

The Methodist News

20 January 2022

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News. Details of on-call media support can be found [here](#).

Yours,
[The Communications team](#)

Coronavirus Guidance Update

You can read details of yesterday's announcement regarding the lifting of Plan B pandemic restrictions in faith settings [here](#).

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

President and Vice-President visit Lambeth Palace



At the start of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the President and Vice-President, the Revd Sonia Hicks and Barbara Easton, met with the Archbishop of Canterbury at Lambeth Palace, continuing a strong friendship between the denominations and offering opportunities for fellowship and to pray together. After the visit Barbara Easton said: "I am moved to invite you to pray for all our sisters and brothers who make, with us, a great quilt of diverse Christian belonging and expression. And to pray for all those whom God has called to lead in his church. May God also equip those whom God calls, and give them courage, wisdom and energy for the work."

More photos and comment from the visit are on the Presidential Facebook page [here](#).

News

A prayer for Tonga



The President and Vice-President have expressed their concern over the situation in Tonga caused by the volcanic eruption on Saturday and subsequent tsunami.

You can read a prayer from Sheila Norris, Acting Partnership Co-ordinator for Asia-Pacific, [here](#).

Tonga Fellowship



Revd Singa Vunipola leads the Tonga Fellowship in London. In this interview she updates us on the situation in the South Pacific and the impact of the eruption on members of the fellowship here in the UK. Watch [here](#).

Walking with Micah Events



We long for a more just and fairer world, but what does this look like, and how do we get there? Training webinars on how to use the Walking with Micah justice conversation resources take place on Tuesday 25 January, 7-8:15pm, and Wednesday 26 January, 1-2:15pm. Register free for either webinar [here](#)

Reconciliation and Mediation

We are looking for more people to join the reconciliation and mediation team being piloted in partnership with Place for Hope.

If you are within reach of the Eastern, London or North West and Mann Learning Network Regions and would like to find out more please get in touch with [Katie Bradley](#)

For more information click [here](#).

From the Ground Up: JPIT Conference

Bookings are [now open](#) for this year's JPIT Conference (online and in person in London). What does social justice look like where you are? Reconnect with fellow changemakers and be re-energised to work and pray for peace and justice. This one-day conference will invite you to join with us to explore how we can listen to our communities, amplify local voices and connect these together to work for change at national and international levels.

Breadline Lent Course

If you are looking for a Lent course that looks at issues around living on the margins why not consider [this from the Breadline project](#)? This Lent course has been developed from the three years of Life on the Breadline research as a result of engaging with Church leaders, Christians, and community groups across the UK. The course includes a contribution from the Revd Mike Long about Grenfell.

Methodist Ministers' Housing Society



Would you like to join the team at the Methodist Ministers' Housing Society? They are looking for a new Maintenance & Repair Manager. This is a hands-on role that engages not only with resource management across a network of more than 900 properties – but also with data analysis and communication of information right up to board level. You can download the full job spec for this exciting appointment [here](#).

Evangelism and Growth

Platinum Jubilee - join our webinar



Community parties are a great way to reach out to our communities in mission. So, grab a bowl of trifle and put on your party hats, and come and [join a webinar on 15 February](#) as we explore the practicalities of planning a community event that is rooted in prayer and that brings together the whole neighbourhood to celebrate together. Whether your church is in a rural or urban context, a one-off event can be a wonderful way to build relationships and reach new people. But what do we need to consider when we're planning? How can we make sure we're being inclusive? And how might we incorporate prayer?

Hosted by the Learning Network and the Evangelism and Growth team, this webinar seeks to prepare us for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and Thy Kingdom Come 2022 when many neighbourhoods will run street parties or community events to celebrate.

Register [here](#).

[Take a look at our resources](#) and share your plans with us.

Everyone an Evangelist - order your Leader's Pack

Everyone an Evangelist is a course for groups from local churches and circuits to explore the ways you and your church community are called to share your faith and to grow in confidence as evangelists. The process will help demystify evangelism and build sustainable, intentional rhythms of both personal and shared evangelism. [Order a Leader's Pack](#) containing leader's materials for each session, guidance and resources, course materials for participants, promotional materials and a USB containing the course videos and materials. Find out more [here](#).

Join our next New People for New Places hub

If you are doing, starting, thinking or praying about New Places for New People (NPNP) join us for one of our NPNP Hubs. They are open to everyone, be it individuals sensing a call to pioneer or circuit leaders who want new Christian communities to become part of their mission planning. The next hub is on 8th February. Find out more and register [here](#).

Order your Bible Month 2022 resources

Bible Month is an opportunity for the whole Church to explore a book of the Bible together. This year, we'll be looking at Isaiah, a fascinating and challenging text. There will be lots of accessible resources to break down some of the key themes, including a booklet with notes for preachers, small group leaders and children and youth teams. There will also be a series of events from the Learning Network to explore Isaiah in different creative ways. More information is [here](#) and order your resources [here](#).

Features

Reflecting on the journey

"Sometimes our Christian journey requires alone-ness of us, and sometimes together-ness. When we maybe feel a little forlorn, it's good to remember that we are one dot in a great company. Although it sometimes feels as if we are plodding through the boggy heath – like Bunyan's pilgrim in the slough of despond – when the mists lift it turns out that there are many, many others all around whose presence we maybe hadn't noticed."

-[Read a reflection](#) from our Vice-President, Barbara Easton half way through the Presidential year.



Myanmar

"The military does not care about the rights of the civilians". The acting Partnership Coordinator for Asia Pacific for the Methodist Church in Britain, Sheila Norris, shares [this report](#) regarding the deteriorating political situation in Myanmar following last year's coup.



Media

The Methodist Podcast A Methodist Way of Life



A Methodist Way of Life provides a set of commitments and practices that encourage and equip people to live a Christian life. In this podcast we learn what it means to lead A Methodist Way of Life. Listen [here](#).

Audio reflection from the Revd Sonia Hicks



"The things we endeavour to do in the service of God are the things that God will help us to achieve."

- The Revd Sonia Hicks reflects on our Covenant promises. [Listen here](#).

The impact of inflation on the poorest

Get involved with the Platinum Jubilee this summer



With the announcement of a significant rise in the rate of inflation, our Policy Adviser, Paul Morrison was interviewed by Trans World Radio about the impact of the rising cost of living on millions of people in the UK. Watch [here](#).



Holly Adams, Evangelism and Contemporary Culture Officer spoke to Premier about the ways the Methodist Church are encouraging people to celebrate this summer. More [here](#).

Email: mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk