

The Methodist News

24 February 2022

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

Yours,
[The Communications team](#)

Pray for Ukraine

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of the Ukraine and the people of Russia, for their countries and their leaders.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn swords into ploughshares and to seek peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace in Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy.
Amen

Prayer for Ukraine and resources for churches

You can find our latest prayer for Ukraine in text and audio form together with other resources including suggested hymns for worship [here](#).

Ash Wednesday

The Conference of European Churches which includes the World Methodist Council, has issued an invitation to an online prayer service on Ash Wednesday, 2 March at 17.00 (CET). The service will bring together Christians from Ukraine and other parts of the world, seeking peace and an end to the ongoing conflict. Register to join [here](#).

Reflecting on events

President of Conference, the Revd Sonia Hicks reflected on the dignity of the human spirit in a live broadcast today. Sonia and Vice-President, Barbara Easton, also considered a Christian perspective on events in Ukraine with policy adviser, Steve Hucklesby. Watch again [here](#).

Walking with Micah



What does a just world look like? What should the Methodist Church's priorities be in speaking and acting for justice? The [Walking with Micah project](#) has launched local Justice Conversations to run between February and June 2022 to hear what matters in Methodist communities. Tools for holding sessions, ideas for intergenerational events and worship are available, along with guidance on sending in your feedback, are [here](#).

Coronavirus update



Following the latest update from the Westminster government we have updated our guidance on coronavirus. You can find our guidance [here](#).

The update relates to England only but we have included links advice that relates to Scotland, Wales, Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

Evangelism and Growth

An update on the first 18 months of God for All

progress update
2020-2025

It's been eighteen months since God for All, the Connexional Strategy for Evangelism and Growth, launched in September 2020. To mark this milestone the Evangelism & Growth team have produced a short progress report. [Find out](#) how this Connexion wide initiative is progressing,

Let us know your experience of God for All so far. What's been inspiring or encouraging? What needs more work? And most importantly, how can we help? You can get in touch with the team [here](#).

And don't forget to let the Evangelism and Growth team know if you'd like them to Zoom into your circuit meeting for a mutual exploration of where God might be calling us in the future.

Meet the team and find resources and upcoming events to support your community [here](#).

Lent

Lent course on responding to growing levels of poverty



In the context of a rising tide of poverty in the UK, how can individuals and communities respond faithfully and effectively?

Join us online for the first four Thursdays in Lent to explore this important question, using the [Life On The Breadline Lent resources](#). Eunice Attwood, Church at the Margins Officer, will be speaking on 3rd March.

Register [here](#).

Safeguarding webinars



The second of two thought-provoking webinars, The Church's Response to Survivors: From Stumbling Block to Stepping Stone, looks into the damage caused by Church structures and traditions, as well as exploring the powerful stories of survivors of abuse, and looks ahead to how the Church can evolve to help survivors and prevent further abuse.

You can watch the webinar [here](#).

Media

The Methodist Podcast Walking With Micah



In this week's Methodist Podcast we explore Walking With Micah, the Methodist Church's new initiative to explore Justice. We hear about justice conversations, how justice works locally and consider the theology of justice.

Listen [here](#).

Trey Hall on BBC Radio 2



Our Director of Evangelism & Growth, Trey Hall, was reflecting on the theme of Back to Basics on BBC Radio 2 this week. You can listen again [here](#).

BBC Radio Four



Sam Monaghan, Chief Executive at Methodist Homes MHA, was interviewed on the World at One on BBC Radio Four earlier this week to discuss what the end of Covid restrictions will mean for care homes.

Listen [here](#) from 27 mins.

A prayer for those affected by flooding



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