

AND FINALLY...

❖ Church Offering for December

Wesley Ebenezer Methodist Church is now a registered charity number 1150284. As a registered charity, we are publishing the amount given in the church offering both on Sunday morning and via standing order. The amount given in December was £1,670.31; thank you for your generosity.

❖ 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 to give using the envelope scheme, please see Matt.

❖ Spring Harvest 2014

A group of us are going to Spring Harvest again this year and we will shortly be finalising the booking. As there is still accommodation available, we would welcome anyone else who would like to join us. The dates are **Monday 14th April to Friday 18th April**. For more details, please see Carole or Andrew Gray as soon as possible.

❖ 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.

❖ Victoria Hall Clothing Store for the Homeless

The Victoria Hall hosts the clothing store for the homeless of Sheffield. They are in desperate need of warm winter clothing for men: warm coats, jumpers, trousers, shoes etc. In recent weeks they have seen a surge in the use of the store and it is in urgent need of further stock. They are anticipating increased use in the next few weeks as the weather gets colder. Clothing can be brought into the Reception of the Victoria Hall any day from Monday to Saturday. For more information, please contact Joyleen Poole, Administrator, Victoria Hall Methodist Church, Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 2JB. 0114 2721749; working days Tuesday to Friday, 9am-2pm.