



❖ **New Offering Envelopes**

The offering envelopes for 2014 have now arrived and are at the back of church. Please collect your envelopes and if you have any questions, or would like to start give using the envelope scheme, please see Matt.

❖ **Church Offering for November**

Wesley Ebenezer Methodist Church is now a registered charity number 1150284. As a registered charity, we are now publishing the amount given in the church offering, both on Sunday morning and via standing order. The amount given in November was £1,577.32; thank you for your generosity.

❖ **Advent Fayre**

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who helped with the Advent Fayre and to those who attended. We raised over £900, which will go towards the blinds in the Sanctuary and the secondary glazing.

❖ **Same Sex Marriage – Methodist Conference Consultation**

The Methodist Conference set up a working group in July 2013: "to consider whether the Methodist Church's position on marriage needs revising in light of changes in society, undertaking this consideration with reference to scripture, tradition, reason and experience". The working group is consulting via a questionnaire which can be viewed on the connexional website. The deadline for responses is 9am on Monday 10th February 2014. Vernon Marsh, the District Chair, believes that some people would welcome a place to discuss and think through their views, in the light of those of other people, before they respond to the consultation. He therefore invites you to a group conversation at St Andrew's Psalter Lane, Sheffield S11 8YL either on Wednesday 29th January from 7.30pm to 9.30pm or on Saturday 1st February from 10am to 12noon. There is no need to book; just come along. Those attending will be expected to be committed to the confidentiality of the conversation. It is *not* the intention that a response to the questionnaire be formulated in the meeting. It would be helpful if those attending could read online both the Frequently Asked Questions page (<http://www.methodist.org.uk/media/961284/ssmcp-faq-1013.pdf>) and the questionnaire itself (<http://www.methodist.org.uk/media/983629/ssmcp-consultation-questions-271113.pdf>). Hard copies of these can be obtained from the District Office (0114 281 2733) or speak to one of the Newsletter editors.

❖ **JMA – Junior Mission for All**

We recently presented Emily, Joseph, Lewis and Benjamin with their awards for collecting for JMA for another year. They collected £441.50 between them. Many thanks to all who contribute weekly. If you are interested in giving to this worthy cause or have a child who would like to collect, please see Carole Gray.

❖ **Pianists Wanted**

As I'm sure you've noticed, Rebekah will be gaining a brother or sister in January. As such, I am going to be out of action from playing the piano for a while. If you or anyone you know would be able and willing to play, then any help would be much appreciated, even if it's just a one off or once a month. Thanks, Emma.

❖ **Christmas in Crookes Poster**

Representatives from all of the churches in Crookes have met and put together a poster giving details of services that are happening across all of the churches this Christmas. We have a large version up on our community notice board and there are small flyer versions at the back of church. If someone you know might be interested in coming along to a service this Christmas, please take some flyers to give to them. Also, if you would be willing to take a poster (either A3 or A4 size) and display it in your window for passers-by to see, please see Matt.