

The **Methodist** Church

District News

from John Howard (Chair of Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury)
and Bill Anderson (Chair of Birmingham)

To keep you in touch..... April 2010

As District Chairs we celebrate that our Districts already share in a number of ways:

- ✚ Joint appointments: eg Training Officer and Extending Discipleship Co-Ordinator.
- ✚ Joint initiatives eg worship and mission enabling day, 'Building Vision', on 15th May.
- ✚ Working together to help communications between Circuits along the District boundaries.

This is in addition to such things as Regional Training Forum, Youth Participation Project Manager, Queens College, etc.

For some time a small group of people, with relevant experience, has begun to explore the relationship between our two Districts. We have increasingly felt that there are good reasons for bringing the two Districts together. Stated briefly these are.

- ✚ Better use of shared resources.
- ✚ Greater correspondence with ecumenical boundaries.
- ✚ Greater ability to address issues relating to the West Midlands as a whole.
- ✚ Removal of the very unhelpful boundary between the two Districts that cuts through communities related to each other.

We have already:

- ✚ Held a joint Superintendents meeting which encouraged us to move ahead.
- ✚ Listened to the stories of Districts which have already amalgamated, and those considering their future shape.
- ✚ Asked Anne Topping to facilitate the discussions of the joint group.

Our continuing discussions include:

- ✚ Our two Representative Synods meeting separately and together in September when we will consider the relationship between mission and discipleship, and share in a conversation about the possible joining of our two Districts

.....and we'll keep you posted on progress, please keep us in your prayers!

Why not email your thoughts or comments to,
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