**DISCERNING OUR FUTURE GRANTS**

This grant from the District Advance Fund is intended to support churches at a critical point in their journey—one that may involve significant questions about identity, mission, and community engagement. It is especially aimed at churches seeking to explore and discern their future role in mission and ministry.

At such times, independent professional support can be invaluable. This might include engaging external consultants or facilitators to help with activities such as reviewing the church's missional vision and goals, exploring opportunities and challenges, assessing church facilities and surroundings, understanding local demographics and/or conducting congregational and community research.

Churches are invited to apply to the District for a **Discerning Our Future Grant** to help cover the cost of professional fees for such facilitators or consultants. **Grants are available up to a maximum of £5,000.**

**Please note:** This grant **does not** cover professional fees related to construction projects (e.g., architects or quantity surveyors). For these, please refer to the **District Property Feasibility Grant**

**Applications** should be submitted as a **Reasoned Case Summary** (maximum of two sides of A4), and should include:

- A description of the church's missional and community background and why it is seeking to discern the future.
- A copy of the written brief agreed with the consultants, the scope of the work, outcomes that will be delivered, costings and timescales.
- An email or short note from the Circuit Superintendent confirming that the Circuit supports the need for the proposed work.
- A brief overview of the Church's financial position: Model Trust Fund reserves and current income and expenditure.

Please send your reasoned case document to Alison Gill District Grant Officer: grants@swpmethodist.org.uk if you would like to discuss yourproposal.