

District JDS April Synod Update 2024

The District JDS Group has met four times in the first half of the Connexional year. Meeting on Zoom these meetings have been significant in developing our mission and ministry in an inclusive manner.

(A picture from one of the JDS District meetings)



Below is some of the key developments from the work of the JDS Group.

Training

The EDI training course, which is mandatory for many Methodist roles, is now available via [this link](#). The course is located at our new Methodist Church in Britain online learning platform MCBX <https://mcb.theologyx.com> where you can also access the [Unconscious Bias Training Course](#)

On the 13th March Revd Helen received a letter from the chair of the Connexional JDS committee requesting the numbers of those that have completed the training within the District. The request also asked for feedback on the training. The deadline for these numbers to be submitted was the week commencing 25th March 2024. Given the tight turnaround and the placement of Easter this request was difficult when you consider the District had no data when this was asked for.

Nevertheless, on the 3rd April the following numbers was submitted.

Unconscious Bias training- 405

EDI JDS training- 734

The JDS District could would like to encourage anyone in the District who has not completed their training to do so by the end of this Connexional year.

Linked Circuits

The JDS District group wants to help resource Circuits in training and awareness of the JDS Strategy. As such, below are the main contacts for the link Circuit persons from the JDS Group. Geographically the Circuits have been put into three main areas. If you are not clear on which area your Circuit resides, do make contact with Matt Forsyth.

| South | Middle | North |
|--|---|--|
| Anna Herriman | Janet Hinds | Bekkie Wright |
| Paulette Tedd | Regina Owusu | Patricia Mukorombindo |
| | Matt Forsyth | Vanessa Li |
| jdssouth@northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk | jdsmiddle@northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk | jdsnorth@northamptonmethodistdistrict.org.uk |

You are encouraged to contact your link members through the relevant email if you would like help with your JDS work.

JDS Group Meeting

An in person group meeting is being planned for May 2024

Plans for 2025

In partnership with the Mission team, there is conversations around a District JDS Event that would collaborate with the visit of the Vice President of Conference in 2025.

Resource Creation

The JDS District group and Mission Team have been contributing to create a number of timely resources for key calendar moments. These include- LGBTQ+ month, racial justice Sunday, World Bipolar Day, Rare disease day and many more. These can be found on our Facebook social media page ([Link](#)) and website ([link](#)).

The District JDS group would welcome contributions from the District for resources. We have up and coming resources on the following:

World Autism Awareness Day

Stephen Lawrence Day

International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia

Mental Health Awareness Week

