



Cardiff Methodist Circuit
The Methodist Church in Cardiff and Caerphilly



Circuit Meeting
Thursday 27th May 2021
Zoom Meeting

- 1. Opening Devotions.** There were led by Rev. Paul on the theme of all being one in Christ Jesus and how everyone should be embraced.
- 2. Attendance and Apologies.**

There were 50 members present and 14 apologies for absence, including Steve McElveen and Paul Demery. Several new members were welcomed to the meeting. Rev. Alexis was congratulated on his Testimony Service.
- 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting.**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
- 4. Matters Arising**

Re-opening of Churches/Preaching Plan/Circuit Services: Most Churches are now open for services in some format, on some Sundays, alongside the use of online worship in some format. Filling the Plan will be increasingly difficult, so more Local Arrangements will be included. The Methodist Church website contains worship materials which can be used to lead services in Church, by any member of the congregation.

The final morning Circuit Service will be led by Rev. Alexis and Rev. Kofi.

From June, an evening Circuit service will be held at 6 p.m. on the last Sunday of the month.

Online courses and studies: Several on-line formats have been used for a range of courses and have been well attended. Feedback on the methods used and ideas for the future would be welcomed.

Marriage and Relationship Sessions: These sessions were well attended, and good feedback received. The Wales Synod has now voted in favour of the recommendation in the report 'God in Love Unites Us' and this will be fed into the discussion at Conference. If the report is accepted at Conference, then Church Councils will need to hold discussions and make decisions.
- 5. Circuit Stewards' Report.** Janet Rees spoke to the Circuit Stewards' Report. The members put forward for the Circuit Invitation Committee were **approved**. It was also **agreed** that the committee be empowered to make decisions regarding stationing between Circuit Meetings.
- The Circuit Leadership Team have recently attended a course 'Leading your Church into Growth' and this will feed into future Circuit planning.
- 6. Circuit Review and Implementation.** The 'Proposed Pastoral Responsibility' table, as applicable for one year, was discussed. The situation at Pontprennau needs to be discussed with the 5 other denominations involved. The ministerial link to Trinity will be discussed by the staff to ensure someone takes over when Rev. Alana moves on. Concern was expressed over the workload being allocated to Rev. Cathy as Superintendent. It was explained that Conway Road is like the Churches that Cathy already has, with a strong lay leadership. It was reinforced that all Churches need to develop a strong lay leadership, since everyone is involved in ministry. It was also suggested that the three Churches could help support each other. This working document was then **approved**.
- 7. Treasurer's Report.** The recommendation that Circuit reserves be used to fund the cost of one minister in 21/22 was **agreed**. This will help reduce Church Assessments which will now be re-submitted.

The Budget was approved unanimously.

8. **Property Report.** The report submitted by Steve was accepted.

9. **Discussion on Trinity Centre Project**

- (i) Appointment of Executive Committee: The continuing members were **agreed** and thanked.
- (ii) Consideration of Funding Proposal: To receive grants, the 'owners' are required to contribute. Unfortunately, as the Connexion has withdrawn funding for building projects, the Circuit will need to offer financial support to the order of £200,000. The paper submitted was explained, noting that the risk to the circuit was low. The funds achieved from the properties being identified for sale were designated for mission and so it was not anticipated that the circuit would be charged levies.

The meeting was then split into groups to discuss the proposed financing. Feedback was given and a variety of views were expressed. Members of the Trinity Executive responded to questions and concerns raised and several members of the meeting expressed thanks for the work being done on such an important mission project. Church representatives were asked to take the discussion of the proposals to their congregations ahead of the next meeting when a vote will be held. It was stressed that, as we make such a big decision, there should be a sense of the views of the wider circuit. This should help members to represent the views of their churches as they vote.

10. **Other reports.**

Preachers: Dave Kitchen was congratulated on achieving 50 years' service as a Local Preacher and a certificate presentation will be arranged. Wendy Barwise and Vera Ruddock were congratulated on completing their Local Preacher training. Accreditation Services will be delayed until they can be held 'face to face'. All mentors and supporters were thanked. The meeting was asked to encourage others who might have a calling to preach.

Youth Work: Report to follow. A 'Hope in a £10 note' project will be undertaken.

Pioneer Work: Rev. Judith gave a presentation of the work that she has undertaken.

Circuit Mission Committee: To be renamed 'Circuit World Church Committee'.

Annual Report to the Charity Commission: This will be considered at a future meeting.

11. **Safeguarding.** On-line trainings are proving successful.

12. **Circuit Administration.** None.

13. **AOB.**

- The annual MHA report was received, and Churches encouraged to celebrate MHA Sunday. The amount donated by Cyncoed was for 2 years.
- Wesley, Caerphilly and Llanishen requested support in their application to Synod for funding for technical equipment. This was agreed.
- Synod will be hosting 2 courses exploring vocation, including lay ministry. The day in South Wales will be held at Llanishen on July 10th.

14. **Date of Next Meetings:**

Additional brief meeting re Trinity and Assessments – Tuesday June 22nd 7.30 p.m.

Next full meeting: Thursday September 9th 2021 7.30 p.m. Thursday.

15. **Closing Prayers.** The meeting closed with prayer.