

# The Methodist News

3 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

### Emergency Appeal for Ukraine



The Methodist Church in Britain and All We Can have launched an emergency appeal in response to events unfolding in Ukraine.

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](#).

### The Methodist Podcast Ukraine

In this week's Methodist Podcast we talk to two Methodists in Ukraine who are fleeing from the invasion to find safety, we hear how peace can stand up to aggression and learn how to talk to children about worrying news events.

Listen [here](#).

### International response

There has been international concern and condemnation from faith leaders at the invasion of Ukraine. You can read the thoughts of Methodist Bishop Eduard Khegay, who is responsible for Eurasia, shared [here](#). (auto translation available). President J.C. Park of the World Methodist Council shared [these prayers](#) and the European Methodist Council made [this statement](#).

### Talking to young people

The Children Youth and Family team are aware that many children and young people will have questions and concerns about the invasion of Ukraine and that the adults in churches may appreciate knowing how to respond and support them. You can read helpful advice from [Childline](#) and BBC [Newsround](#) has informative videos explaining what is happening that are suitable for children.

## News

### LGBT+ History Month

You can catch up on February's LGBT+ History Month, including a visit to the inclusive Gathering in Birmingham, and a prayer from the Secretary of the Conference, [here](#).

### God's Church A home for all: walk

This Saturday Daud Irfan, Methodist Youth President, is due to complete the 160 mile walk from his home circuit in Cardiff to Wesley's Chapel in London, raising awareness of the need for more diverse leadership in the Church. Follow Daud on this important and challenging journey on his Facebook page [here](#).

### IICSA

The Methodist Church has responded to the recommendations of the independent inquiry into child sexual abuse in religious organisations and settings (IICSA). Read [here](#).

### Faith leaders urge Prime Minister to rethink Refugee Bill

### Sermon of the Year 2022

Entries for Sermon of the Year 2022 close at midnight on Sunday 6 March. The

### Striving for Justice

Would you like to be part of the Methodist journey towards a more inclusive and just

The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, are among more than 1000 faith leaders who have written to the Prime Minister urging him to reconsider the Nationality & Borders Bill. Find out more [here](#).

theme for this year is Welcome The Stranger. The Methodist Church is an associate sponsor for the Sermon of the Year which is organised by Preach Magazine. You can read more [here](#).

Church and society? Join us on 26th March for stories, conversations and more and be empowered to challenge racism and champion racial justice. Learn more [here](#).

# Evangelism and Growth

## Evangelism for Leaders course



### Starting May 2022

Discover your inner evangelist with this free course for lay or ordained leaders. Aimed at those who want to help others grow in confidence in their faith but who for a number of reasons may feel this is something they need support and encouragement to do. The course will help leaders to be holistic, inclusive, relational and authentic evangelists. Join this five session online course, starting in May by registering [here](#).

## Next Gen prayer gatherings



Join us for 20 minutes of prayer on Zoom next Tuesday, 8 March, at 6.30pm to pray for children and young people. We will be led by Richard Oppong-Boateng, Young Evangelism Officer, and will focus on children, young people and identity. Join [here](#).

## "Both/And" Evangelism webinars



When it comes to evangelism, the Methodist Church is pro- mixed ecology: supporting the flourishing of a diversity of missional approaches rather than pitting approaches against each other. We believe in holding together commitments which are sometimes falsely understood as opposing each other. Book in for these webinars and join the Gospel conversation about:

- [Evangelism in an Interfaith Context](#) 10 March 2022, 7-8.30pm
- [Social Justice and Evangelism](#) 6 April 2022, 7:00-8:00pm
- [Discipleship Pathways that engage committed Christians and new explorers](#) 22 March 2022, 10:00-12:30pm

# Lent

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## Reflection for the beginning of Lent



A Lent reflection from the Vice-President of the Conference Barbara Easton. Listen [here](#).

## 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 today, 3rd March.

Register [here](#).

## Holy Communion for Lent and Passiontide



You can download the Orders of Service for Holy Communion in full in Word and PDF and individual services in PowerPoint from Singing the Faith Plus: [Methodist Worship Book](#)

# Media

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## City of sanctuary ready to receive

"We are a city of sanctuary, and big hearted Brummies could show the way again," said Methodist minister, Revd David Butterworth.

Read how Birmingham has declared it is ready to welcome families from Ukraine [here](#).

## Waltham Chase Methodist Church open 'Repair Cafe'

Waltham Chase Methodist Church has opened a 'Repair Café' to reduce the amount of broken portable domestic items ending up in landfill. Martin Letts, a Meon Valley Methodist Circuit Steward, spoke to Vicky Gibbens from UCB News, about how they fixed garden equipment, vacuum cleaners and even a pair of trousers! Listen [here](#).

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