

# BACKGROUND READING FOR 7<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010 CHURCH MEETING

## KIRKBY LONSDALE METHODIST CHURCH

### Item Subject

#### 6 “REFRESHING OUR CHURCH’S VISION”

- a) Progress report: a summary of the work already undertaken by the Working Groups will be presented at the meeting with opportunity to think about the next steps.

It is proposed to hold another day for the whole congregation on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010, to review activities so far and to look further ahead.

- b) Fellowship Groups: 3 new groups will start in January alongside the 3 already in existence. Andrew will attend the 1st meeting of each new group and spend time exploring how they will function and the material they wish to use. The January dates are as follows: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - 1.30pm, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> - 7.30pm, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> - 7.30pm.

#### 7 175TH ANNIVERSARY PLANS

- a) ‘Party in the Park’, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June: please note the change of date

The aim is to invite the local community to an afternoon of enjoyment together and show them that we Christians are ‘OK’ and want to show out God’s love to all. It is not high profile evangelism, but we do hope that questions such as ‘why are you doing this?’ will give us an opportunity to talk more of our faith.

We are inviting the other churches, CTiL and local organisations to join us on the day.

Next steps: You, the members of the church, have already committed to support this event - there will be many opportunities and forms in which to do so and we hope that many of you will offer help with the various tasks required to make the event happen.

Simple refreshments are envisaged, scones, cakes etc. and drinks.

It will be a free event with no entry charge and we do not anticipate having to fundraise, instead relying on donations that may be given and grants towards the costs of putting the event on.

If you need any more information in the meantime please speak to Peter Deaville or Peter Gregson.

Please continue to pray that God’s love will be visible to the town and everyone who comes along on the day.

- b) Commemorative items: ideas to be presented at the meeting.
- c) Calendar of key church dates in 175th Year (provisional & expanding): distributed on a separate sheet.

8 WEEKEND AWAY PLANS: 17-19<sup>th</sup> September 2010: you will know by now that the bookings for the weekend at Abbot Hall are significantly fewer than we hoped for. Many families have not booked and the price of the weekend is a common factor in this. The weekend away (in whatever form it occurs) is one for the whole church congregation and to be missing so many families will have a large impact on the value of the weekend to the whole church. To encourage greater participation two options are under consideration which will reduce the cost for families:

- a) to encourage more families to go, Abbot Hall have reduced the costs for young people and this information has already been passed to all families in the church, or alternatively
- b) to run a non-residential weekend using our own buildings on Friday and Sunday and a local village hall on the Saturday, with external catering for evening meals and Jacob's Join at the lunchtimes. The programme would be as close as possible to what is already planned.

Families are being consulted and based on their feedback one of these alternatives will be proposed to the meeting.

9 FINANCE

b) Proposal for Tithing of Church Income in 2009-10:

At this meeting the church invites suggestions for the disbursement of the monies for tithing for the current year.

Using the agreed formula the amount available is £2900 (£2970 in the previous year) and a proposal is made below for consideration by the meeting (2008-9 figures are in brackets):

Connexional Funds	700 (700)
Methodist Funds	1100 (1000)
Others	1100 (1270)

Proposal for Methodist Funds:

Fund for World Mission	450 (400)
Home Missions	450 (400)
LWPT	200 (200)

**Suggestion for 'Others' donations: please give any suggestions to Andrew before the meeting.**

Previously some funds have been retained to enable us to respond to emergencies during the current year. N.B. £250 has been already sent to the Cumbria Flood Relief Fund.

*For reference the following grants were made last year:*

<i>St. Mary's Building Fund</i>	<i>250</i>
<i>Cruse</i>	<i>250</i>
<i>Cumbria District Argentine Fund</i>	<i>250</i>
<i>Congo DEC Appeal</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Zimbabwe Victims Support</i>	<i>250</i>
<i>Medic Assist</i>	<i>170</i>

- c) Church Insurance and supported Groups: for the church insurance we need to clarify which groups are recognised KLMC groups and which are external groups. This will be considered at the meeting.
- d) Revision to Spending Policies (separate policies for Church and Property): draft revised documents are on the web site and copies are in the Church Reference Files. They will be proposed at the meeting.
- e) Suggestions for how the donations made to the church in 2009 are to be used: Andrew Webb will be leading our consideration of the use of the various gifts made to the church, as introduced at the November meeting (see minutes).

Gifts have been received towards the full cost of the balcony being re-opened and towards fitting of glass panels in the external doors and in the vestibule panel. A gift has been promised towards the costs of the 'Party in the Park' event in June.

## 10 PROPERTY

- a) Caretaker (Church Carer): Irene Hancock agreed to take on the role as a paid employee of the church and has been doing so since the beginning of November. It is suggested that the title be changed.
- b) Storage: the property committee suggest that we purchase another shed at a cost of £500 to solve the storage issues at church, rather than the alternative of adding a 'lean-to awning' onto the side of one of the existing sheds. By moving the existing sheds this would not increase the ground space taken up by the sheds.

11 CHRISTIANS TOGETHER IN LUNESDALE

- a) Quiet Day: this was well attended and led sensitively and thoughtfully by Rev Jeff Thomas a good CTIL event.
- b) 'Open The Book' Project: undertaken jointly with St Mary's and St Joseph's, a group of people are going weekly into St Mary's and St Patrick's Endmoor to tell and act well-known Bible stories, bringing the word of God into our local Schools. Many, many families today have no links with church or with the Bible. This project aims to reach children in school with the full support of the school staff and the diocese.

Several people from all three churches are volunteering to do this but more people would be advantageous to build up the teams and the activity. Contact Peter Deaville or Peter Boggis for more information.

- c) Easter Service Details: a CTiL group has met with representatives from all the churches.

This year there will be services/events in different churches during the evenings of holy week. We will host a Passover meal. On Good Friday there will simply be a procession and the service in the square.

There will be the usual Lent groups, and as usual we would suggest that members of our groups or those not currently in a group could join ecumenical groups during Lent.

13 PROPOSED FUTURE MEETINGS DATES

Tuesday, 2nd February - Stewards meeting

Monday 8th March - Church meeting

Tuesday 4th May - Church Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, 7th July - Church meeting

Thursday, 9th September - Church meeting

Monday, 1st November - Church meeting

*Stewards meetings take place in the month between each church meeting.*