

The Methodist News

25 February 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News.

Yours

[The Communications team](#)

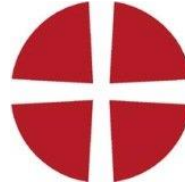
LGBT+ History Month



The Revd Ian Worsfold talks about his experiences of being a gay minister in the Methodist Church in [this](#) video interview.



Karl Rutledge is a Methodist Presbyter in the London District who is trans. In [this blog](#) he considers the experience of trans people and their portrayal.



It is now twenty eight years since the Methodist Conference passed the Resolutions on Human Sexuality which set the Methodist Church on a pilgrimage of faith, where those with contradictory convictions are held together in the love and grace of God. In [this article](#), we ask a few of those who were in Derby for that Conference in 1993 to reflect on the experience of the debate.



Secretary of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, reflects on LGBT History Month 2021, and what it has meant for the Methodist Church in [this](#) video message.

News

School Chaplaincy



Methodist Schools

Methodist Schools is organising a session for people to find out more about school chaplaincy. The webinar, taking place 3 March, 2.00pm – 3.45pm, will be an overview of the nature of chaplaincy from the leader of the Centre for Chaplaincy in Education with reflections on the nature of the work from serving chaplains and from a headteacher. You can book to participate by emailing the Methodist Schools office [here](#).

#LoveThisCalling



The best of all is,
God is with us

We all have a call to follow Jesus, and for each of us that call is as unique as we are. For some, the last 12 months have been a time when our sense of calling has been hard to find, and for others new callings are emerging. The Love This Calling campaign, which launches this Sunday (28 February), is an opportunity to ask the Methodist community, and beyond, to explore our sense of calling in the time and place we find ourselves. Find out more [here](#)

How to run a virtual prayer room



The Evangelism and Growth team are holding a webinar on how to run a virtual prayer room on 22 March, 7-8.30pm. A virtual prayer room provides the excitement of Christians praying together in community, without having to leave your own home. Brian Heasley of 24-7 Prayer, will talk about the logistics of running a virtual prayer room and provide some top tips for encouraging people to take part. You can register [here](#).

Chaplaincy Gathering



The quarterly Connexional Connecting Chaplains Gathering takes place Tuesday 9th March, 7.30pm – 9.00pm. This UK-wide quarterly event is open to anyone involved in chaplaincy. Together we connect with God, connect with the chaplaincy issues, and connect with each other. At these events, there is an opportunity to pray together, hear from some chaplains about a particular topic in chaplaincy, and then share together with others involved in chaplaincy. Find out more and book [here](#).

St David's Day



Join the Revd Richard Teal and Revd Jennifer Hurd, Chair of Cymru Synod, at 12.45 on Monday 1st March for a special reflection. Have your daffodils at the ready! Visit and like the Presidency Facebook page [here](#).

Homelessness and Housing Gathering



The fourth Zoom Gathering will take place on Friday 19 March 11 am and 12.30 pm hosted by Ian Rutherford (Manchester) and Mike Long (London). There will be updates on actions by the Working Group on Housing, a report on lobbying in conjunction with Citizens UK, current developments in community led housing and an interactive session on the need for work on homelessness prevention.

Please contact Revd Ian Rutherford on ianr7@hotmail.co.uk for the Zoom link to join the Gathering.

Church Growth



The Evangelism and Growth Team is developing an exciting partnership with [Leading your Church into Growth](#) to equip local churches. If your church or circuit team are longing for growth and would like some support, you may like to consider signing up for an online training conference from Friday 7th to Sunday 9th May. More details are [here](#).

Daffodil Day - Methodist Central Hall Westminster



A Spring Festival Rally will be led online by Revd Tony Miles and Deacon Ali McMillan on Saturday, 6th March at 2pm. Special guests include The Lord Mayor Of Westminster, Pam Rhodes, the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, the Methodist Youth President and the President of Methodist Women in Britain. The event can be found at www.mchw.live and www.YouTube.com/mchwevents

Year of Prayer

Join others across the Methodist Church to pray, every Tuesday from 12.45pm to 1.00pm

Participate



Watch Again



Next week's service will be led by Jill Baker a local preacher and tutor in the Strathclyde Circuit, part of the small but active Methodist Church in Scotland. Jill is a former Vice-President of the Methodist Conference and currently chair of the Methodist Council. More information about the Year of Prayer can be found [here](#) or use this [direct link](#) to register.

This week's Year of Prayer service was led by Joan Wager, a member of the Methodist Church at Langwathby in the Eden Valley, Cumbria where she is a Circuit Steward, providing pastoral care and promoting church and community together. You can watch the service again, [here](#).

Media

Pause for Thought



Trey Hall, Director of Evangelism & Growth at the Methodist Church, was the contributor for Pause of Thought on BBC Radio 2, Friday 19 February.

You can listen [here](#) from 1hr 42mins.

'Dial-a-Prayer' phonedines



A reminder that we have added a pastoral message from the President and Vice-President of the Conference to our free 'Dial-a-Prayer' phonedines. You can download a print-and-cut-out sheet with details to send to others [here](#)

Prayer: 0808 281 2514

Pastoral message from the President and Vice-President: 0808 281 2695

Methodist Podcast: 0808 281 2478

Spiritual sustenance in isolation



During this time of 'lockdown' a special page on our website signposts you to resources to help nourish your spiritual life.

These are mostly resources that are provided centrally but you can also check what your local church or circuit is providing.

Click [here](#).

Guidance



As restrictions continue, read the latest guidance [here](#), including links for other nations.