

# The Methodist News

20 October 2022

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

Yours,  
[The Communications team](#)

## Uncertain Times

### A prayer by Graham Thompson - President of the Methodist Conference

Eternal God, we pray for those who make vital decisions on behalf of our nations at this time of challenge and uncertainty. We ask that love of neighbour be the guiding principle of those who seek positions of authority. May a desire to seek the welfare of all be central to the ambitions of those who will determine what governance and leadership look like in the days to come.

We also pray for those who are suffering because of the current uncertainty. Grant solace to the powerless and hope to the fearful. We ask this in the Name of the One who commands us to love one another as we love ourselves. Amen

## Black History Month

### The Caribbean Contribution



*\*This film features language that some may find shocking. The words are used in the context of their time and, while distressing, are included to ensure we hear the authentic, lived experience of being black in Britain.*

In the 1970's, the Methodist Church became a focal point for Caribbean identity in Notting Hill, bringing together many who had come to London as part of the Windrush generation. Should you need support or wish to talk about the issues raised, please speak to a member of our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion team:

[equality&diversity@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:equality&diversity@methodistchurch.org.uk)

## News

### Youth President Election



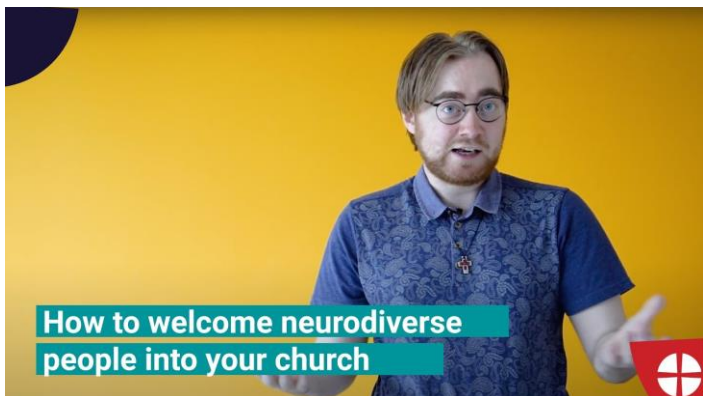
Congratulations to Thomas Hart who has been elected by 3Generate 2022 as the Youth President Designate. Thomas, who is aged 17 and from the Lincolnshire District, will take over as Youth President from September 2023. Read the whole story [here](#).

### Hope and Anchor Episode 2



This week Trey Hall hosts Tim Senna, Chantelle Lunt, and Ivor Baddiel, to explore the power of performance, punk poetry and 'cancel culture'.

Find the episode [here](#), or listen and subscribe to Hope and Anchor wherever you get your podcasts!



Youth President for 2022-23 James Carver takes us through some helpful steps for making our churches welcoming to neurodiverse people in our communities. You can watch his short video and find out more about ADHD Awareness Month [here](#).

## Around the World

### A Prayer from Graham Thompson

The terrible floods that are affecting Nigeria have killed over 600 people, displaced over 1.4 million citizens and destroyed tens of thousands of homes. In prayer, we stand alongside the people, churches and leaders of Nigeria  
 Loving God, we pray for the people of Nigeria whose lives have been devastated by the overwhelming floods.  
 We ask that you comfort the bereaved and walk beside the displaced.  
 Grant renewing strength and hope so that your children are able to rebuild their lives, homes and futures.  
 We also pray for the Christians of Nigeria as they play their part in reaching out to those who most need to know the love and presence of our sustaining God. We pray in the Name of Christ our Saviour.  
 Amen.

### Prayer for Haiti



"The situation in Haiti has deteriorated dramatically. I cannot emphasize more clearly, Haiti is in a humanitarian crises more critical than anyone can remember."  
[Read](#) the full update and call to prayer from Sandra Lopez, partnership coordinator for the Americas.

### Encounter Together



The Methodist Church in Britain is running an exciting group visit programme. The Living Christianity visit to the Holy Land will take place from Wednesday **18th January - Monday 30th January**. Find out more about the visit and book your place [here](#).

## Advent and Christmas

As part of the Methodist Church, we seek to demonstrate our open, inclusive and welcoming nature by saying to all people, 'There is Room' for you.  
 Resources for this Advent and Christmas are now available to download [here](#).  
 You can also order physical items from Methodist Publishing [here](#).  
 Additional There is Room candle lighting liturgies will be available by the end of October.



The Methodist Ministers' Housing Society have just launched the Autumn edition of Roof 'n' Roots!  
 You find out all about this edition [here](#).

# IICSA Update

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The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse has published the final report of its hearings and investigations today. The report makes twenty recommendations which the Methodist Church will now study in detail.

The Secretary of the Conference, the Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler said: "We are grateful to the Chair and Panel for putting survivors at the forefront of their investigations and recommendations and thank them for their work. The scale of abuse (some of it in religious institutions) uncovered by the Inquiry is both shocking and shameful and we have listened to harrowing stories of where children have been let down." You can read the full statement [here](#).

## Opportunities

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### Communications Jobs



There are **two** new roles available in the Communications Office of the Connexional Team!

If you're looking to get involved in comms work but don't know where to start, take a look at our [Communications Assistant](#) role. If you have experience in both print and online journalism, and enjoy the process of finding stories and following leads, check out the [Media Officer](#) role, whose focus will be as Editor of the connexion magazine.

### Life Beyond Borders Conference



Leading church organisation, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI), will be exploring the significance of borders and how they impact our society at the conference 'Life Beyond Borders' on **Tuesday 8 November 2022** at Liverpool Hope University, Liverpool, England.

This important one-day event, in collaboration with Churches' Refugee Network (CRN), brings together churches and faith organisations that are involved with immigration issues to explore the philosophical, religious and historical significance of borders, and how they relate to issues of nationality, identity, faith, culture, ethnicity and politics across Britain, Ireland and Europe. Find out more [here](#), and sign up to attend!

## CBBC

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Methodists may recognise a familiar face in this episode of Our School, all about pen pals. Rachel Newton has been writing letters to two Badminton Year 7 pupils, Chloe and Flo for over eighteen months. A keen letter-writer throughout her life, Rachel is a former drama teacher and lived in Africa with her husband, John who was a Methodist minister.

You may know Rachel from one of her many roles in the Church including Methodist Women In Britain and as a trustee of the New Room in Bristol.

You can watch the episode [here](#).

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