

**Durham and Deerness Valley Circuit Review: 2011 – 2012
Fact Finding Questionnaire for Church Stewards**

We are seeking ways forward for the ministry and mission of the Christian Church in this Circuit as we work towards the discovery of our unique purpose in this place and time as people called by God to work with in the world

“May your kingdom come and your will be done”.

‘The circuit is ideally placed to take an overview and see where there are opportunities for mission, but the strategy needs to be relevant, realistic and locally rooted.

While the circuit is ideally placed to take an overview and see where there are opportunities for mission, it is important that each church also reviews their life and mission.

The Methodist Conference of 2011 agreed the General Secretary’s ‘direction of travel’ for the Methodist Church: that contemporary Methodism be a ‘discipleship movement shaped for mission’.

The Circuit Review Team would be grateful if you could take the time to complete the following questionnaire and return it to Mrs. Sue Smith by 1 December 2011.

Your answers are important to us and will affect the future direction of the Church and Circuit.

Name of church

Date completed

1. Church Mission

a) In what ways is your church engaging currently in mission to the wider community?

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b) Does your church have a mission statement?

Yes No

c) Please describe any ecumenical contact and ways of working that your church has

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.....

2. Worship : the church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.

a) How would you describe the worship in your local church? Would you say that it was Traditional, Contemporary, All age, Varied, Local arrangement or

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b) Other than Sundays, which days and times is worship available?

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.....

c) Do you regularly/occasionally hold café style worship, Messy Church &c

d) Do people other than members attend and how regularly?

e) Do people appear to have been attracted into/back into the life of the Church through worship?

f) What is the average attendance at each service?

1 – 15 15 – 30 30– 50 50 – 100 100+

g) Please give the approximate numbers in each age group in your worshipping congregation.

0-5 5 - 15 15 – 25 25- 50 50 – 70
70 – 100

h) What arrangements do you have for children and young people to participate in the worship experience?

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i) If you have worship leaders in your church please indicate how you use their gifts

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.....

j) Do you hold regular Worship Services

- a. With other Methodist Churches in the area
- b. With other local Churches
- c. Approximately how many attend these services?

k) How often do you have Circuit Worship Services?

a. Approximately how many would attend a Circuit Worship service?

l) As stewards how do you go about inputting your ideas into developing the worshipping life of your church?

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3 Service Christians are called to be good neighbours to people in need and to challenge injustice

a) What links does your Church have with **members** of the local community?

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.....
.....

b) What links does your church have with **groups** from the local community who use your church premises?

Name of group	Type of group	Attendance	Links

c) What steps have you taken to identify the needs of your local community? Eg. Community audit , specifically talking to your friends and neighbours

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.....

2) Is there anything more you could do? Eg. Talk to Health Centre, Police, Council

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e) How does your local community know what the church is about?

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f) In what ways does your church care for its members

.....

g) and for its adherents?

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 h) In what ways does your church show its concern for others in the community?

 i) In what ways does your church serve Children and Young People

 j) 20 – 40's age group

 k) Families

 l) The elderly

 m) How does your church show its concern for those living in other parts of the world?

 n) In what ways are you working ecumenically with other local churches?

3. Learning and Caring:The church exists to help people grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care

- a) Does your church have a strategy for developing discipleship in your church? For children, youth and adults. If 'Yes', please describe.

 b) How does your church help people grow in Christian discipleship?

 c) How is pastoral care conducted in your church?

 d) Has any training for 'Pastoral visitors' been offered in the last 5 years?

 e) How does your church care for those on the fringe of church life?

 f) How does your church welcome and care for its members

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g) and those in the wider community?

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h) What church activities help you to deepen your faith?

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i) How well are people trained for the jobs they do in church?

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j) What policies are in place to support people in the jobs people do?

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j) Does your church have: and how many people are involved?

Prayer chain
Prayer diary
Prayer book
Prayer group

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k) Which of the following are available at your church (or in the circuit) and do you know how many attend?

	Available in the church	the circuit.	Attend.
Bible Study	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fellowship meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ladies meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Children's meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Men's meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prayer meetings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training for discipleship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training in church work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training community development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Evangelism : the church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

a) Have you used any programmes recently that encourage sharing your faith?

Programme	When?	Where?	How many attended from your church?

b) What Fresh Expressions of mission and ministry in the church are happening or expected to happen?

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c) Membership

Number of members at 1/11/07	
Number of members at 1/11/10	
Number of transfer IN	
Number of transfer OUT	
Number of new members	
Number of deaths	
Number of 'ceased to meet'	

d) How many members are presently relatively inactive through ill health &c

e) How many people who are not actually members are significantly involved in the life of the Church?

How?

f) Do you have any other activities which regularly draw new people into the building?

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g) Do you have any other activities which regularly reach out into the community?

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5. Finance

a) What is your current level of reserves?

b) What is your church's annual expenditure?

c) Are your reserves appropriate given your church's annual expenditure?

d) What opportunity do your finances allow for future development of mission and ministry?

e) Our finances are strengthened by.....(funerals, support from the community, lettings)

- f) Our finances are weakened by.....
- g) We regularly seek to boost our finances by

6. Property

- a) What elements of your church premises enhance your church's worship?
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How?
- b) What changes to your building could enhance worship further?
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Why?
- c) What elements of your church premises enhance your church's mission?
.....
How?
- d) What changes to your church premises could enhance your mission further?
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Why?
- e) How far away is the nearest Methodist church or church of another denomination?
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- f) Where have environmental concerns been taken into account in your property?
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- g) Would you describe your property as 'welcoming' and an effective witness to the 'good news'?
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