







# The **Methodist News**

#### 20 April 2023

Hello everyone and welcome back to the Methodist News. Details of on-call media support can be found on our website. Yours,

The Communications team

### **Coronation Prayer**



As we prepare for the coronation of King Charles III on the 6 May, Rev'd Michael D Parker, Chaplain General of the British Army, shares this prayer that can be downloaded for use in services.

## Stephen Lawrence Day 30th Anniversary



This year marks the 30th anniversary of the murder of Stephen Lawrence in southeast London. Stephen Lawrence Day takes place annually on 22 April. You can read a prayer to mark the anniversary written by London District Chair Nigel Cowgill and a poem to remember Stephen's life here, along with a link to resources from Christian Aid and Churches Together in Britain and Ireland considering Stephen's legacy.

Beven Powell who is the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor for The Methodist Church has written a reflection about Stephen Lawrence which you can read here.

## Vocations Sunday

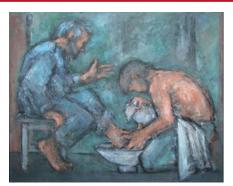
Vocations Sunday is 7 May 2023. As in previous years, a whole service outline, with an all age talk, a sermon and prayers, are offered to those preaching on Vocations Sunday. You can find the resources here.

### **LGBT+ Memorial Service**



This Sunday a memorial service will be held at Hinde Street Methodist Church, London, to commemorate and remember those members of the LGBT+ community who have lost their lives to suicide or experienced harm, following exclusion from Christian communities. The service, organised by OneBodyOneFaith, will take place at 2:30pm on Sunday 23rd April. You can read more and learn how to be a part of the service here.

### **Methodist Modern Art Collection**



The latest Methodist Modern Art Collection's exhibition *Transforming Lives Exhibition: The Power of Art to Engage* opened on 19 April 2023 (and runs until early July) is at Kingswood School, Bath. To discover more, you can read about it here.

## Launch of the Big Lunch



Rev'd Canon Helen D Cameron, Chair of the Northampton District and Moderator of the Free Churches Group, was invited to Westminster Abbey this week to join HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dame Prue Leith and faith leaders to launch the Coronation Big Lunch. Read more about the event in Helen's blog post.

### JPIT Internships



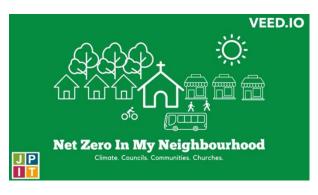
JPIT, the Joint Public Issues Team, run three annual internships, hosted by the Methodist Church, aimed at recent graduates aged 21-30. These are 12-month, full time, living wage roles, starting in September 2023.

Applications have just opened for the full-time role, which focusses on communications, engagement and research. Applications for this role are open until 22 May.

JPIT are holding an open meeting on May 4, for potential applicants to learn more the internships and application process.

Applicants can find out more here.

#### **Championing Net Zero**



JPIT's video, *Net Zero in My Neighbourhood - Local Elections*, explains the importance of local councils in the fight against climate change. <u>Watch the video here</u> to have a better understanding and how you can too

## **Dignity for All**



On Saturday 10 June, people and organisations of the anti-poverty movement are invited to join a discussion-focused conference which will be led by the real experts - people with lived experience of poverty.

This conference will be coordinated by Church Action on Poverty, APLE and The

Joint Public Issues Team.

On the day, there will be panel discussions, workshops and opportunities to network. We want to create a space to build new relationships, allow existing relationships to flourish and create plans together to take action against poverty.

In this pack, there are tools to spread the word about the Dignity Conference to your networks on multiple channels.

If you're interested in joining in then you can get your tickets <u>here.</u>

## **Bendy Bodies; Bendy Brains**

The South-East District are delighted to host Neurodiversity - Bendy Bodies; Bendy Brains on Tuesday 23 May, an online talk open to anyone across the Connexion.

Dr Jess Eccles will be discussing her work on how common differences in the body are related to neurodiversity. She will explore research findings with implications for wider recognition among the public and scientists. Dr Eccles is a Clinical Senior Lecturer at Brighton and Sussex Medical School, University of Sussex. You can sign up here.

### News



#### Flourish - Rooted in Love

The event seemed to be a huge success last weekend at Scarborough Spa. If you would like to hear the President Revd Graham Thompson, and the head of the event, Leslie Newton, then you can listen here at the 2hr 13 mark.

#### **Prayer for Ukraine**

Every Friday evening at 7.30 pm, the Methodist Peace Fellowship, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and others pray for peace in Ukraine. All are welcome to join these led sessions, regularly or occasionally.

#### **Essentials Guarantee**

JPIT has joined over 90 organisations to ask politicians how they intend to help the millions of households still going without essentials. In a letter to all UK political party leaders, the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, the Trussell Trust and others say that, despite living in one of the wealthiest countries in the world, nine in ten low-income households on Universal Credit are currently going without essentials. Read more here.

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