

# The Methodist News

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16 December 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the last Methodist News of 2021.

The next Methodist News will be published on the 13 January.

On-call media support will continue over the Christmas period. Contact details are [here](#).

Yours,

[The Communications team](#)

## Covid Guidance

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Update 9 December 2021 - Changes to Government Guidance

Following the announcement by the Prime Minister on 8 December to move to Plan B measures (ENGLAND ONLY) to combat the spread of the Omicron variant, a number of restrictions will affect those worshipping, using or working within Methodist church property settings. Read [here](#).

In Scotland please refer to the Guidance for the Safe Use of Places of Worship [here](#). In Wales please refer to the [Guidance for Re-Opening Places of Worship here](#).

## Advent and Christmas

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### Christmas cheer from the Presidency

ICYMI Sonia and Barbara were live on their Facebook page this week. You can hear a reflection from Barbara, catch up with their news and get in the festive spirit here:



### Christmas Service on a CD

This year's Christmas Service is now available to [download here](#). The service follows the presidential theme of God's Table, An Invitation For All. We meet those who extend that invitation into our communities; and enjoy carols, readings and reflections. The Christmas Service is now out of stock on CD.

### Resources for Christmas 2021

To help you to pray and connect with your community this Christmas, we have a number of resources available, all featuring Nativity, a painting by Dr He Qi – a Chinese artist living in California, USA including posters and postcards. Click to [order](#) resources.



## Contemporary Reflections

Throughout Advent, we will post a series of contemporary reflections online, linking Luke 2:10 with characters in this painting, and current affairs and concerns in Britain and around the world. These will be available [here](#) and on our social media channels, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

# Evangelism and Growth

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## The gift of unconditional love



"The greatest gift we share in evangelism is always, always about relationship – about being totally present to other people, listening to them, and loving them unconditionally."

- Holly Adams, Evangelism and Contemporary Culture Officer, shares here experience of volunteering as a Street Pastor.

Read her blog [here](#) and find out more about Everyone an Evangelist below.

## Everyone an Evangelist

Launching in January, Everyone an Evangelist is a course designed to help groups from local churches and circuits explore the ways you and your church community are called to share your faith and to grow in confidence as evangelists. Find out more [here](#).



## Circuit conversations about God for All

The Evangelism and Growth team would love to Zoom into your circuit in the year ahead – to offer a short introduction to God for All, to listen to what you're wrestling with, and to explore questions together. Contact them [here](#) to invite them to a circuit meeting or circuit leadership meeting in 2022. 20% of circuits have already booked in.

## Positively Rural Family Engagement webinar

Tuesday 18 January 7:30pm

Lucy Moore (Messy Church) and Caroline Hewlett (Forest Church) explore ways in which we can engage families and work with them in rural contexts. Register [here](#).

## Covenant online retreat

Does our [covenant prayer](#) inspire you, or make you run for cover?

Join this online retreat to hear how some young Methodists made a covenant with God, and prayerfully consider which aspects of a Methodist Way of Life you are being called to explore. Register [here](#).



# News

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## Global Relationships Newsletter

The latest edition of the Global Relationships newsletter is available to read with Christmas greetings from the World Council of Churches, an interview with Angleena Keizer, Global Mission Fellows, Climate Justice for All, Global Church Youth Reps, New Mission Partners

## Global Mission Fellows

The Global Mission Fellows program is a great opportunity for young adults between the ages of 20 and 30 to work in mission service for two years.

On January 4, 2021, at 3:00 PM, you can join a special coffee break to learn more. [Email for details](#).

If you know someone that would benefit

## All We Can Survey

All We Can are seeking to understand more about their incredible supporters, so that they can better shape their work. As a thank you to those participating in the survey, we have 100 bamboo cups to give away! The survey can be found [here](#).

and Mission Partner updates.  
Read and sign up [here](#).

from the Global Mission Fellows program,  
please visit [here](#).

### All We Can Extraordinary Gifts

You can choose from personalised gifts, beautiful card covers and even card sizes, to make sure that there is something for everyone. Each gift helps make a vital difference to those facing poverty and inequality across the world, from helping young people in Uganda access education, through to the provision of bicycles and the support of families in Zimbabwe in accessing clean water.

You can find out more about Extraordinary Gifts [here](#).

### Church of North India Covid support

The Church of North India, Jalapur has received funds of £15,000 from the World Mission Fund for its Covid relief work to support front line workers salaries and bring emergency relief for the most vulnerable. The Most Rev. Dr. P. C. Singh, Moderator for CNI synod & Bishop Diocese of Jabalpur, has written [this](#) update..

### DEC launches Afghanistan Crisis

Leading UK aid agencies have launched a joint fundraising appeal as a catastrophic rise in severe hunger sweeps Afghanistan, where eight million are at risk of starvation during the harsh winter months.

Children are already dying, and a million more are at risk. Read more [here](#).

## Features

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### How are your plans looking for Twixtmas?

Twixtmas? What's that, I hear you say?

It's that peculiar 'limbo' time between Christmas and New Year (it has nothing to do with chocolate bars!). Gail Adcock, from our Children and Youth Team, prepares for this unique time of the year in [this reflection](#).

## Media

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### The Methodist Podcast Three Ministers At Christmas



Christmas is a busy time for ministers everywhere. The Revd Jenny Pathmaraja chats about this most wonderful time of the year with friends and colleagues. Listen [here](#).

### Pause for Thought



Reverend Dawn Saunders gave Pause for Thought on BBC Radio 2 with the theme, 'What Makes Me Dance'. Listen [here](#).