

## The **Methodist** Church



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# The Residential

6 - 8 July 2012 (Friday evening - Sunday afternoon)

at Amelía Trust Farm, five mile came, Barry, CF623AS

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down on the Farm. Join together in Friendship,

Accomodation

& Activities

including all

Food,

sure that you book in soon to secure your place the comfort of the Farm Bunkhouse, so make

Lifts available from the train station

connected with a Methodist Church in Wales Open to all young people aged 11-18 and

Book with Amy Adams before 31st May 2012 to secure your place (amy.adams@methodistwales.org.uk)

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# greenbelt

## 24 - 27 August 2012 Cheltenham Racecourse

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the festival but YWAG are working with Connexional Children and Youth Officers to arrange a Wales Youth Meetup during the weekend. - Further details of the shape this will take will be published just as soon as we have them. Youth groups are encouraged to make thier own arrangements to attend

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The Dodge Brothers. Festivalgoers will enjoy talks from groundbreaking theologian Stanley Hauerwas, hermit Richard Rohr, former MP Clare Short, thoughtful agnostic Mark Vernon, inspirational youthwork expert Mark Yaconelli, national treasure Roger McGough, and comedians Milton Jones, Robin Ince and Jude Simpson. the Gloucestershire hills. The music programme features Gil Scott-Heron, Beverley Knight social justice. This year's festival takes place from 27-30 August, at Cheltenham Racecourse in Greenbelt is a festival of music, performing and visual arts, talks, worship and investigation of Courtney Pine, Shed Seven, Ty, London Community Gospel Choir, Lou Rhodes, Foy Vance and



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#### The Methodist Church in Wales Yr Eglwys Fethodistaidd yng Nghymru



Synod Office Cyncoed Methodist Church Westminster Crescent CARDIFF CF23 6SE

Tel: 029 2076 1515

e-mail: office@methodistwales.org.uk

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2012

To all Ministers (Presbyter, Deacon and Other),

I firstly want to take this opportunity to thank those of you who supported us in creating "The BIG Sleepover" back in February as 1 fantastic event bringing together over 50 young people of the Methodist Church in Wales across 3 locations. Some of the feedback from this event has been fed on to the Children and Youth Team in London as well as being felt locally and I'm sure will re-emurge in the near future as participants have gone home with new ideas about me and; my community, my friends and my spirituality to share and do something about.

Now for the real reason for writing. You should find along with this letter a master for printing and sharing flyers and posters for our July event "The Residential". This follows on from the sense of friendship and fellowship across Wales that were clearly building through our previous events in Youth Forum and The BIG Sleepover YWAG have booked the Bunkhouse facilities at the Amelia Trust Farm with the aim of gathering as many of the young people of the Methodist Church in Wales \*(agd 11-18) into one place as possible for a weekend of Fun, Friendship, Faith, down on the Farm 6<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

Throughout this weekend together (Friday evening to Sunday Afternoon) we will be making new friends, looking at how to build continuing relationships (with one-another and God) and trying to give our Faith an Activism. We hope to make this an active weekend not only by our countryside setting but also as we leave a physical reminder of our stay in a our labours creating a permanent improvement to the environment at Amelia Trust Farm.

The invitation to The Residential is open to all young people aged 11-18 who are connected with the Methodist Church in Wales. We realise that the Farm may not be the easiest of places for young people to get themselves to so we are offering lifts from a local train station to make travelling by public transport easier. I you know of a young person who would like to come but finances or travel are a barrier to them please let us know and we will work to ensure that they have the fullest opportunity to join us.

Please do display posters, give out flyers and talk to young people to encourage them to join us for what should be a fun weekend gathering. Please feel free to use the space at the bottom of the poster, we've left a gap intentionally so that you can put in local details for young people to find out more or simply a "Contact your Minister, Rev. Blank, for more information"

Looking in another direction, YWAG have a small pot of money to share in order to assist young people in attending wider Christian events and this year we have decided to use this to offer financial support to 20 young people of £30 each to assist them in attending the Christian Festival "Greenbelt" (24<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August 2012). Also with this letter you should have received a poster/flyer to this effect to share our good news. However, we only have funding for 20 young people, which we anticipate will go fast, so do get in touch with Amy Adams (amy.adams@methodistwales.org.uk) as soon as you know of a young person (or family including young people) who would use this support. This year at Greenbelt as well as the "Methodist Tent" there will be a "Methodist Mingle" one evening and Sam our Youth President is keen to see something sporty happening but that one's still under wraps.

Finally to look a little further into the future, some information for events in the next church year;

**Youth Forum** will be back alongside Wales Representative Synod in the Autumn (8<sup>th</sup> September 2012 in Newtown). It would be great to think we could get at least 1 young person from each circuit to make Youth Forum a representative place this year as we discuss in Youth Forum alongside Synod. (If we can get even more than this that would be even better!)

**3 Generate** (The Methodist Youth Assembly) will be  $16^{th} - 18^{th}$  November 2012 at the Whitemoor Lakes Centre in Staffordshire. This is in 3 age streams 8-13, 14-18. 19-23, we will be looking to support as many as possible in attending from Wales but particularly to ensure that we have at least 1 person in each age-group.

Should you have any questions or information to share with our network of those working with young people please do not hesitate to get in touch with myself or any of the other YWAG members. We simply urge you to pass this information on to any young people in your churches and those who work with young people so that our work and ultimately the church may grow.

**Thanks** 

Youth Space

By young people
For young people
For Gud

See what Young People are doing in their new church Youth Space - By young people, For young people, For God http://youthspace.cardiffmethodist.org.uk

Ian Thomas youthspace@cardiffmethodist.org.uk
Youth Worker to the Methodist Church in Cardiff and Caerphilly
On behalf of the Wales Synod – Youth Work Action Group