

Greetings Synod!

Thank you for continuing to make space for the Learning Network (LN) to share our updates with you!

In this season of Eastertide, as we reflect on rebirth; on mourning, hope, and new beginnings; we share with you our gratitude for the ongoing invitations we receive from your churches, circuits and district to mourn, hope, and recreate with you. It is our great privilege to journey with you in mission, ministry and discipleship; to be welcomed and trusted by you; to help you make your contexts safer, more efficient and more effective, so you can respond to the Great Commission that we are called to.

The LN continues to evolve in response to the needs across the Connexion, wider society and creation; we are working mindfully towards our [Net Zero target](#), evolving our [inclusive](#) and [justice-seeking](#) practice, and deepening collaboration. Our online provisions are increasing, with most meetings, training and events now accessible online, yet our team remains flexibly available to you; offline and in person where and when appropriate. We hope you might now be encountering more members of the LN team since we have moved to a 'one team' way of working!

Thank you for your engagement with our [Facebook group](#) and the newer [Methodist Resources Facebook Group](#) – we greatly appreciate these opportunities for conversation, questions and sharing, and thank you again for moving with us, so swiftly, to this streamlined model of communicating.

Please be encouraged to stay in contact, or get in touch with us – we are a relatively small team yet with big dreams to develop our relationships with you, to deepen our learning from and with you, and to thereby serve you as best we can. If you would like to know more about our LN team and our work, please visit our new [webpage area](#).

Here are some of the forthcoming LN opportunities available to the Connexion:

- [Positive Working Together](#), Online opportunities in April, June and July for training centering on transforming conflict and managing change and transition.
- [Explore](#): Beginning again this spring, Explore is a nine session course for any member of the Methodist Church in Britain to take a breath, step back, and consider how they are called to respond to God's call through worship, learning & caring, evangelism or service.
- [Circuit Stewards' Communities of Practice sessions](#) continue on the last Wednesday of every month, where Circuit Stewards from across the Connexion are invited to gather online to learn together with members of the Connexional Team, share good practice, ask questions and build relationships.

For more, and to keep up-to-date with how the LN can support and resource you, [please sign-up to our newsletter](#), join our [Facebook group](#). You can also contact our Learning Network Area Group Manager, Tricia Mitchell with questions about the network and the training and support on offer: mitchellt@methodistchurch.org.uk | 07799900454.

With many blessings, Your Learning Network Team

Aligned Officer News:

It is with some joy and sadness that we are saying goodbye to the Northampton Aligned Officer, Michael Wadsworth. Michael has worked with the District for four and a half years, particularly serving the District Executive, Superintendents, Local Preachers and Worship Leaders and the Theological Book Club with his passion for the Bible and strategic skillset. He moves on to take up a role at The Queen's Foundation in Birmingham, as a new Tutor for Discipleship and Theology, a great post for him and one in which we wish him all blessing and success.

Recruitment is underway for a new aligned officer to bring their own skills and passions to the District and continue acting as a conduit between Northampton and the work of the Learning Network. Please be praying for the process and the Learning Network team during this season of transition.