

8/4 42. STATISTICS FOR MISSION (continued)

8/4/1 The Conference adopted as Resolution 42/2:

The Conference, in recognising the most significant corporate risk facing the Methodist Church in Great Britain is that it further declines and ceases to exist because of an “inability to create new Methodist disciples”, and in responding to the Statistics for Mission report:

- 1) calls Methodist members to enthusiasm in prayer and acts of personal evangelism.
- 2) calls Methodist churches to direct their work and wealth to the priority of making new disciples.
- 3) calls Methodist Circuits to resource the forming of new Methodist societies wherever possible, to offer witness and worship in new places, or in places where Christian presence has long since diminished.
- 4) calls Methodist Districts to include disciple-making as a priority for forthcoming synods.

8/4/2 Notice of Motion 2017/206: Growth Plan or End of Life Plan

In the light of the address given by the President of the Conference, the Conference with immediate effect encourages every Church Council annually to address and answer the question ‘do you have a growth plan or an end of life plan?’ The answer should be presented to the Circuit Meeting in order to aid their wider, strategic oversight of mission and ministry. The responses should also be annually reported to the District in order to fuel their discussions of Standing Order 962.

Should a local church offer no growth plan (within two years) they should be strongly encouraged and supported as they consider their end of life plan.

The Conference directs the Council to undertake work on how this can best be implemented and report to the 2018 Conference.

The Conference adopted the Motion.

8/5 Notice of Motion 2017/209: Day of Prayer and Fasting

The Conference recognises the challenges and changes facing every community in these islands and the urgent call of God on the Methodist people to share the love of God in Jesus Christ in word and action. The Conference therefore calls on every local church to launch the new Methodist year with a day of prayer and fasting and directs the Methodist Council to ensure that the Connexional Team promote such a day with appropriate resources.

The Conference adopted the Motion.