

# LIFE-LINE



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The Methodist Church in Mid-Warwickshire

## Circuit Leaders

The lay leadership of the Circuit is changing. We are incredibly grateful to those who have served as Circuit Stewards and are excited that others are willing to consider taking on this vital role. Prospective new leaders will be gathering on Saturday 21 April for a period of prayer, fellowship and discernment. Please pray for all involved in this process.

## Rural Mission Council

The recent Circuit Meeting decided to look at a different way of working among some of our rural congregations. Revd Peter Powers, the Superintendent, is currently encouraging church councils to work more closely together as part of the new Rural Mission Council. We hope this will free up time and energy to put into mission rather than meetings!

If you are interested in how this work might affect your congregation, please contact Peter directly.



Putting the pieces together

## And they're off!

Welcome to the first issue of *Life-Line* which will keep you up to date with progress on the Circuit review, *ten squared*. As each Methodist community begins to discern its own part in the mission of God in this part of Warwickshire, we will share news of developments as they happen.

### *Sessions 1-3 now available*

The first three sessions of the programme are now printed and available to local congregations. Over the next three to six months, we hope that everyone involved in Methodist life will have the opportunity to explore with others the themes of Mission, Discernment and Church. This will provide a solid grounding for all of us as we then move to a thorough discernment process for each of the communities we serve before deciding the role of the Circuit as a whole in connecting, equipping and deploying the resources of ministry and money in the most effective way.

Copies are available by contacting the Circuit Office.



## The Ministry of the Whole People

It's now over thirty years ago that the Methodist Conference received the report, *The Ministry of the Whole People of God*. Much has changed about Methodism since, and many good ideas were left untried.

We are delighted to announce that, as part of the *ten-squared* process, we will be looking to renew our understandings of lay ministry and invest in local people as they discover their vocations.

In the next issue of *Life-Line*, we will be revealing the new resources that are currently in production.

## Good News?

We're looking for stories from around the Circuit about how our renewal process is going and inviting our different communities to share news of the great work they are doing on behalf of us all. Please send news, ideas, stories and pictures to:  
s.mcbratney@methodist.org.uk

## Ref:Lectons

In June, we will launch an exciting new venture to support the work of preachers, accompanists and all those who lead and participate in our worship services across the Circuit.

Starting on **Monday 4th June at 7.30pm**, *Ref:Lectons* is a chance to gather together to study the lectionary readings set for the following Sunday. It is open to anyone from the Circuit to attend, but may be particularly helpful to those who are planned to preach or lead worship that week.

*Ref:Lectons* will travel around a number of churches in the Circuit, and be led by a range of facilitators.

The pattern is simple: we listen to the readings, followed by ten minutes of input, setting the scene, followed by conversation among the group regarding interpretations, sermon ideas, as well as prayers, hymns and other worship materials. Who knows - we might even end up learning one or two new hymns to introduce on Sunday morning.

More information will be available in the coming weeks, so look out for it in your Church notices and on the Circuit Website.

