

WHERE ARE WE NEEDED MOST?

Saturday 13th September 2025 | 9.30am - 12.30pm

Dear Friends, August 2025

We look forward to welcoming you to the autumn Representative Session of the Yorkshire North and East District Synod on Saturday 13th September.

This Synod is going to be in a hybrid format: on-site at **Huntington Methodist Church, York**, and online via Zoom.

Parking at this venue is limited. There is space for 6 cars outside of the church, and 10 assigned spaces in the car park at the Memorial Hall which will be prioritised for those who have limited mobility. Please email the District Office (admin@yorkshirenemethodist.org) with the registration plate of your car if you will be needing these spots. Otherwise please park sensibly on the street and lift share if possible.

Representatives are invited to choose whether to be on-site at Huntington or online. We invite those not coming to Huntington to consider the possibility of meeting together with others locally.

- For those attending at **Huntington**, please sign up here so we know numbers:
 www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/september-synod-in-person-attendence-tickets-1569451464579
- For those attending on **Zoom**, here is the link: https://zoom.us/j/97167047613?pwd=Hf4x0oaSaqbKlpaAAxVaAdSTGatRFM.1

The Synod will begin at 9.30am and we aim to conclude by 12.30pm. A draft agenda is attached. Refreshments will be available at Huntington from 9am and through the morning. Representatives are welcome to stay afterwards to eat a packed lunch. Please bring a mug with you.

Synod papers will be available on the District website at:

<u>www.yorkshirenemethodist.org/district/synods</u> or can be requested to be emailed directly, or printed and posted, by contacting the District Office at <u>admin@yorkshirenemethodist.org</u> or by phoning/texting 07539 027151.

The Synod needs to appoint two lay representatives to the 2026 Conference. A nomination paper is attached with further details. Please return completed nomination forms, either by post or email, by Saturday 6th September.

In addition to our regular business, we will be exploring how we make the best decisions we can about how and where to prioritise ministry and resources, and how we ensure that we don't all too easily withdraw from places where, as John Wesley noted, we are needed most:

"Go always, not only to those that need you, but to those that need you most."

In calling you to Synod, it is also our responsibility to remind you, as required by Conference, that "every presbyter and every deacon who is not a supernumerary, and every presbyteral and diaconal probationer, unless, in any case, excused by dispensation of the Chair, is required to attend the Synod of which he or she is a member and to remain throughout its sessions. A dispensation of absence is to be given only on compelling grounds." This also applies to Recognised and Regarded ministers.

Supernumerary Ministers and Ministers Authorised to Serve are welcome to attend the Representative Synod, but do not need a dispensation of absence if unable to attend. Lay members of Synod who are unable to attend are asked to notify the Synod Secretary via the District Office and to let their Circuit-meeting elected substitute have their Synod Papers.

We look forward to worshipping and conferring together.

With best wishes,

Leslie Newton Sandra Hayward
Chair of District Synod Secretary



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