

The Methodist News

25 August 2022

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

Yours,
[The Communications team](#)

News



Statement on proposed new settlement in the West Bank

On 12 September a planning committee in the West Bank will consider an application from the Israeli Defence Ministry for a large new settlement project in the E1 area of the West Bank, to the east of Jerusalem. The building of Israeli settlements on the E1 area has long been opposed by the international community as it creates an insurmountable impediment to the future possibility of a contiguous Palestinian State.

In response representatives of the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church have issued a statement.

[Read the statement here.](#)

Help for those supporting refugees in England



The Church Urban Fund has partnered with the Benefact Trust to launch the Refugee Support Small Grants Programme, supporting Christian projects that help refugees arriving in England from Ukraine and Afghanistan.

They offer small grants between £500 and £5,000. Registered Christian charities and members of Churches Together in England are all welcome to apply.

More information is available on [the Church Urban Fund website](#)

What does Peace mean?



Saturday 17 September 10.30 am

The Methodist Peace Fellowship has undergone a relaunch and is hosting an online open meeting for both members and those who might be interested in becoming members to talk about peace.

Explore what peace means and how we can work together to create it.

The meeting is at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday 17 September.

[Register here.](#)

Ukraine



Prayer for Ukraine

A prayer for Ukraine in the week of the anniversary of its independence and six months since the invasion.

Colossians 3 15 'And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.'

Oh Great God, you call us to Peace. As we mark six months of war in Ukraine, call us back to be peacemakers. Strengthen all those working in the region for justice and for peace. We cry to you to restore the people of Ukraine to a life of freedom and wholeness. And we thank you for the resilience of our Ukrainian sisters and brothers, for all who have opened their homes and churches, and most of all for your deep love and grace in which we trust even in the midst of earthly conflict.

Amen.

Ukraine Independence Day Celebration

Salisbury Methodist Church hosted a celebration for the Independence Day of Ukraine, organised by the Ukrainians we support through the Community Hub the church runs.

[Watch the BBC South Today news report.](#) The item starts 12 minutes into the programme.



Evangelism and Growth

Online New Places for New People Hub



4 October 10.30 am - 12.00pm

Are you wondering what beginning an NPNP is all about? Would you like a place to find out answers to your questions?

That is what the online NPNP Hubs are for, and this October we will be exploring the First Steps toward beginning an NPNP.

NPNP Hubs are open to everyone, be it individuals sensing a call to pioneer or circuit leaders who want new Christian communities to become part of their mission planning. You will hear from pioneer projects and from the Evangelism and Growth Team about the support that is there for you. And more importantly, our hope is that by joining us, you will know how you can become a part of the New Places for New People movement.

[Register free here](#)

New online prayer course



Thursday 20 October - Thursday 24 November 7-9 pm

Prayer is foundational to our faith. It's how we communicate with God, and it is the fuel that powers our evangelism, mission and discipleship. It's the sunshine that brings a smile to our face and brings light to hidden places.

And yet, for many people, it is one of the hardest things about being a follower of Jesus. Just as clouds can cover the sun, all sorts of things get in the way of us and Jesus. But just as clouds bring refreshing rain that prevents the sun from drying everything up, these can also be opportunities for growth and refreshment.

Join other leaders from across the Methodist Connexion over six evenings as we embrace our paradoxical experiences of prayer, feel liberated, and be reassured that there is good news in the mystery.

[Register free here](#)

Stories from Africa

Empowering Women and strengthening communities in southern Zimbabwe

"Yesterday I visited a wonderful Women's Empowerment Project in Masvingo Province, southern Zimbabwe, supported by 'All We Can', the Methodist relief and development charity.

Local people have set up a variety of projects covering several rural villages, run primarily by and for women (but including men) to empower them and support their local community."

Andrew Ashdown, Partnership Coordinator for Africa, writes on [the Global Relationships blog](#).



Email: mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk