SAMPLE CIRCUIT MISSION PLAN 1

The starting point
of the plan is Our
Calling, and the rest of
the content is organised
around it.

The calling of the _____ Methodist Circuit is to respond to the gospel of God's love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.

We will use the circuit's resources to:

- increase awareness of God's presence and celebrate God's love
- help people to grow and learn as Christians through mutual support and care
- be a good neighbour to people in need and challenge injustice
- make more followers of Christ.

In all of the above we will seek to work ecumenically wherever possible.

Our vision is for a Christ-centred circuit of vibrant, growing churches supporting each other in expressing God's love and sharing it with others.

The circuit goes on to state its own particular vision – what it hopes to see become a reality.

The circuit team recognise that they can't do everything all at once – they choose priorities for the year.

Vision

Worship

The circuit seeks to:

- encourage and enable vibrant, relevant and varied God-centred worship at circuit, church and section level that motivates and encourages all who attend
- develop innovative worship and worship targeted at specific age groups
- take worship outside the walls of our churches and into our local communities.

Priority vision for 2019/20

- encourage and enable vibrant, relevant and varied God-centred worship at circuit, church and section level that motivates and encourages all who attend
- develop innovative worship and worship targeted at specific age groups.

Priority action for 2019/20

- better resource the Early Church initiative at _____ Methodist Church. Consider ways of replicating this 'second congregation' model elsewhere in the circuit
- consider if Messy Church can be developed across the circuit by sharing experiences. This will be the subject of the Children and Young People's Leaders' meeting in the summer
- continue to develop Sunday Nite Live in new ways.

The priorities are then translated into specific actions.

The various elements of the vision are organised around the four sections of Our Calling.

Learning and Caring

The circuit seeks to:

- support churches and resource members in continuing to grow and delight in Christian discipleship
- encourage and support each other at all stages of the faith journey
- create loving communities characterised by hospitality, generosity, welcome, care, acceptance and respect.
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- create loving communities characterised by hospitality, generosity, welcome, care, acceptance and respect.
- ensure safeguarding systems, procedures and training are well resourced and in good order
- produce, resource and run a circuit-wide preaching series based on 'Fruitfulness on the frontline' material to run in May and June.

Service

The circuit seeks to:

- inspire an outward-looking focus to the life and service of the churches within the circuit
- use the influence of the circuit to have an impact on issues of justice, peace and the integrity of creation both locally and more widely
- encourage members to regard being active in service as part of their Christian life
- support, inform and inspire members to take up issues about which they feel passionate.

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- encourage members to regard being active in service as part of their Christian life.
- to continue to inspire involvement in the eco-church initiative, with the aim of becoming one of the first eco circuits in the country by the end of the connexional year
- in [large town], to facilitate a meeting of all churches to think about how we can best serve the needs of the town together (1 February)
- follow up a recent EDI review with work raising awareness and helping people to address issues.

Specific action points with dates – this makes it much more likely it will happen, and makes accountability easier.

A significant investment in pioneering which engages with the 'New Places for New People' element of the Evangelism and Growth Strategy.

Evangelism

The circuit seeks to:

- place greater emphasis on mission and recognise the value of all forms of mission as a route to evangelism and to promote this by pooling resources and sharing experiences both locally and within the circuit
- find ways in which members can speak about and demonstrate their faith in Jesus Christ to others.

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- supporting the appointment of a pioneer minister for the ecumenical work planned in the new housing developments taking place in [location]
- hold an event to inspire storytelling and confidence in faith sharing (7 March).

Resources

The circuit seeks to:

- be a circuit where churches see the benefits of belonging to the circuit and actively work towards living the vision for their church and the circuit
- help churches to develop a sense of purpose and to build their own vision for their church and its role in the circuit and the wider world
- manage their resources of money, people, buildings and time effectively and realistically.

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- follow up the outcomes of the Next Steps process – encouraging churches to continue to move on
- seek ways to support churches with financial and premises management.

This engages with the 'Everyone an Evangelist' element of the Evangelism and Growth Strategy and its focus on personal testimony.