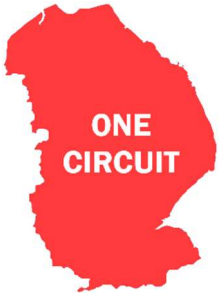
One Circuit: Our Future, Reshaping for Mission

Update – June 2026



I want to begin this update on the work being done around possible reshaping of our 8 Circuits into 1 with some very good news.

After interviews and much deliberation Ms Melanie Carroll has been appointed as our new District Mission Enabler and lead for New Places for New People projects. Melanie will begin work on the 1st September. One of her first tasks will be to introduce herself to the Circuits and begin to hear from you and your churches about your hopes and dreams for mission in your existing places and in some new ones. She will also play a significant role in the reshaping work.

This work continues with the 3 working groups: Discipleship and Mission, Resources, and Making it Work all continuing to develop detail on what a 1-Circuit District would look like. Most recently we have commissioned a small sub-group to consider what the nature of Presbyteral ministry (Circuit ordained ministers) might look like as part of a ministry team based in each area. This is a substantial piece of work involving not only what The Constitutional Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church mandates about the role of Presbyters and Deacons, but also Ministerial Competencies, and last but by no means least, what we need from our ordained ministers to lead us forward into new discipleship and mission opportunities.

The second document in this mailing puts our reshaping into the wider context of the Connexional Strategy for Evangelism and Growth; God for All. We are a Connexional Church and therefore there should be a likeness in the way we work and in our priorities and culture from Shetland to The Channel Islands, The Isle of Man to the Lincolnshire and East Anglian coast. Our Connexional statement: **the Methodist Church is called to be a growing, inclusive, evangelistic and justice-seeking Church** is a worth-while benchmark against which to assess all we do or seek to do.

God bless, Rev Angy

Could all stewards and administrators please ensure that these updates are circulated as widely as possible and made available on church notice boards, newsletters and any other avenues of communication you have available to you.