

The Methodist News

17 March 2022

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

Yours,
[The Communications team](#)

Ukraine

Homes for Ukraine

The Government have established the Homes for Ukraine scheme, giving the chance for individuals within churches and communities to host a refugee or family from Ukraine.

The scheme is currently for individuals to sponsor a person seeking sanctuary to enable them to live in the UK. There will be a scheme for groups (including churches) to sponsor a person or family, which will be announced at a later date.

Find out more information and keep across updates [here](#).

Emergency Appeal for Ukraine

We have partnered with All We Can to launch an emergency appeal in response to events unfolding in Ukraine.

We are deeply grateful for everyone who has contributed so far.

As communities face violence, upheaval, and the trauma of war, urgent support is needed. Working together with the Global Relationships Team donations will ensure that critical humanitarian assistance is available. Read more [here](#).

Inclusive Methodist Church

The Methodist Church is committed to 'Justice, Dignity and Solidarity'.

We believe that all people are uniquely made in the image of God, and we aim to live this out in the church and in our communities.

We have created a new set of [webpages](#) where you can find resources to help you become part of this work sharing the Gospel of God's love in Jesus Christ.



User Guide

We expect every Methodist to be changed by this work which we're committed to doing together. You can find the the User Guide and more information about its contents [here](#).

An Inclusive Methodist Church

We asked Methodists what it means to be an inclusive Methodist Church where all are welcome. You can hear some of their responses in a video with BSL interpretation [here](#).

The Methodist Podcast

In this week's [Methodist Podcast](#), we learn how we are working to be an inclusive Methodist Church and hear from some of the diverse communities that call themselves Methodist.

Featured Video

God's Calling You Out and About



Check out this beautiful new video poem, an inspiration and invitation for groups and churches across the Connexion.

God calls us into mission - to open our hearts and open our doors and take the good news of the gospel out and about. We have loads of opportunities to do this in our lives and by our prayers.

The extended bank holiday weekend for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee offers us a chance to get involved in community events, to get to know our neighbours and gently share our faith.

We're offering ideas, resources and support for getting out and about in mission that weekend, visit this webpage to find out more: www.methodist.org.uk/outandabout

News

End Vaccine Inequality

The Revd Sonia Hicks and Barbara Easton, President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, have joined more than 130 former world leaders, Nobel laureates, leading scientists, economists, humanitarians, faith leaders, business leaders, trade unionists, and celebrities in calling for urgent action to vaccinate low and middle-income countries and bring an end to the COVID-19 pandemic. Read more [here](#).

COVID support in Caranavi Province

Last year, donations to the World Mission Fund were used to support the Evangelical Methodist Church in Bolivia in helping some of their most vulnerable communities who had been affected by the health and economic consequences of COVID. This support enabled the church to distribute medicine, school uniforms, school equipment and smart phones to communities such as the one in Alto Beni.



Llamas in Ancoraimes, Bolivia

To hear more about this story, please read Partnership Coordinator for the Latin American and Caribbean, Sandra Lopez's [blog](#) regarding her visit to Guatemala.



Use your skills and discover new ones!

3Generate Volunteers

At 3Generate we grow and learn alongside each other as part of a nurturing and supportive team. You can be part of dynamic group of 250 people living out their discipleship in an exciting way at the event as well as helping plan together beforehand.

Find out more about volunteering [here](#).

Obituary of John Hicks QC

The death has been announced of John Hicks QC who gave long and valued service to the Methodist Church in Britain. He was a member of the Law and Polity Committee since 1969 and served the Conference from 1974 to 1997.

Read the full obituary [here](#).

Evangelism and Growth

Greenbelt Focus Groups

We need the help of people between 18 and 30 who are interested in faith and spirituality!

We would like to hear your ideas as we develop The Hope and Anchor – an

Rural and Rooted

How might being church *without* a building look in your local community? This [webinar](#) on the 29th March is aimed at people looking to pioneer/ reimagine /

Leading Your Church into Growth Conference

Bookings are now open for the Leading your Church into Growth Methodist conference, 24-26 June on Zoom. If your circuit or church team is longing for growth and wanting to take action, this conference is for you.

inclusive space that's all about community and conversation. We are running 90 minute facilitated focus groups on Zoom.

Anyone who attends a focus group will be entered into a PRIZE DRAW to win two tickets to Greenbelt festival - one of the festivals where you'll find the Hope and Anchor this year.

[Sunday April 3rd 2022 at 4.30-6.00pm](#)

[Tuesday April 5th at 7.30-9.00pm](#)

start small rooted church or new Christian communities in their rural communities.



Tickets are £45 per person, with free places available by application to the E&G Team.

Click [here](#) for more details.

Media

President on Premier Radio

The President Sonia Hicks discussed the Methodist Church's response to the war in Ukraine with Premier Radio and talks about her work as President.

Listen [here](#).

New Chaplain General

Methodist Minister [Revd Mike Parker](#) is about to take up the post of Chaplain-General for the British Army. An army padre for 20 years, he's clear that to be able to offer pastoral care, spiritual support and moral guidance in that role, serving alongside the military community, is a huge privilege, and a unique opportunity to serve God.

He's fascinating about the theology of army chaplaincy, and about his own experiences seeing operational service alongside his soldiers in Northern Ireland, Iraq and Afghanistan, and what that means to him and to them, particularly at what Mike calls 'the pointy end'...in the most harrowing and intense of situations.

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