

The Methodist News

21 April 2022

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

Yours,
[The Communications team](#)

News

Presidency joins call for changes to the Nationality and Borders Bill

The Revd Sonia Hicks and Barbara Easton, President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, have joined faith leaders in writing to MPs about the Nationality and Borders Bill, urging them to use their influence to make changes to the Bill. Read the full text of the letter [here](#).



Grant making must reflect the global stage

As Methodists, we believe in learning and caring as part of our discipleship and there are plenty of opportunities for us to support the Church whether that's in prayer, the giving of our time or the giving of our money.

The World Mission Fund (WMF) supports projects and individuals around the world and this work is only made possible by kind donations. Embodying mutual respect, by sharing the responsibility of grant giving and fund allocation, the new World Mission Fund Grants Committee is moving toward decolonisation.

Read more [here](#).

Economic Crisis hitting the most vulnerable in Sri Lanka

The National Christian Council Sri Lanka (NCCSL) are responding to the economic crisis there with assistance for vulnerable communities, farmers, urban poor and ex-combatants – this is supported with £15,000 from the World Mission Fund.

Read more [here](#).

Ukraine

The Ukraine Toolkit

Churches supporting people affected by the war in Ukraine may find our toolkit for churches useful. It includes information on safe routes of passage, advocacy, prayers and suggestions on how to offer practical support.

[Access the Ukraine Toolkit here](#).



Evangelism and Growth

A Christian presence at festivals and events

In what ways does your church show up at local music festivals, sports or other events, or community gatherings? Do you have a local music festival, sports event or agricultural show you'd like to explore as an outreach and mission opportunity?

This webinar offers an introduction for groups from churches, circuits or districts who are seeking to be present at festivals or events in different ways – whether it's an international sports event or a local village summer fete – the learnings from this webinar will be transferable.

Find out more and register [here](#).



Jubilee – what have you got planned?

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee offers us a chance to get involved in community events and get to know our neighbours. It's a chance to get to know people, to extend a radical invitation to everyone in the neighbourhood, to build relationships, and be bold in your faith-sharing. This is a chance to join in with God's mission on the streets of your community. How are you getting out and about that weekend? We have lots of resources and inspiration to help you plan your events this summer.

Take a look [here](#).



Thy Kingdom Come

"The Father never leaves us fatherless... He is always there to listen to our prayers."

[Watch this week's inspiring 'Persevering in Prayer'](#) reflection from Rev Irfan John & Raheela Irfan. We hope it inspires you to continue to be steadfast in prayer.

Find this year's TKC resources to support you and your church [here](#).



Coming Up

Bee Lines exhibition



If you are in Newcastle upon Tyne between now and 24 June why not head to Shieldfield Art Works (a project of the Methodist

Autism-friendly Museum opening at Wesley's Chapel



Weds 1 June, 9.30 - 11.00

Church) to visit Bee Lines, which explores the importance and interconnectedness of bees to nature's diverse ecosystems?

Find out more including special events coming up during the exhibition [here](#).

New 'autism-friendly' openings provide a chance for families with children that would benefit from enjoying the Museum of Methodism at a quieter time to come along and have exclusive use whilst it is closed to the general public.

The theme is inspired by the amazing colours in the Chapel's stained glass windows. Experiment with colour and have a go at creating your own designs using different materials. Read more [here](#).

Visiting is free but booking is required. Please contact Gemma on Iso@wesleyschapel.org.uk to book a space

John Wesley's House & Museum of Methodism, 49 City Road, EC1Y 1AU

Check it out

How do you tackle loneliness in your community?



We are looking to share stories how Church members support each other and their wider communities to combat the growing numbers of people who are lonely and isolated.

If you have a story to share with the wider church please get in touch with Anna McCrum in the Communications team:

mccruma@methodistchurch.org.uk

President and Vice-President Facebook page



Don't forget to follow the President and Vice-President on Facebook to find out where they have been and some of the key issues on which they have speaking on. This week the Revd Sonia Hicks joined protesters on the Thames speaking out about the Nationality and Borders Bill.

Find out more [here](#).

The Methodist Podcast Episode 81: Homes for Ukraine



As the war in Ukraine continues, this week's podcast talks to a Methodist minister who has returned from Poland matching families seeking sanctuary with offers of homes here in the UK, we hear from a learning network coordinator who is waiting for a family of 11 to join her and we talk to a minister from Birmingham who supported a family from Syria about how we welcome people escaping war.

Listen [here](#).

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