



The Methodist News

27 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

Vocations Sunday



Vocations Sunday is 7 May. It helps us think about the gifts we have been given and how these gifts can enable us to become participants in God's work.

In this [blog](#) read stories of how people followed their calling and Alison Ransome, the Ministry Development Officer, shares how we can work out what God might be calling us to do.

Coronation of King Charles III



There are lots of creative possibilities for evangelism and community engagement over the coronation bank holiday weekend of 6-8 May 2023. You'll find ideas, resources and a list of five key pointers [here](#).

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.

Artificial Intelligence



As Artificial Intelligence becomes mainstream, James Carver, the Methodist Youth President, shares his thoughts on the risks of handing ethical responsibility over to machines. Read more [here](#).

Food bank use at record levels



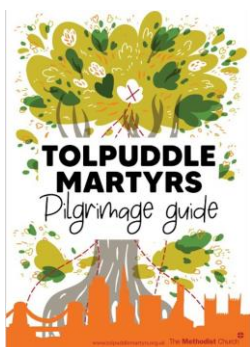
New annual figures from the Trussell Trust show that almost 3 million (2,986,203) food parcels were given out – more than ever before and, alarmingly, more than a million of the parcels were provided for children. Read more [here](#).

Does Government 'do God'?

Life in our country would be markedly different without the overwhelming contribution made by faith, people of faith and places of worship.

An independent review into how government engages with faith has been published. Among many conclusions, it found that faith groups need to be recognised as a force for good. Read more [here](#).

Tolpuddle Pilgrimage Guide



A Tolpuddle Pilgrimage Guide has been published tracing the roots of Methodist social justice with a suggested six days pilgrimage from the New Room in Bristol to Tolpuddle.

The Tolpuddle Pilgrimage celebrates the Tolpuddle Martyrs, farm workers who created a trade union in 1834. Six of the leaders - some of whom were Methodist - were arrested hence becoming the martyrs. If you're planning your own Tolpuddle Pilgrimage, have a look at this fabulous [guide](#).

Hope & Anchor Podcast



The [Hope & Anchor podcast](#) is back for another season starting on Thursday 4 May! An inclusive space for real conversations that change things. This season is hosted by Trey Hall and Jaz Ampaw-Farr, searching for honesty and grit, and hopefully loads of laughter along the way. Tune in to listen and join the Hope & Anchor family [here](#).

News & Events

ChurchWorks for Wellbeing

A conference equipping churches to respond effectively to the ongoing mental health crisis takes place on 18 May 2023 at Westminster Chapel, London, organised by ChurchWorks. [To book click here](#).

Prayer for Ukraine

Every Friday evening at 7.30pm, the Methodist Peace Fellowship, the Fellowship of Reconciliation and others pray for peace in Ukraine. You can be a part of it [here](#).

Easter in Batumi

Adam Noble is an Encounter Worldwide volunteer based in Batumi, Georgia. Here he shares his [reflections](#) on experiencing Orthodox Easter.

Climate Change Discussions in Rome

Faith leaders from Greater Manchester, including the Revd Ian Rutherford, have met the Pope to commit to tackling climate change. The group had a private audience with Pope Francis at The Vatican. Read more on the [BBC website here](#).

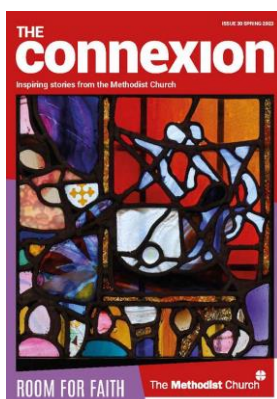
Radiate Webinar

Do you have an interest in global relationships and global mission?

Join for us for a time of storytelling where we will hear from Mission Partners and about the most recent work of the World Mission Fund at the Radiate webinar.

Wednesday 17 May, 2023 at either 1.00pm-2.00pm or 7.00pm-8.00pm via a Zoom webinar. [Book your place now](#).

Spring Issue of *the connexion* magazine



The magazine, that is full of inspirational stories about the life and work of the Methodist Church, is out now!

With a focus on how we might make 'Room for Faith' in our hearts, lives, churches and communities, this issue spotlights churches opening their doors as a warm space, a vaccination clinic and an interfaith art exhibition. The Youth President James Carver writes about his visit to South Korea and the Revd Dr Leao Neto on how the Church is becoming language-diverse and spiritually enriched.

The online version is available [here](#). If you would like to become a regular subscriber to the paper version of this free magazine, you can sign-up [here](#).

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