**Report on the Work of the District Executive from April to September 2024**

The District Executive committee has met twice since the last Synod, and has:

1. Said farewell to the Rev’d Helen Cameron, and welcomed the Rev’d Dr Sonia Hicks, as Chair of the Northampton District.

2. Approved an ambitious District Environmental Policy for presentation to Synod. The District has registered to become an EcoDistrict, and aims to make care for the environment integral to our worship of God. All Circuits and Churches are encouraged to work towards the EcoChurch Gold Standard, and to reduce their carbon footprint year by year with the aim of reaching Net Zero by 2030.

3. Reviewed and approved

* Seven grant applications. The DE welcomed the increase in applications, which allowed us to reduce the balance on the District Advance Fund.
* A loan to a circuit, and a policy for financial support of circuits.
* District HR policies, and a District expenditure policy.
* A procedure for the District to consider grant applications from Circuits for “New Places for New People” (NPNP) initiatives, and potentially a procedure for “Action for Hope” funds.

4. Received reports from and reviewed the work of

* the District Mission Team.
* the District Safeguarding team
* the Justice, Dignity and Solidarity group
* the District Property officer

5. Begun consideration of ways in which the Chair of District might delegate some of her responsibilities. Steps are being implemented gradually, giving the new Chair time to consider the best way forward.

6. Welcomed the new monthly District newsletter, and gave strong support for considering making it weekly.

7. Approved documents to implement a Methodist-Baptist LEP for Kingsthorpe in the Northampton Circuit, and approved the following requests to cease worship, all of which require the ratification of the Representative Synod:

* Adderbury Methodist Church (Banbury circuit)
* Childrey Methodist Chapel (Wantage and Abingdon circuit)
* Cowley Road Methodist Church (Oxford Circuit)
* Queensgrove and Kingsthorpe Methodist Churches (Northampton Circuit).