

The Methodist Church

Structure

The 'Parent' Organisation for the Methodist Church of Great Britain is called the **Connexion**. The governing body of the Methodist Church is the **Conference** and it meets annually to discuss matters affecting the life of the Church, the nation and the world. There are two other organisations which are integral to the organisation of the Church nationally: **Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes** - TMCP (legal, property and charity matters) and the **Central Finance Board** – CFB (essentially a Bank).

The National Church is sub-divided into **Districts**, of which there are 36. Two of the Districts are in Wales, the **Wales Synod** and Synod Cymru, and together they form the **Methodist Church in Wales**. (see map)

Each District is sub-divided into **Circuits**. In the Wales Synod there are 16 Circuits of which Welshpool & Bro Hafren Circuit is one. (see the map in the Appendix)

All Methodist Churches in Great Britain are members of one or other of the Circuits.

Thus:

A Church is part of a Circuit.

A Circuit is part of a District.

A District is part of the Connexion.

In Welshpool and Bro Hafren Circuit there are 7 Churches / Chapels (see Appendix):

Cefn Chapel, Buttington	(9 members)
Welshpool Church	(65 members)
Pentre Llifior Chapel	(11 members)
Newtown Church	(31 members)
Caersws Church	(15 members)
Zoar Church, Trefeglwys	(14 members)
Llawr y Glyn Chapel	(8 members)

Administration

There is a set of rules to which all churches, employees and members should adhere, called 'The Constitution Practice and Discipline of the Methodist Church' (C.P.D.) It is printed in 2 volumes, the first of which is the legal basis for the Methodist Church and the other a list of its rules and regulations. These rules are amended annually at Conference. (Copies are available on the Methodist Website).

Local churches administer their own affairs, including property, through Church Councils who appoint Church Stewards and other Officers for day to day affairs. They should have, at the least, a Treasurer and a Property Steward. The Circuit has oversight of the local churches.

The Circuit has one Superintendent Minister who pastoral care of the members of the 7 churches. To help in the administration of the Circuit there is a part-time Administrator. The Superintendent is an ex-officio member of all Church Council meetings. Currently the Superintendent Minister lives in a manse in Newtown

Responsibility for the direction and policy for the Circuit is shared between its lay and ordained trustees. Lay trustees are appointed by the local churches. The trustees meet at least twice a year in meetings called Circuit Meetings in which, along with other business, Circuit Officers and Circuit Stewards are appointed. Circuit Stewards have responsibility for administering the Circuit, for maintaining circuit property and for the general welfare of the ordained and other employed staff in the circuit. A list of the Circuit Officers is in the Appendix. The Wales Synod has oversight of the Circuit.

At Circuit level there is a Circuit Leadership Team, comprising of the Superintendent Ministers and the Circuit Stewards, who are responsible for the daily administration of the Circuit. Currently there are 6 Circuit Stewards. The Circuit Leadership Team meets regularly during the year to discuss the administration of the Circuit and it has a sub-committee, called the Property Group, with the remit of overseeing Circuit Property. Currently we have one manse and we rent out two redundant manses in Welshpool. At present we have one, closed, chapel in Llanidloes which is being advertised for sale.

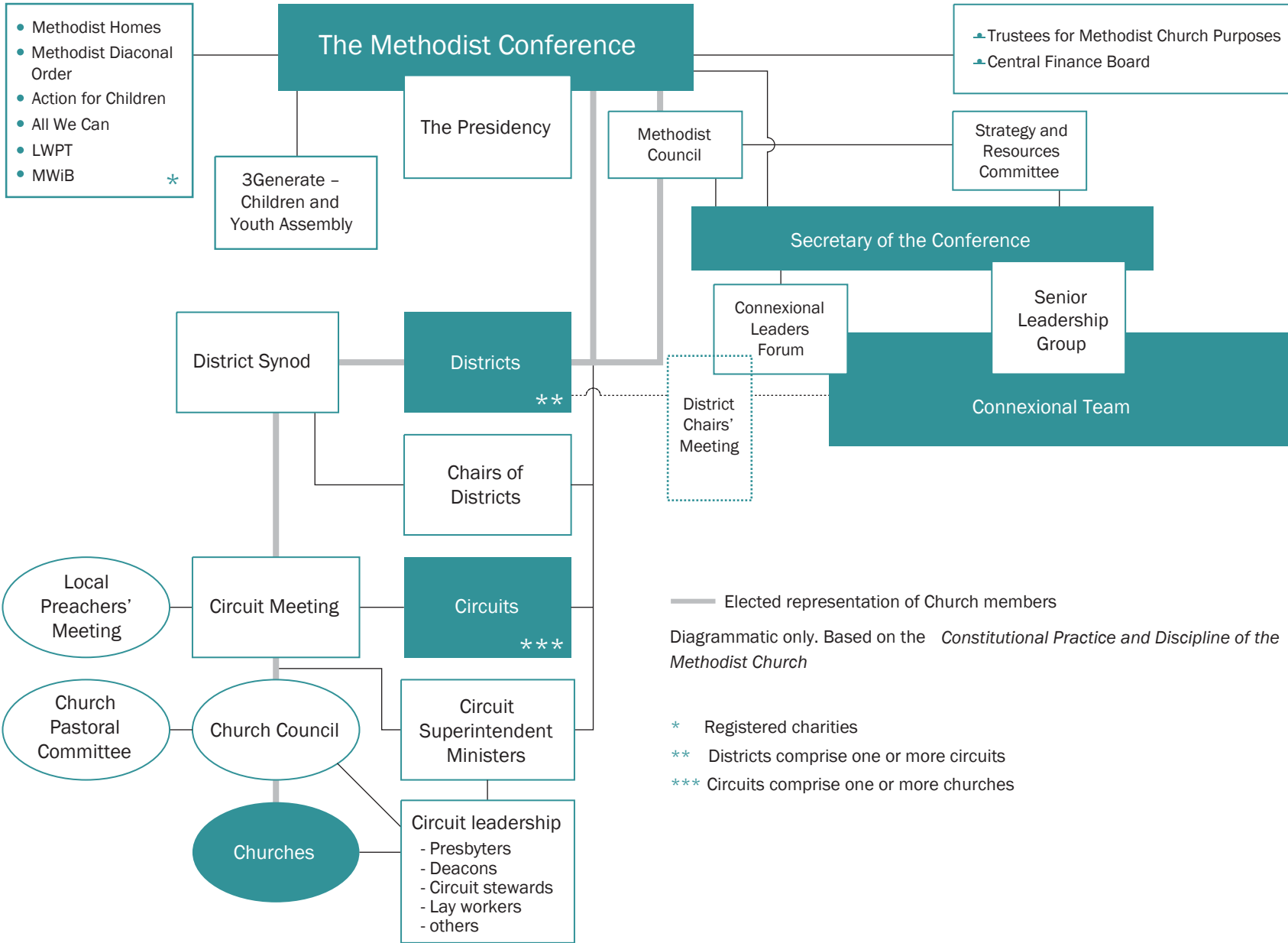
The Circuit has charitable status and so is required to follow all rules and regulations of the Charity Commission.

Further information concerning the Circuit may be found on:

<http://www.wbhmethodists.org.uk/>

Appendix

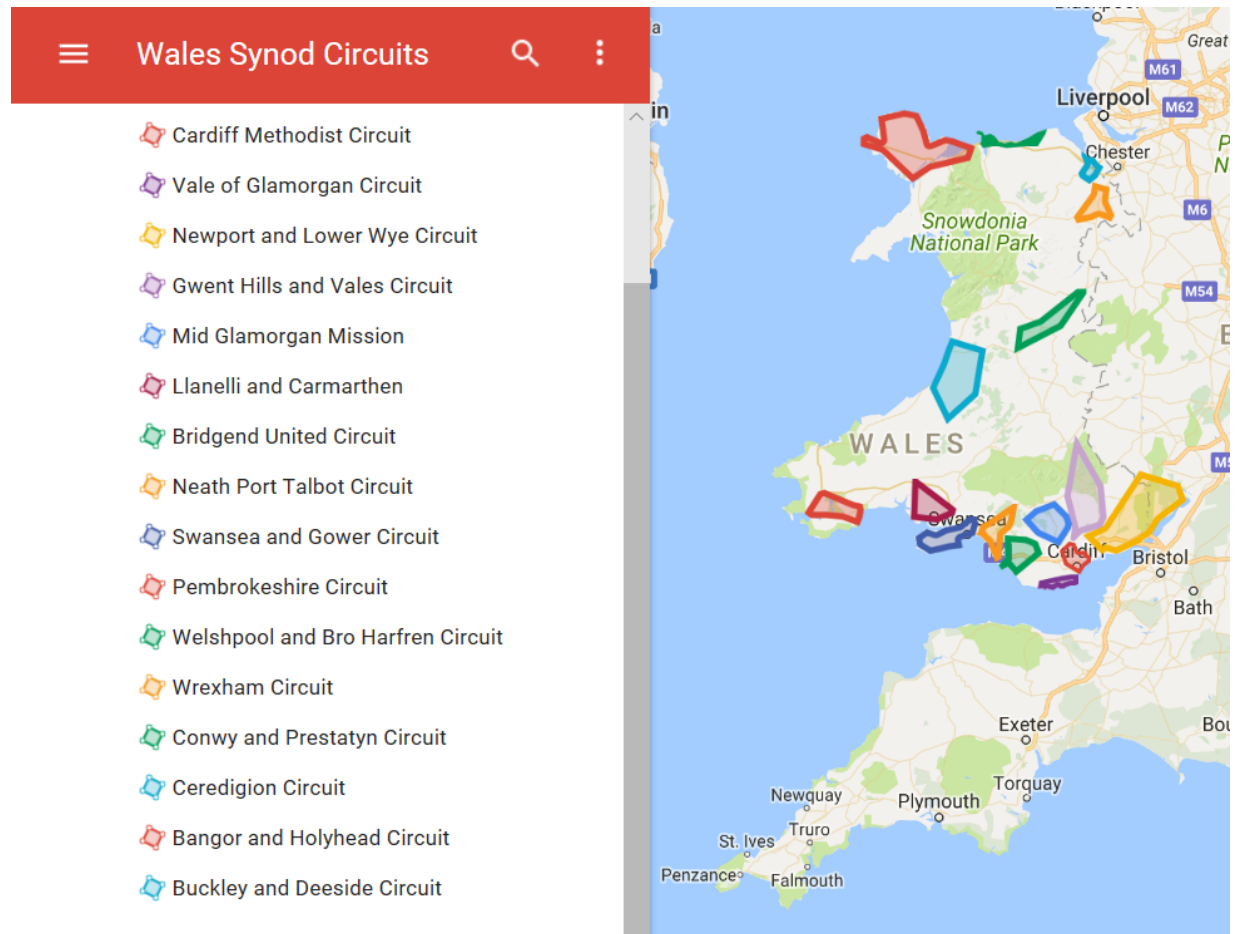
Ecumenical Links



Methodist Districts in Great Britain



Circuits in the Wales Synod



Circuit Church Locations



- A Welshpool
- B Cefn Chapel, Buttington
- C Pentre Llifior
- D Newtown
- F Caersws
- G Zoar Chapel, Trefeglwys
- H Llawr y Glyn

Circuit Officers 2019-2020

Superintendent Minister: Rev Bob Thomas

Positions filled by members of the Circuit Meeting:

Circuit Stewards: ***** (6 stewards)

Circuit Administrator: *****

Circuit Finance Officer: *****

Circuit Meeting Secretary: *****

Circuit Property Co-ordinator: *****

Circuit Property Group: ***** (4 stewards)

The Local Preachers' Meeting Officers: ***** (2 stewards)

Mission Sec/Treasurer: *****

Methodist Women in Britain Sec: *****

Education & Youth Officers: ***** (2 stewards)

Methodist Homes Sec: *****

Action for Children Sec: *****

Safeguarding Officer: *****

Archivist: *****

Reps to Synod: ***** (3 stewards)