us and for all the world; and renew confidence in God's presence and action in the world and in the Church*

As ways towards realising this priority, the Methodist Church will give particular attention to the following:

- *Underpinning everything we do with God-centred worship and prayer*
- *Supporting community development and action for justice, especially among the most deprived and poor - in Britain and worldwide*
- *Developing confidence in evangelism and in the capacity to speak of God and faith in ways that make sense to all involved*
- *Encouraging fresh ways of being Church*
- *Nurturing a culture in the Church which is people-centred and flexible*

The Secretary of Conference in his address to the 2016 Conference urged us to ensure that we renewed our Confidence in speaking of God and that our agendas include a conversation about the work of God in this place.

Within the District

It is the responsibility of the Congregational Development Commission (Convenor: Judith Jewell (judithjewell@hotmail.co.uk)) to support the District and the circuits in equipping and developing faithful and fruitful congregations. The Synod has set the Commission's goal in the coming year which is "to develop lay leadership – in breadth, depth, numbers and confidence". It is the responsibility of the Social Responsibility Commission (Convenor: Revd David Hardman (david.hardman@methodist.org.uk)) to support the District and the circuits in engaging pastorally and prophetically with the communities in which our churches are located and with the wider region. The Synod has set the Commission's goal in the coming year which is "to increase participation in social and civic action by identifying and sharing good practice and promoting networks of practitioners – rooting such engagement in our Methodist identity "

Within the Discipleship and Ministries Learning Network (DMLN) Wendy Beard (beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk) has a lead focus on church and community development.

Question for all churches and circuits

What resources are available to us? How are we using them? What do we know of our context? What needs and opportunities do we see around us? Are we in the right shape for mission or do we need to review what we are doing and our priorities? How do we see our mission in this place and with these people here and now? What are we discerning about the future – our vision and goals? What do we need to do if we are to be faithful to our calling? Are there others with whom we might consider working? What might we need to let go of?

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ..... But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light (1 Peter 2)

Resources and opportunities for churches and circuits

- **Quiet days and Retreats** provide opportunities for individuals and groups to be refreshed and to step away for a while from the busyness of life and church. There are many opportunities offered. See <http://www.retreats.org.uk/> but for more tailor made opportunities and suggestions on speakers/leaders contact the District Spirituality Advisor: michael@chelseamethodist.org
- **Reviews**
Church and Circuit reviews to look at the bigger picture of vision, strategy and mission undertaken by the Regional DMLN team. Contact Wendy Beard beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk or 07799 900458
- **Healthy churches**
Using the Healthy Churches Handbook by Robert Warren a review with the church congregation can be facilitated by the Healthy Churches team of trained volunteers. The process typically takes between 8 and 12 weeks with 4 sessions. At the end of the process the church receives an action plan containing the points identified by church members that are for working on to enable the church to move forward. Contact Wendy Beard beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk or 07799900458

Grant Funding / Monitoring and evaluation

A one day course is currently being considered for Spring/Summer 2017. This will provide an opportunity to learn how to make the most of any grant applications and effective ways to monitor and evaluate projects. It will be suitable for any church or circuit project which is seeking money from public or private grant sources. Contact armigerr@methodistchurch.org.uk

Angels

A way of helping a church to visualise what God is calling them to do and be. It is usually a morning session with the congregation finishing with lunch but can also be after lunch on a Sunday. Using images to help people identify the personality of their church it has energised, engaged and empowered people to grasp a shared vision to begin to work towards mission. Contact Wendy Beard beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk or 07799 900458

Key contacts

- Your District Chair
- DMLN Officer: Wendy Beard beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk
- DCDC Commission Convenor: Judith Jewell
- SRC Commission Convenor: David Hardman
david.hardman@methodist.org.uk

Website:

<http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/DCDC>

<http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/SRC>

Equality & Diversity,

- **Theological Underpinning** <http://www.methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/equality-and-diversity/guidance-and-tools>
- **EDI Toolkit**
- **Definition of Homophobia** <http://www.methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/equality-and-diversity/homophobia-definition-and-guidance>

Safeguarding

CREATING SAFER SPACE Safeguarding Training

The Methodist Church takes safeguarding seriously and as such believes that we are all enriched by undertaking appropriate training. The Conference agrees who within local churches and circuits are required to attend training and who is warmly welcomed to do so. Others of course, are welcome to join in the training if there is space. The list is reviewed regularly and indeed was changed by the 2016 Conference. The lists are now as set out below and circuits are encouraged to work with their safeguarding officers and the District Safeguarding group to ensure that appropriate training is undertaken. A refresher course has to be undertaken every 5 years (this will be 4 years from 2017). Many will have already undertaken training as part of their professional life, but the Methodist Church offers a unique environment and so all are required to undertake Methodist church training (unless part of an LEP in which a decision has been taken that the training requirements of the other denomination will be followed).

ATTENDANCE PROVISION

Leadership Module

The Leadership Module should be undertaken by all those who carry out the following roles in the Methodist Church. They are someone to whom others may go for advice, guidance and leadership about a safeguarding matter. By virtue of their position in the Methodist Church they are seen as someone who will be a role model for others in relation to ministry, behaviour, attitudes and responses to safeguarding matters. This training aims to enable Safeguarding Officers, Ministers and other leaders in churches to develop a deeper understanding of their role and responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and to develop confidence in carrying out this role.

Core List – Required Attendance

- Safeguarding coordinator – Circuit
- Safeguarding Officer – District
- Members of the District Safeguarding Group
- Members of the District Policy Committee
- All presbyters or deacons with an active preaching or pastoral ministry including those supernumerary ministers who have pastoral care of a church

- Those who are in paid employment or a voluntary role which includes leadership within the Methodist Church, which involves direct work with children, youth or adults
- Members of the Connexional Complaint Panels, Discipline Committees, Pastoral and Appeals Committees.
- Safeguarding Officers Church
- Those in recognised roles involving pioneering, fresh expressions or evangelism
- Those who deliver the Foundation Module
- Local preachers including those on trial
- Worship leaders including those in training
- Mentors for the Youth Participation scheme
- Members of the Safeguarding Committee
- Requirement that specific groups not required to attend the whole module should attend training covering specific sections E.g. Volunteers in direct work with children, young people or vulnerable adults

Warmly invited but not mandatory

- Supernumerary ministers apart from those for whom it is required

Foundation Module

The focus of the foundation Module is to promote awareness of possible safeguarding concerns. This training aims to equip all adults, both volunteer and paid, working in different roles in the Methodist Church to feel confident to share safeguarding concerns with the appropriate person.

Core List – Required Attendance

- Presbyters with an active preaching or pastoral ministry
- Deacons with an active preaching or pastoral ministry
- Pre-ordination students and probationers
- Lay employees and volunteer workers with pastoral responsibility
- Pastoral visitors
- Anyone working with 0-18 year olds in the name of the church
- Anyone working in activities targeted at adults who are vulnerable (eg luncheon club for the housebound)
- Church stewards

- Circuit stewards
- Local preachers including those on trial
- Worship leaders including those in training
- Church and circuit safeguarding representatives
- Choir/music group/drama leaders – where there are 0-18 year olds or vulnerable adults in the group.
- District staff especially policy committee members, complaints and discipline, mediators
- Core teaching staff at Methodist Church Learning Institutions
- Connexional staff with direct safeguarding links eg children and youth workers
- ‘Covenant of Care’ group members
- Members of the Connexional Complaints Panels, Discipline Committees, Pastoral and Appeals Committees.
- Any student who will be undertaking a Mission Placement
- Young leaders (16-18 years)
- Members of the Safeguarding Committee

Warmly invited but not mandatory

- Evangelism/mission enablers
- Leaders of other organisations, working with 0-18yr olds or vulnerable adults, who use church premises
- Remaining Choir/music group/drama leaders
- Any other group leaders within the church, who may have adults within their particular group who are vulnerable.
- Property stewards and other keyholders
- Caretakers
- Church/circuit meeting secretaries
- Church/circuit/district administrators
- Remaining District and connexional staff
- Remaining teaching staff at Methodist Church Learning Institutions

Fellowships and Networks

Overview

The Fellowships exist to enable, equip and encourage members' participation in the life of their local Methodist churches and in the world around them. They help to nurture disciples and grow leaders.

Language and cultural fellowships

○ Filipino Fellowship

For details contact Sister Romalio Casco: romeliaaurea_casco@yahoo.com

○ Ghanaian Fellowship

The fellowship is part of the wider Methodist Church in Britain and in Ghana. At the centre of our fellowship is the desire to express our faith in many Ghanaian languages and cultures while making every conscious effort to learn and adapt to the British culture. Our worship, events and meetings are usually expressed in languages such as English, Fante, Ga and Twi. Regular activities include:

- 2nd Sunday 3:00pm Sunday worship Methodist Central Hall Westminster
- 4th Sunday 3:00pm Sunday worship St Marks, Tottenham
- 3rd Saturday Prayer Meeting or All Night Vigil
- 1st Saturday 3:00pm Susannah Wesley Mission Auxiliary (SUWMA)
- 1st Saturday 3:00pm Christ Little Band
- 2nd Saturday 2:00pm Ecumenical Relations Committee
- 2nd Saturday 2:30pm Youth and Ministries Committee
- 2nd Saturday 3:00pm Ecumenical Relations Committee
- 2nd Saturday 6.00pm Social Responsibility & Welfare Committee
- 2nd Saturday 6.00pm Choir Practice
- 3rd Saturday 4:00pm Men's Fellowship
- 4th Saturday 3:00pm Women's Fellowship
- 4th Saturday 4.00pm Finance and Admin Committee

Special events this year include:

- 11th September 2016 Chaplaincy 14th Anniversary Thanksgiving Service
- 4th December 2016 Carol Service at Westminster Central Hall
- 31st December 2016 Watch Night Service at Middle Lane
- 8th January 2017 Covenant/Induction Service at Westminster

- 12th February 2017 Young People's Day at Westminster Central Hall
- 12th March 2017 Ghana's 60th Independence Anniversary Service
- 1st -12th April 2017 Young Mission Trip to Ghana
- 14th May 2017 Harvest Thanksgiving Service
- 29th May 2017 Fellowship Games TBA
- 22nd July 2017 GMF Beach Picnic TBA

For further details contact: Revd Dr William Davis: william14da@yahoo.com

○ **Korean Fellowship**

For details contact Revd Paul Han: cellhsd@hotmail.com

- **Nigerian Fellowship** The Nigerian Methodist Chaplaincy as a renewal and mission agent/project within the British Conference continue to enrich Methodism in United Kingdom by seeking and equipping Chaplaincy members in their discipleship, integration, and Christian formation throughout the year through the following events:

- Monthly All Night Vigil Every Second Friday at Walworth
- Worthy is the Lamb Magazine Quarterly production
- Chaplaincy Management Committee Quarterly meeting
- NOON – Need Of Our Nation Praying everyday between the hour of 12 to 1pm for the need of our nations.
- Prayer-rain Every first Sunday of the Month Prayer and fasting for revival in UK
- Women's Quarterly Assembly, Men's Fellowship, Youth Fellowship

Special events this year include:

- September 24th CHAPLAINCY CAMP MEETING@ Domus Maririe, Chigwell.
- October 2nd NIGERIAN INDEPENDENCE COMMUNITY HYMN SINGING @ Methodist Central Hall, Westminster. Time: 2:30pm
- November 20th CHAPLAINCY-HARVEST@ Clapham Methodist Church.
- December 1- 15th End of the Year Prayer and Fasting/ Mission on the Street
- December 18th End of the Year Renewal Rally/ Mission on the Street.
- Dec 31st New Year Eve Service – Rainham Methodist Church
- January 6th (Epiphany) to April 14th (Good Friday) 99 days Prayer and Fasting
- January 13th All Night Vigil/Anointing Service
- January 28th Chaplaincy Renewal Camp Meeting

- April 9th Palm Sunday Community Hymn Singing at St Marks
- June 4th Pentecost Rally
- June 23rd - 25th Chaplaincy 3rd Anniversary/Conference
- July Women's Conference and Youth Conference

For further details contact Revd. Deji Okegbile: dejigbile64@yahoo.com

Language and cultural congregations

○ Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese)

○ Epsom Methodist Church

- Sunday 2.00 pm Mandarin and Cantonese
- Sunday 2.00 pm International Service in English

Also Children's and Young person's Worship and Sunday school happens on a Sunday. For further details of other activities see: www.chinese-epsom.com

○ Kings Cross Methodist Church

- Sunday 10:30am Mandarin service
- Sunday 11:00am International service
- Sunday 1:30pm Cantonese service

For further details visit www.kxmc.org.uk.

○ Urdu / Hindi

○ Kings Hall

- Sunday 2.00pm Worship in Urdu, Hindi and English

Services are normally held at Hambrough Primary School, South Road, Southall but to confirm venue and for information about other events contact Revd Rachel Bending 07986 461787 rachelbending@hotmail.com

○ Methodist Women in Britain

MWIB's aim is to connect women with an interest in creative spirituality and a passion for global social justice. It endeavours to encourage, enable and equip women to serve God in church, community and the world. MWIB in London is organised into 3 Sectors:

- **Sector A West London:** (vacancy for Co-ordinator)
- **Sector B North London:** (Co-ordinator Mathilda Small-Byam: matildasmallbyam@btinternet.com) usually hold 3 meetings at Forest Gate

Methodist Church and 2 events each year at various churches in the North of London. The first meeting will be on Wed 21 Sept 2016. A Quiet day is planned for Saturday 4 March 2017 at Wesley's Chapel to be led by Margaret Sawyer

- **Sector C South London:** (Co-ordinator Wendy Heslop: wendy.heslop@btinternet.com) usually meets 2-3 times a year.
- In addition various **pan-London events** are held:
 - **Annual District Day** will be held on Sat. 22 Oct. 2016 when there will be a guest speaker on work of the Mercy Ships. For further details contact: Patsy Constanttine: mel.pat@ntlworld.com
 - **Daffodil Day** is held at Methodist Central Hall Westminster on 6 March 2017. MWIB reps. take part in preparation of service and in prayers on the day.
- Churches are encouraged to celebrate **MWiB Sunday** on the first Sunday in March. The London Executive prepares a suggested service which is intended to inform congregations about MWiB and highlights the charities it supports.

Conferences

- **Methodists for World Mission** is an organisation whose aims are to “celebrate diversity and promote mutual partnership” between Christian people of diverse nationalities and faiths through:
 - Conferences
 - Its annual magazine and website
 - Engaging in prayer
 - Allocating grants to a variety of organisations
- This year's Conference will be held at Swanwick from 2nd to 4th June 2017. It's theme is: Moving People – Moving Stories. Refugees, economic migrants and people seeking new lives in new places mean more people are on the move across the globe than ever before. The Conference invites participants to follow the churches' journey alongside some of these people and explore how we can become a church of all nations. Further details: <http://mwm.org.uk/conferences/>

- **Methodist School of Fellowship**

- MSF is an opportunity to bring together a worshipping Christian community of all ages for a week of holiday, friendship, prayer, listening, reflection, conversation and fun. This holiday aims to provide the environment, support and stimulation for personal and spiritual refreshment and growth. You can participate in as much or as little as you wish. There are Bible studies, seminars and workshops, worship, games and sports, and a Ceilidh. Alternatively, you may wish to just sit peacefully, read, sleep, or drive out to explore some of the Derbyshire countryside. All meals are taken together in a communal dining room and many new friendships are formed. For further details:

<http://www.methodistsummerfellowship.org/#/msf2017>

- **Cliff Summer School**

- Cliff College in Derbyshire runs a summer school for two weeks during the summer. Details of the 2017 school have yet to be announced but will be published here when they are:

<http://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/students/shortcourses/midweek/ss/>

- **Wesley House Easter School**

- Wesley House Easter School is April 10-12 and is entitled: **Anticipating Easter.**

This inspirational short course during Holy Week offers a unique opportunity to join leading academics in Cambridge and reflect on the meaning of Christ's resurrection. The course is held in a devotional atmosphere giving participants the opportunity to deepen their own spiritual journey and experience the rhythm of community prayer here at Wesley House. Also included are practical workshops on skills and spiritual disciplines

for the leading of worship. Speakers will include The Revd Dr Neil Richardson.

To find out more visit: www.wesley.cam.ac.uk or contact 01223 765832 or administrator@wesley.cam.ac.uk.

Grants and other support

- **For Individuals**

- **Lay leadership**

- There is some limited grant support for those who are undertaking courses organised by the District and for individuals who serve on District Committees or as Officers and Grants for ministers towards training appropriate to their role. Contact the District Resource Centre: Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk

- **For ministers**

- **District Benevolent Fund**

- The purpose of the Fund is to help meet the exceptional needs of presbyters and deacons and lay employees and their dependents within the London District that cannot be met at a local church or Circuit level alone, by providing a resource from which confidential payments can be made at the discretion of the Trustees. Contact your Chair of District.

- **Other Connexional source**

- Various Connexional funds are available to support presbyters and deacons in need. Information and application forms can be found at: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/ministers-and-office-holders/stipends-and-payroll/ministerial-grants>

- **CDIM**

- Every circuit in the District has committed itself to providing at least £100 per minister to support training. Additional funds may be available from the District or Connexion in some cases. Contact your District Chair in the first instance.

- **For churches**

- **District Advance Fund**

- DAF is available to support schemes which are directed towards mission and may include funding for people, training, research, equipment and property within the London District of the Methodist Church. For further information see <http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/DAF>

- **Connexional Grants**

- Information can be found on the connexional website at: <http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/connexional-grants>.

Dates

Multiple Session courses

- **Growing London Leaders**

Sessions will mainly be held at Wesley's Chapel. For details and an application form contact Sharon Nugent: Nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk

○ Session 1	12 October	Session 11	29 March
○ Session 2	26 October	Session 12	26 April
○ Session 3	9 November	Session 13	10 May
○ Session 4	23 November	Session 14	24 May
○ 1st Residential	2 & 3 December	Session 15	7 June
○ Session 5	14 December	3rd Residential	16 & 17 June
○ Session 6	11 January	Session 16	28 June
○ Session 7	25 January	Session 17	12 July
○ Session 8	8 February	Session 18	6 September
○ Session 9	22 February	Session 19	13 September
○ Session 10	8 March	Synod	16 September
○ 2nd Residential	17 & 18 March	Session 20	20 September

- **Encounter**

Contact Sharon Nugent Nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk for details

○ Saturday	3 September	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	10 October (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	7 November (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	5 December (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	9 January (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	6 February (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	6 March (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	3 April (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	8 May (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Monday	5 June (evening)	Methodist Central Hall
○ Saturday	1 July	Methodist Central Hall

Single date resourcing and training opportunities

For further details see the previous sections of the Guide or contact the person named. All are welcome to attend the Representative Sessions of the Synod, but for most other meetings, booking is required. If in doubt, contact the District Resource Centre: Admin@methodistlondon.org.uk

DATE	MEETING	VENUE	TIME and CONTACT
September			
3 Sept	Encounter First Meeting	MCHW	nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk
10 Sept	Representative session of Synod	MCHW	10.00 – 4.00pm
14-15 Sept	Probationers & Early Years Residential	Emmaus Centre, West Wickham	hmforecast@btinternet.com or cameron.kirkwood@btopenworld.com
17 Sept	CLPD: Preaching on Revelation	Wesley's Chapel	meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk
21 Sept	MWIB Sector C	Forest Gate	Wendy.heslop@btinternet.com
October			
11 Oct	Lay Workers Support Group	Wesley's Chapel	12.00 – 16.00 beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk
11-13 Oct	Connexional Preparation for Retirement Course	Dunford House, West Sussex	cdim@methodistchurch.org.uk
12-13 Oct	Superintendents Residential	High Leigh	admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
16 Oct	Youth Forum	MCHW	3.00-5.00pm
17 Oct	Growing London Leaders First Session	Wesley's Chapel	nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk
22 Oct	MWIB District Day	MCHW	Mel.pat@ntlworld.com
25 Oct	Circuit Stewards Meeting	MCHW	2.00-4.30pm AND 6.00-8.30pm Admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
November			
5 Nov	Local Preachers Tutor and Mentor Training	MCHW	10am-4.00pm meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk
7 Nov	Encounter	MCHW	Evening nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk
8 Nov	Property Officers' Meeting	MCHW – Chapel	5.30-8.30pm chris@methodistlondon.org.uk
8-10 Nov	Connexional Preparation for Retirement Course	Hinsley Hall, Leeds	cdim@methodistchurch.org.uk
12 Nov	CLPD: The art of preaching	Wesley's Chapel	meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk
16 Nov	Probationers Committee	MCHW	1.00-4.00pm hmforecast@btinternet.com
16 Nov	Candidates' Committee Training	MCHW	6.30-9.00pm barbara.calvert@methodist.org.uk
24 Nov	Circuit Treasurers Meeting	MCHW	6.30 for 7.00 – 9.30 pm

			Hannah@woodgdns.demon.co.uk
23 Nov	Circuit Administrators Day	MCHW	10.30am-4.00pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
25-27 Nov	3 Generate	Swindon	brian@methodistlondon.org.uk
25-27 Nov	Positive Working Together Training	St Katherines	armigerr@methodistchurch.org.uk
December			
1 Dec	Connecting Disciples Local Event	MCHW	beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk
23 Dec	District Resource Centre Closes		From 12.30
2017 January			
2-13 Jan	Ministerial visit to Ghana		William14da@yahoo.com
3 Jan	District Resource Centre	Opens	9.00 am
14 Jan	Candidates Committee	MCHW	9.00am-6.00pm barbara.calvert@methodist.org.uk
15 Jan	Youth Board Meeting	MCHW	2.45-5.00pm
17-19 Jan	Joint Districts' Probationers Retreat	Kairos Centre, Roehampton	hmforecast@btinternet.com
19-20 Jan	Supervision Course part 1	Queen's Foundation	harrisg@queens.ac.uk
21 Jan	Candidates Committee	MCHW	9.00am-6.00pm barbara.calvert@methodist.org.uk
28 Jan	Circuit Safeguarding Officers	MCHW	10.00am-1.00pm safeguarding@methodistlondon.org.uk
28 Jan	Candidates Committee	MCHW	8am-5pm barbara.calvert@methodist.org.uk
February			
6 Feb	Encounter	MCHW	Evening nugents@methodistchurch.org.uk
7-8 Feb	Superintendents Residential	High Leigh	admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
13 Feb	Circuits Stewards' Meeting	MCHW	2-4.30pm AND 6-8.30pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
15 Feb	Probationers Committee Training & Preparation	MCHW	10.00am-12.00pm hmforecast@btinternet.com
16-17 Feb	Supervision course part 2	Queen's Foundation	harrisg@queens.ac.uk
March			
2 Mar	Probationers' Committee	MCHW	09.15am hmforecast@btinternet.com
4 Mar	WWIB Sector B Quiet Day	Wesley's Chapel	matildasmallbyam@btinternet.com

6 Mar	Daffodil Day	MCHW	ollie.mcewen@mchw.org.uk
6-9 Mar	Connexional Connecting Disciples Conference	High Leigh	beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk
11 Mar	Safeguarding Conference	MCHW	9.30am-5.00pm safeguarding@methodistlondon.org.uk
11-13	Connexional Preparation for Retirement Course	Launde Abbey, Leicestershire	cdim@methodistchurch.org.uk
14 March	Presbyteral Synod	Wesley's Chapel	10.00am-4.00pm Jongikaya@ymail.com
18 March	Vocations Day	Chislehurst Methodist Church	10.00am – 4.00pm meadj@methodistchurch.org.uk
16-17 March	Supervision Course part 1	Queen's Foundation	harrisg@queens.ac.uk
26 Mar	Youth Board	MCHW	2.45-5.00pm
April			
1-12 April	Youth Mission Trip to Ghana		William14da@yahoo.com
10-12 April	Wesley House Easter School	Wesley House	administrator@wesley.cam.ac.uk
6-7 April	Supervision course part 2	Queen's Foundation	harrisg@queens.ac.uk
May			
2-5 May	Diaconal Convocation	Swanwick	warden@mdo.org
6 May	Representative session of Synod	MCHW	10.00am-4.00pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
10-12 May	Connexional Superintendents Gathering	Latimer Place, Chesham	
15 May	Circuit Stewards Stationing training	MCHW	2.00 for 2.30pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
15 May	Ministers Stationing Training	MCHW	6.00 for 6.30pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
16 May	Ministers Stationing Training	MCHW	2.00 for 2.30-4.00pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
16 May	Circuit Stewards Stationing training	MCHW	6 for 6.30pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
20-24 May	Visit of President and Vice President		admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
21 May	Ordinands' Testimony Service	Wesley's Chapel	6.30pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
24 May	Wesley Day	St Pauls to Wesley's Chapel	5.00pm – 8.45pm
29 May	Fellowship Games	TBC	William14da@yahoo.com
June			
5 – 7 June	Connexional Superintendents Gathering	The Imperial Hotel Blackpool	

9-10 Jun	Connexional Connecting Disciples Conference	Cliff College	beardw@methodistchurch.org.uk
13 Jun	Conference Reps Briefing Meeting	MCHW	6 for 6.30-9.30pm dgvidavis2002@hotmail.com
13-15 Jun	District Ministers' Retreat	St Katherine's - Parmoor	Andrew.dart@methodist.org.uk
25 Jun	Reception into Full Connexion of Ordinands and Ordination services	<i>Birmingham</i>	
July			
11 Jul	Farewell to Ministers leaving the District	MCHW	12.30-2.00pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk
August			
September			
9 Sept	Representative Synod	MCHW	10 – 4pm admin@methodistlondon.org.uk

NB These dates are correct at the time of going to press. New dates will be added throughout the year. They will be updated regularly updated on the District Website diary and calendar.....

Where to find further information

The Weekly mailing

All training opportunities within the District and Region are published on the Weekly Mailing. If you'd like to be added to the circulation list, please contact the District Communications Officer, Bijou Senayah: communications@methodistlondon.org.uk

Your Minister or Superintendent Minister

Your minister or Superintendent Minister will be aware of many other opportunities for learning and growing in leadership, faith and discipleship, so do contact them and have a conversation about possible opportunities.

The District and Regional Teams

Their individual contact details are at the front of this guide but you can also contact them via the District Resource Centre Administration@methodistlondon.org.uk or 020 7654 3850

Useful websites

- London District Website <http://www.methodistlondon.org.uk/>
- The Methodist Church <http://methodist.org.uk/>
- DMLN Website <http://methodist.org.uk/learning>
- Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes <http://tmcp.org.uk/>
- Charity Commissioners
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission>
- Cliff College <http://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/>
- The Queen's Foundation <http://www.queens.ac.uk/>
- Suzannah Wesley Foundation www.susannawesleyfoundation.org
- Wesley House <http://www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/>

The London District Vision

The London District of the Methodist Church currently comprises some 18,000 members, 234 ministers, 233 churches and 35 circuits and their projects together with a number of educational institutions. We are a diverse group of people originating from many different countries and communities who find ourselves worshipping and witnessing together in urban, suburban and more rural areas. We have come together in the belief that we are better together and our intention is to contribute to the well-being of each other, of this global city and the surrounding areas; and of the wider Methodist Church.

As the people, churches and projects of the London regional District of the Methodist Church our mission is:

To share the good news of Jesus Christ throughout Greater London and the surrounding areas, and to improve the well-being of people and their communities, by:

- **Engaging pastorally and prophetically with the communities in which our churches are located and with the wider region**
- **Equipping and developing faithful and fruitful disciples and congregations**
- **Equipping and developing faithful and fruitful preachers and ordained ministers**

The delivery of work in these areas will be facilitated respectively by:

The Social Responsibility Commission;
The Discipleship and Congregational Development Commission; and
The Authorised Ministries Commission.

Our ways of working include:

- Engaging in theological reflection and prayerful discernment which will help us to understand our mission more fully
- Building quality relationships across our circuits, with wider Methodism and with ecumenical, inter faith, and community groups
- Building quality relationships with civic and political authorities in the area covered by the District
- Seeking to communicate effectively and work collaboratively
- Living and working creatively with diversity and difference
- Deploying the resources over which we have stewardship effectively and flexibly
- Developing and sharing best practice