

Multi-Site Churches: an invitation to pray about this... from Rev Jill Marsh

??? Are you struggling to find people to 'fill the roles' needed to be a Church with all the responsibilities of the Church trustees, on your Church Council?

??? Would you like to have more time and energy for relaxation, prayer life, fellowship, mission and outreach?

??? Are you somebody who gets concerned when we are cannot do things as well as you think is needed?

Then please read on...

Across the connexion this is a challenge and a new model has emerged which is really helping in many circuits. It is called a 'multi-site church'.

The aim of creating a multi-site church is to keep all the church buildings open, or as many as local people feel are needed, by having one Church Council with many buildings.

A multi-site Church Council is legally one church with one set of trustees, one Church Council, one Safeguarding Officer, one Treasurer, one GDPR Officer and so on.

Meanwhile the local congregations can meet and organise their fellowship and outreach life locally. Often it is enabling Methodist communities to have a new lease of life as they are not longer so burdened or worried.

I am interested in exploring this model, though I have no particular commitment to it. I also have no particular idea about how many buildings might want to come together under one Church Council in this way.

I know that some of our churches think it might work.

I simply want to help local Methodist communities to keep their buildings open and to grow the life of their fellowships and mission.

If you also think this is worth exploring please ask your Church Council for permission to represent them at a meeting that we will hold later in the Autumn for a first conversation about it.

To help with our prayers and thinking there are three stories about how this is working in other places: [stories here](#)

There is also more detail about how this is working in other places: [examples of how it works](#)

Let Jane know in the office if you would like to come along to explore this

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Thank you for thinking and praying about this, whichever church you belong to, Jill

Wednesday, October 2, 2024