

## Hourglass shaped mission



Most (but not all!) of our mission is to the young and the old, whose needs can be overlooked by society. We want to increase our mission in these areas and need **HELP!**

Do you have a heart for families with young children? Do you enjoy working with others to get things moving and show the love of God in a dynamic way? Have a strong stomach and a sense of humour? **GET IN TOUCH!** Rev Andrew would love to hear from you if God is calling you to action in this area!

Does your heart ache to hear about the loneliness and isolation of the vulnerable elderly, so often unseen in our communities? Would you like to roll up your sleeves and do something about it with some likeminded pals? **GET IN TOUCH!** Got the message? All the best ideas come from people whose hearts are moved by seeing the needs around them. Others who share your heart are not far away. As our buildings and facilities improve, our opportunities increase, so let's share ideas! Look out for a fun brainstorming session in the Spring, open to everyone. All ideas welcome, wacky ones included!

## Funds for the future!

After the money from chapel sales has been spent, where will we find resources to maintain and grow all our ventures? GRANTS are available from within the church and elsewhere. Happily, we have a Hit Squad working on identifying available funding and making applications where we can.

FUNDRAISING has never been more important and we need a radical shift in how we do this in 21st century fashion. New ventures such as JustGiving pages on the internet and other web based stuff are everyday fare for many people, and we are missing out if we ignore such progress. With the support of Herriot Hospice Homecare, we are hosting a fundraising ideas fest where we can discover new methods and come up with some of our own – look out for publicity!

Thanks to everyone for your many and varied contributions. CLT.

# Stokesley Circuit Spring Newsletter

Friday, 27 April 2018



## May, June and July events

- ♥ Darlington District Spring Synod 12 May
- ♥ Hub's 3rd Birthday Weekend 12/13 May
- ♥ Christian Aid Week 13–19 May; Street Collection Friday 18 May in Stokesley; Coffee mornings at Hutton Rudby Friday 18 May and Stokesley Saturday 19 May
- ♥ Saints Alive Wed 16 May 7pm at Stokesley Methodist (Rehearsals on Wed at 7pm)
- ♥ Forget Me Not Café Tuesday 29 May, 26 June and 31 July at Stokesley Methodist Church
- ♥ Easby Missions Coffee Morning 2 June 10-11.30am at Ingelby Greenhow village hall
- ♥ Carlton Chapel Anniversary 10 June 10.30am
- ♥ Local Preachers' Meeting 12 June 2018 7.30pm at Stokesley Methodist Church
- ♥ Northallerton Woodwind Concert 22 June 7pm at The Hub, Hutton Rudby In aid of Wateraid
- ♥ Methodist Conference Thurs 28 June—Thurs 5 July Nottingham
- ♥ Easby Chapel Anniversary 8 July 2pm. Tea to follow.
- ♥ Choir Summer Concert 18 July 7pm at Stokesley Methodist
- ♥ Stokesley Methodist Special Saturday Coffee Mornings 10-11.30am: 16 June MHA, 8 July Action for Children, 11 August MWiB Project supporting the work in Haiti



**Circuit Meeting 14 June 7.30pm at  
Stokesley Methodist Church**

## Our mission that we chose to accept...

At the circuit meeting on Tuesday 13 March, we heard mission projects from around the circuit...

- ♥ Carlton: applied for funds from chapel sales to upgrade their kitchen facilities to provide lunches for the local rural community.
- ♥ Easby: used their funds to make their building more comfortable for prayer and fellowship meetings.
- ♥ Great Ayton: applied for funds from chapel sales to engage with the local community.
- ♥ Hutton Rudby: applied for funds from chapel sales to set up an internet radio station that would cover the circuit and reach out beyond.
- ♥ Seamer: applied for funds to cover essential repair work to maintain their presence in the community.
- ♥ Stokesley: applied for funds to complete vital repair work to ensure the continued mission of the church.

**Good news!** There were enough funds from chapel sales available to approve the amount requested by each project.

## Keeping personal data safe!



We are in the process of complying with the new data protection act that comes into force on 25 May. We are following latest guidelines from Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes. Watch this space for more information.

*We need your help!*

Our first task will be to look at the data that we currently hold across the circuit. Each church will be looking at the data they hold. Do you keep personal information that you use for a role within the church? We will need your help as we put together a list of the data we hold!

*Coming soon...*

Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes are producing model policies and forms. Once we have all the forms we need, we will be updating the circuit directory.

## Better Together

It is very exciting to see so many projects planned and under way across the Circuit; it's going to be a busy year! All these projects have been made possible by the closure and sale of chapels, however, and if we are to maintain or grow our presence in the community we will need to take steps to ensure we are powered by prayer and committed to working in partnerships with our friends and neighbours.

With six churches, we are a small circuit, and although we are blessed with great resources, they are spread out across the area. With fewer hands to help in recent years, we have begun to look to paid staff to take on work previously done by volunteers and also to work jointly with others sharing our goals. Alone, each church is limited in what it can achieve: sharing the load brings new vigour, greater opportunity and more fun!

Our commitment to spreading the gospel and improving lives is not about duplicating or competing with supportive activities which already exist, however. Our goal is to catch those who fall between the gaps of society's care and provision – to meet the unmet need.

## Mind the gaps!

As we carry out our data mapping exercise, we have a golden opportunity to review those many activities taking place within our churches, to understand complementary activities already present within the community and spot the gaps!

In some cases we will be able to set up new initiatives to meet needs, such as the new community lunches at Carlton offering friendship and support to anyone who may feel lonely. In others we will need to look outside our own ranks for special skills and support, such as the fabulous work done by Blaze, the youth work charity which brings a great team and a great spirit to an increasing number of activities for young people in Hutton Rudby and Great Ayton.



## There's room for one more!

CLT is looking forward to welcoming someone to join the team as circuit steward. Interested? Speak to Rev Andrew Robinson.