

Loughton Methodist Church (LMC)

**Moving Forward
and
'Growing Together'**

September 2017 – August 2018



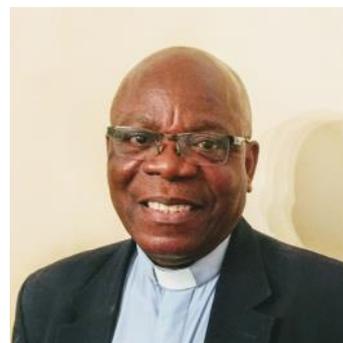
Following a late ministerial **Circuit vacancy** and subsequent **Circuit reorganisation**, Rev Osieas da Silva's ministry moves to Woodford and Shern Hall churches in September. We wish him every blessing in his new appointment. His family will remain in Brook Road manse until works on their new manse are completed.

The process to appoint a new minister to Forest Circuit and LMC/Trinity churches was unfortunately unsuccessful. **A ministerial vacancy therefore exists for Forest Circuit and LMC wef 1st September 2017.**

Representations to the **Stationing Committee** will be renewed in the **next round (September 2017)**. There is no guarantee of success, but if a match was to be made, the appointed minister could not join LMC until September 2018.

So how will this next year be managed?

Rev Armstrong Fummey, currently Supernumerary Minister at Barking Methodist Church, will be appointed to LMC from September 2017 until July 2018 as a Supernumerary Minister on part-time duties. His responsibilities will include **pastoral care, preaching, the chairing of Church Council meetings and safeguarding.**



LMC's Church Council, (governing body), will continue to provide continuity and strategic leadership during this period.

LMC's Stewards, will continue to manage day-to-day issues relating to church worship. Led by Senior Steward, Anne Spong, they will meet regularly, liaising with Rev Fummey, the Circuit, and keeping the congregation updated.



LMC has a **Plan of worship** for the year ahead, drawn up by the Worship Consultation Group (including local preachers and worship leaders, coordinated by David Hobbs). Besides Rev Fummey, the Plan includes circuit ministers, a range of local preachers and regular preaching commitments from Rev Stephen Yelland and Rev the Lord Leslie Griffiths - both well known to, and familiar with LMC. Popular evening contemporary worship services will also continue.

The **Pastoral Team** at LMC, will coordinate the pastoral needs of the congregation. Matters requiring direct involvement, support, or visitation from a minister, will be handled by Rev Fummey.

LMC's direction of travel is expressed in its **Development Plan (DP), 'Growing Together.'** Four priorities, identified by the congregation in 2015, express our shared vision, and will provide continuity and direction. **(The four priorities are Reaching out; Nurturing our faith; Enriching our resources; Developing leadership and organisation at LMC)**

Over several months, **Church Council and the Steering Group have carefully considered leadership and organisation at LMC (DP priority 4).** Staffing structures and financial planning have been revised; organisational structures streamlined; line management and Safeguarding systems clarified and enhanced. These revisions will help to provide a strong base for continuity and stability during the interregnum period.

The **Steering Group** focuses on strategic planning, overseeing the implementation of the Development Plan. Meeting monthly with individuals or groups as necessary, it also steers the work of Task Groups. During the next year, **members of the congregation will be invited to volunteer as members of Task Groups** working on DP priorities. Achievements will continue to be reported to Church Council and the congregation.

Members: Rev Armstrong Fummey, Keith Aldred, Maggie Buttress, Victoria Williamson

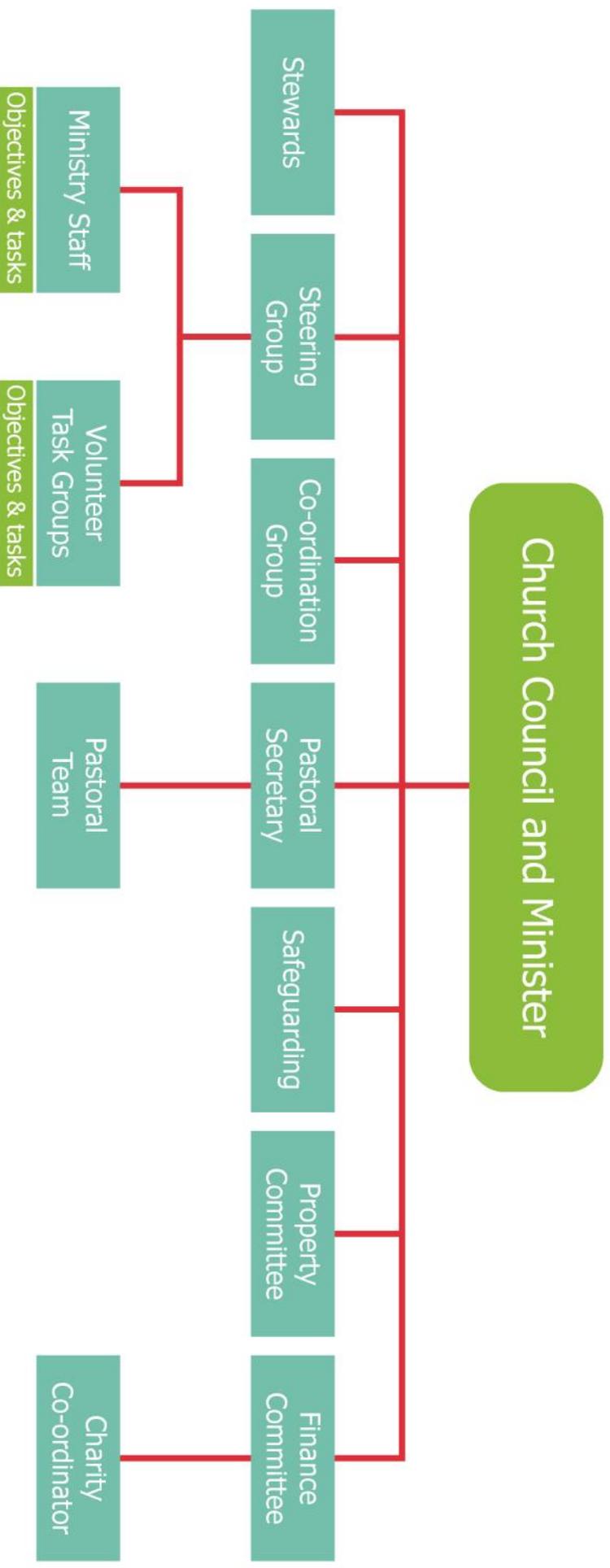
The Coordination Group manages issues requiring day-to-day decision-making, and prepares the Church Council agenda. Membership comprises Committee Chairs and other groups:- Rev Armstrong Fummey [Minister], Keith Aldred [Finance] , Chris Beamont [Property), Victoria Williamson [HR advice], Anne Spong [Senior Steward], Martin Howarth [Treasurer], Malcolm Bell [Safeguarding], Pastoral Secretary.

6 Ministry staff, , focus their work on delivering the DP priorities. (The ministry team comprises: Coordinator of Family and Children's Work; Creative Arts Coordinator; Office Manager; Office Administrator; Wesley's Café Manager and Communications Officer). Supervisors, appointed by Church Council, oversee these staff as they progress their **action plans to implement the DP.**



LMC has every reason to feel confident about its direction during the next year. As Rev Fummey and others lead our worship, ministry staff, Stewards, the pastoral team, and a range of different groups described above will help to provide continuity and direction. There will also be opportunities for each of us to contribute and make a difference, as we continue on our DP journey of faith, 'Growing Together.'

Loughton Methodist Church Governance Structure 2017



Objectives and Tasks for these groups will be driven by the Development Plan