

District Vision Statement
In the power of the Spirit and in the name of Christ to renew vision and promote the work of God through worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism.

Fresh Expressions within the District are under the aegis of a Working Party that has been led by Rev Jenny Ellis (now our ex-TDO). Please feel free to contact any member of the Working Party,

- Matthew Reed DDE - see synod directory
- Chris Briggs - chris@briggsworld.co.uk
- Dale Sherriff - dale.stephen@tiscali.co.uk
- David Read - david.read1@surefish.co.uk
- Howard Mellor - h.mellor@unitedchurchwinchester.org.uk
- Ian Mason-Smith - hollybushcottage1@btinternet.com
- Shirley Mackintosh - shirley@mackintosh50.freeserve.co.uk
- Peter Robson - peter@robsonpg.demon.co.uk

Are you

- Trying to work out the Fresh Expression which would be right for your Church or Community?
- Planning a Fresh Expression initiative?
- Wanting to review how your Fresh Expression initiative is going?
- In need of some help with problems or issues with your Fresh Expression?

What you need is a CONSULTANT!!

NOT the kind who charges you a lot of money for telling you what you already know

BUT the kind who sits down with you, listens carefully to what you have to say, and then works with you to get the picture clear and plan the way forward which God wants to lead you.

This kind of consultant comes with knowledge, experience, and expertise, BUT does NOT come to sell you ready-made answers.

Where can you find such a person? He is only a phone call or email away. He is David Read, a recently retired Minister with an MA in Consultancy for Mission and Ministry and living in the Andover Circuit.

Contact him on david.read1@surefish.co.uk or 01264 710090

He'll be glad to talk with you and come to meet with you.



"Fresh Ways"

Fresh Ways of being Church

Our District Chair reported to the 2008 Methodist Conference in his role as Chair of the Fresh Ways working group. This was the first of the group's annual reports, detailing progress made in encouraging the

priority of developing fresh ways of being church. Andrew Wood drew attention to the definition of Fresh Expressions contained in the report. *** He said that his working group had

established the need for more theological reflection. Two urgent matters were the identification of fresh expressions within circuits and Districts and the identification of gifted lay and ordained people.

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*** Define it!

A fresh expression is a form of church for our changing culture established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet members of any church.

- It will come into being through principles of listening, service, incarnational mission and making disciples.
- It will have the potential to become a mature expression of church shaped by the gospel and the enduring marks of the church and for its cultural context

Get the whole report from www.methodist.org.uk/downloads/Conf08_54_Fresh_Ways_of_Working.pdf It's worth it!



Life on the road

Six Fresh Expressions Road Shows entitled Changing Church for a Changing World went round the District last November. They aimed at enabling local churches to give voice to their dreams, to glimpse the possible and to take the risk of trying something

different alongside good things already going on. More than 400 people attended, over £1000 of books were sold. The District working party hugely enjoyed working together, and we all felt very blessed by the experience (if a little exhausted). The worship band devel-

oped a life of its own, and various mid Hampshire circuits have shared circuit worship services with the band.

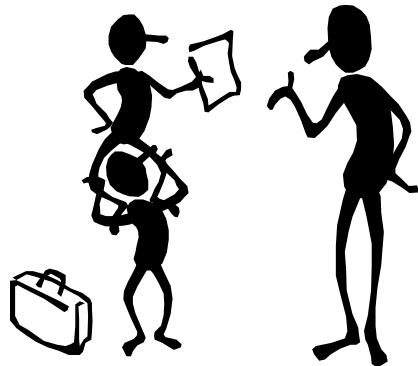


Get reading!

Sharing experience is an essential part of gaining the confidence to go ahead with a Fresh Expression. There will always be many reasons not to bother and we all need a bit of a push!

Beginning from the riches of Christian tradition, each chapter helps spiritual travellers to go on a journey, finding out more

seeing, hearing, smell, touching, tasting, imagination) with opportunities to wonder, pray, reflect or simply go out and do something that challenges the way we encounter the world.



Why not start with Tom Stuckey's 'On the Edge of Pentecost' and move on to Martyn Atkins' 'Resourcing Renewal'? You won't be disappointed and they may just get you going!

A beautifully illustrated, helpful resource which can be used for individual reflection, but also for all kinds of groups.

A useful resource is 'Sense Making Faith - Body, Spirit, Journey' by Anne Richards (CTBI £15)

along the way about other spiritual seekers and their search for the divine. Each chapter offers a different journey, (using

Accompanying website: www.spiritualjourneys.org.uk (One of the working party was Andrew Wood!)

Mission Shaped Ministry

This exciting new course is starting in the Autumn with ten circuits involved and twenty-two participants from our District.

It is primarily training for those interested in Fresh Expressions of Church, but will also be helpful to

is particularly for small local church groups, made up of any combination of laity, church leaders, and clergy.

"Our District is strongly committed to developing learning for mission and sees it as an integral part of our wholehearted focus upon fresh expressions; deepening our understanding in this area will equip us to be church in God's future".



The aim of the course is to prepare individuals and teams for pioneer ministry in fresh expressions of church within a 'mixed economy church.'

For further information about MSM, visit www.freshexpressions.org.uk and click on the MSM logo

Revd Dr Andrew Wood

those developing new areas of outreach to those outside the reach of traditional church. The course

We particularly hope small groups from a local church or circuit will come as this will deepen the impact of the course. Some individuals or groups may already be involved in a fresh expression, others committed to exploring the idea.

Get registered!

A look in the Fresh Expressions Directory ([go to www.freshexpressions.org.uk/directory](http://www.freshexpressions.org.uk/directory)) shows just seven registered in the Southampton Methodist District. If the report of the Fresh Ways Working Group to the 2008 Conference is anything to go

by, the actual number is likely to be three to five times the numbered registered. *

So if you qualify, please register to help us all to know about and be able to help each other.

Welcome to Issue 1!

We hope to publish ahead of each District Synod.

What to call it proved an interesting challenge! Please feel free to make other suggestions