

LETTER TO THE CIRCUITS: MEDAL 2012

Methodists' Enabling Disciples As Leaders.

Passing on the baton of leadership

MEDAL 2012 was successfully launched at Wesley's Chapel on the 22nd of May 2011.

Work on MEDAL 2012 continues and ideas and resources are being shaped, see below:

At the September Synod a special MEDAL2012 pack will be available, and it will include the following:

1. **MEDAL2012 SERVICE for Circuits and local churches:**
 - a. Guidelines to enable churches and circuits to put on their own **MEDAL** services, including where to get your Awards – The **MEDAL** Badges and prayer cards, and you can book now with daniella@methodistlondon.org.uk if you know how many you will need at 50p per award. Hopefully most services will take place in the autumn, but you can order anytime.
 - b. Also the pack will include sermon outline for the above mentioned service, it will be on '**Lay Leadership today and tomorrow**'
2. '**Leadership in Crisis**' – **A Bible Study course based on John's Gospel and suitable for use during Advent.** Four sessions explore how the patterns of leadership shown by Jesus and the people around him can challenge and inspire church members today.
3. '**Practical leadership Skills Course**' and many more resources to enable you to identify train and equip your leaders.
4. **Recruiting for the Conference High Leigh Hoddesdon:** from September 2011 all churches and Circuits will be invited to identify potential lay leaders and send them to the Conference, there will be details of the **MEDAL Programme** and the **conference. (17th -19th of February. 160 places have been booked**

MEDAL 2012 is inspired by the vision of the church in Ephesians 4:12

The gifts God gave ... are to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

Since its beginning, the commitment of the London District has been to listen carefully to the needs of its people, churches and Circuits and to find ways of responding to the challenges that emerge. **MEDAL** is one of the means to encourage and focus that process. The District Council has established 'Equipping and developing congregations and disciples' as one of its key priorities and in order to find ways to develop the leaders necessary has set up the Lay Leadership Strategy Group (**LLSG**).

The task of the **LLSG** is to work together with the churches and Circuits of the District to shape and carry through a strategy to develop present and new lay leaders over the next two years.

Medal 2012 sets out to meet that challenge. Its twofold task is to:

1. **Celebrate and support all current lay ministries**
 - Therefore the District needs to ensure that we are getting our support and training right
2. **Recruit and nurture new leaders**
 - We need a vision that will inspire new generations of lay leaders – the spiritual challenge
 - We need a re-envisioning of leadership roles and patterns so that the distinctive gifts of individuals may be used to the full – the organisational challenge

Look out for your pack at the September Synod! Pray for the programme!

Thank you, Daleep Mukarji (Convenor LLSG)