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The Revd. Graham R. Jones

To continue as Rural Officer (Methodist/URC) for five years from 1st September 2011

Graham Jones was appointed as Rural Officer by both the Methodist Church and United Reformed Church with effect from 1st January 2006. For the past five and a half years he has served both churches with distinction and become a recognised figure within rural work and a valued member of the Connexional Team, the URC Mission Team and the Arthur Rank Centre.

Graham is appreciated for his ecumenical work and the projects he has developed. He has led on a new understanding of Local Collaborative Ministry that draws on expertise from New Zealand and Canada; in partnership with the Churches' Regional Commission for Yorkshire and the Humber he is developing a leadership development programme for Rural Church Entrepreneurs and has ensured that good placements in rural ministry are on offer via our theological colleges. He supports and resources the network of District Rural Officers.

Graham is a gifted communicator who is committed to the rural church in all its various forms and guises. He is realistic about the challenges facing the Church today and is committed to playing a full part in developing and reshaping the church in rural settings.

He is a person of prayer who is passionate about the worship and mission of the Church. He wants the Church to be relevant, effective and faithful. He is an excellent colleague and committed to his own personal development and the fulfilment of God's call upon his life as both a Methodist minister and a rural specialist.

The Rural Strategy Group - acting on behalf of both denominations - is unanimous in recommending the extension of the Revd. Graham Jones appointment as Rural Officer (Methodist/URC) for five years from 1st September 2011.