



Mission Plan

“The calling of the Methodist Church is to respond to the gospel of God’s love in Christ and to live out its discipleship in worship and mission.”

In this, and in partnership with others wherever possible, the Ripon and Lower Dales Methodist Circuit will concentrate its prayers, resources, imagination and commitments on this priority:

“To Celebrate our diversity of rural ministry, knowing God where we are and to make God known to others.”

Vision	Priority vision for 2022/23	Priority action for 2022/23
<i>The Church exists to increase awareness of God’s presence and celebrate God’s love.</i>		
<p>Worship</p> <p>The circuit seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage and enable vibrant, relevant, and God-centred worship. • Develop accessible and innovative worship. • Resource high quality worship in a variety of forms (onsite, online, live, recorded, written, phone) and providing regular ongoing training for preachers, worship leaders and those leading own arrangements. 	<p>Priority vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote Hybrid model of church through using appropriate media, such as printed written services, live streaming. • Develop accessible and innovative worship which is targeted at specific groups based on age/expressions. 	<p>Priority action</p> <p>We will do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing learning and development sessions with the worship leaders and preachers meeting. • Continuing to develop online worship and progress live streaming worship services to increase accessibility. • Supporting churches with purchasing and/or using technology to aid and develop more accessible worship.

The Church exists to help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support & care.

Learning and Caring

The circuit seeks to:

- Nurture communities of Christ centred pastoral care, by making sure no one is forgotten or excluded.
- Encourage positive engagement with wider Methodism and utilise its resources to help people explore, grow, and learn as Christians.
- Use best practice in all our work, ensuring best safeguarding practice and keeping everyone safe with GDPR.
- Build confidence in our rural churches through encouraging pastoral charge.

Priority vision

- To see an increase in the mutual support and care across the circuit of churches and across its membership.
- To provide imaginative means of support to help each church with required administrative tasks.
- Build confidence in our rural churches through encouraging pastoral charge.

Priority action

- Develop contextually suitable small groups to facilitate safe nurturing environments to help people grow and learn as Christians.
- To identify and provide training for those serving in and through the circuit of churches.

The Church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.

Service

The circuit seeks to:

- Encourage positive engagement with wider Methodism and utilise its resources to raise awareness of issues of injustice and facilitate active engagement.
- Better appreciate the value of work by JPIT (joint public issues team) for increasing local church participation in challenging injustice and working for peace.

Priority vision

- Celebrating our ecumenical relationships and local ecumenical partnership to better serve people in need and challenge injustice.
- Celebrating partnerships and community initiatives.

Priority action

- To promote and engage Walking with Micah project.
- Continuing to develop local social action and care groups.
- In response to the Covid 19 pandemic, to identify needs and work alongside local communities in partnership to transform, revive and build society.
- Supporting Methodist charities such as All We Can.

The Church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ.

<p>Evangelism</p> <p>The circuit seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build confidence in all our churches through encouraging pastoral charge. • Encourage all our churches to look outwards to their communities. • Actively engage in partnership with others for evangelistic projects. 	<p>Priority vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build confidence in all our churches through encouraging pastoral charge. • To nurture a deepening of discipleship within its current membership to build confidence in talking of God, sharing faith naturally and showing Jesus. • To create opportunities for people to inquire and explore the Christian faith in appropriate ways. 	<p>Priority action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering of 'Discipling Presence' Planned during the Autumn. • Build upon good works such as soft play, solo lunches, chaplaincy, J.A.M (Jesus and Me), Sunshine Corner, Lego Journeys, Sage & Time and Young at Heart. • Targeting with support new mission projects in our rural churches and places. • Ongoing engagement with ecumenical partnership in the evangelistic project Try Praying. Exploring other similar evangelist projects.
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Enabling all churches in their witness and ministry for who and where we are.

<p>Resources</p> <p>The circuit seeks to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling all churches to be adequately resourced through imaginative staffing. • Empower the use of gifts/skills of all people within the life of the circuit. • Develop the mission and ministries gathering as a steering group. 	<p>Priority vision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop new posts in response to identified needs to enable all churches to be effective in their witness and ministry. • To encourage pioneering ministry within its circuit staff team to best meet people where they are. 	<p>Priority action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To advertise and appoint a new administrator and local pastor role. • To identify and provide training for those serving in and through the circuit of churches.
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