

The Methodist News

12 May 2022

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

Yours,
[The Communications team](#)

Ukraine

Podcast from the Poland/Ukraine Border

In this first of two special podcasts we travel to Poland to hear how the Methodist Church is coming together to provide those escaping Ukraine with safety and sanctuary as the war there continues.

Listen [here](#), or on your favourite podcasting platform.



Kaleidoscope of Hope

*Early morning flights. Ours were planned. Others were not so lucky.
The Lion of Poznan. With battle scars on show.
Taking us to mothers and children. Children and mothers. Sent into the unknown.
And men who have no choice, but to stay and wave their arms.*

Read the rest of this [moving poem](#) by Barry Sloan, written after his visit to Poland and Ukraine.

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.

Latest details include a note that Methodist Insurance have extended cover for temporary accommodation for refugees to all refugees, not just those from Ukraine.

[Access the Ukraine Toolkit here.](#)



What does prayer mean to you?



In the run-up to Thy Kingdom Come and the Platinum Jubilee, we are sharing five stories about prayer from Methodists across the Connexion.

[In this video](#), Esther talks about obedience and prayer.

The extended bank holiday weekend for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee offers us a chance to get involved in community events and get to know our neighbours and take the good news out and about.

Be part of the movement. [More details here.](#)

News

Queen's Speech Fails to Address Cost of Living

"This week alone, we learned from the Food Foundation that 7.3 million adults are unable to afford the food they need, and that an additional 250,000 are expected to be pushed into destitution in the coming months."

Click [here](#) to read the full response to the Queen's Speech by Paul Morrison, Policy Advisor to the Methodist Church.

A Statement from the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka

"The Methodist Church Sri Lanka is grieved and alarmed at the current political developments that are unfolding before us, at a time when as a nation we are facing an acute economic crisis, causing immense suffering and hardship, leading to frustration and hopelessness among all our people."

The letter from Rev W.P. Ebenezer Joseph, President of Conference, Methodist Church, Sri Lanka can be [read in full here](#).

New Resource for Mission at Festivals and Events

Local festivals and events give us a great opportunity to engage with others and be the good news out and about. That might be your local village fete, a big sporting event, or a nearby music festival. Being missional in these spaces is about being a blessing; loving and listening; and unashamedly as a group of Christians witnessing to your faith.

Download this [new resource](#) for churches, circuits and districts who want to be present in a new and different way.

Wedding Celebrations

The Communications team wants to celebrate and share weddings taking place in Methodist churches and chapels and we'd love to find couples who have set a wedding date in 2022/3 to be part of this. We are offering a limited number of free pre-wedding photo shoots with our professional photographer in exchange for permission for us to share one or two images from the shoot on our Instagram channel together with a short testimony from the couple about why they have chosen to get married in a Methodist Church.

The wedding may be organised later in the year, or even next year, but we would need to have the shoot completed by the middle of June 2022. Please share in your church communities and ask couples or their minister to get in touch with us at this email address: mccruma@methodistchurch.org.uk no later than 20 May.

Social Justice

Net Zero in my Neighbourhood



"If you felt disempowered and unrepresented by world leaders at COP26, you can have a real impact by engaging with your local councils."

JPIT are launching a new campaign to engage with local councils and make a real difference in your area.

This [blog](#) highlights some of the ways councils can help make changes to benefit the climate, and explores how you can get involved.

From the Ground Up: Unearthing Hope and Seeking Justice



Saturday 11 June
10.00 am - 16.00 pm

What does social justice look like where you are? Reconnect with fellow changemakers and be re-energised to work & pray for peace & justice. The JPIT Conference will explore how we can listen to our communities, amplify local voices and connect these together to make local action for change part of the bigger picture of building God's kingdom. Keynote speakers include Emma Revie (CEO of the Trussell Trust).

[Read more details and book here](#)

Global Britain: Good Neighbour or Global Power?



Monday 27 June
8.00 pm - 9.30 pm

The Beckly Lecture is a fringe event held each year during the Methodist Conference that addresses a key issue of the moment. This year Lord Paul Boateng, a Methodist Local Preacher, former MP and current Peer in the House of Lords will speak on the theme: 'Global Britain: Good Neighbour or Global Power?'

The event will be held in the Beckbury Suite at Telford International Centre, as well as being streamed online.

[Book free to attend in person or online here](#)

Coming Up

Methodist Heritage

Conference: Methodism and Social Justice



Friday 27 - Saturday 28 May

Join us online for this year's Methodist Heritage Conference: Transformed Lives Transforming Lives, looking at the history of social justice within Methodism.

The conference is open to all in the Methodist Heritage community whether you are involved with one of our Methodist Heritage sites, a researcher, or just interested in the history of Methodism.

[Read more details and book here](#)

Reimagining Discipleship



6 July 09.30 - 16.30

Are you interested in exploring how to bring intentional discipleship growth into your community? Would you value space and time for reflection and conversations with others asking the same questions as you? Join other local church leaders to explore how we can deepen the discipleship of our communities.

[Register free here](#)

Bible Month Webinars



Bible Month is an annual campaign that celebrates scripture, by inviting the whole Methodist Church to engage in one particular book of the Bible together.

This June we are exploring the Book of Isaiah, an important book that sits right at the centre of the Bible and allows us to hear God's heart for His people.

Click [here](#) to find out more about Bible Month and sign up for the webinars [here](#).

Community Engagement Made Simple



Are you seeing lots of need in your community, but you're not sure how to respond?

Maybe you're wondering whether you have the skills, volunteer time and money to offer effective help.

Sign up for Community Engagement Made Simple. In this webinar, which is offered twice for your convenience, Methodist pioneer and social activist, Mark North, explains how the [Freedom Community Project](#) makes community engagement simple.

[Register for the evening webinar: 7.30 - 9 pm on 26 May](#)

[Register for the morning webinar: 10 - 11.30 am on 27 May](#)

Methodist Women in Britain - 10th Anniversary Garden Party



Belonging Together Ministers Group Celebration Conference



The Methodist Women in Britain are holding a garden party on June 11th at Epworth Old Rectory to celebrate their 10th Anniversary.

This event is free, and will contain a short act of thanksgiving with a special guest speaker, afternoon tea, and free tours of the Rectory.

Please [sign up](#) by June 1st to register your attendance so that catering can be arranged.

Saturday 28 May
10.00 - 16.00

The theme of the upcoming Belonging Together Ministers Group Conference is Celebrating Diversity: Growing in Hope.

The keynote speaker is Professor Dr. Anthony Reddie, renowned specialist in black theology.

Also present will be

- The Revd Sonia Hicks – President of Methodist Conference
- Daud Irfan - Methodist Youth President
- The Revd Sahr Yambasu – President of the Methodist Church in Ireland

[More information and free registration here](#)

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