



# The Methodist News

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**6 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**

## Reflections for Holy Week

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Join the Revd Graham Thompson, President of the Conference and Anthony Boateng, Vice-President of the Conference, in a short video reflection released each day at 9am, from Palm Sunday (2 April) to Easter Day (9 April).

**You can watch each video reflection on our social media channels everyday at 9am, or [on our website](#).**

## #LoveAlways this Easter

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Being human means things get broken.

Sometimes little things, like plant pots.

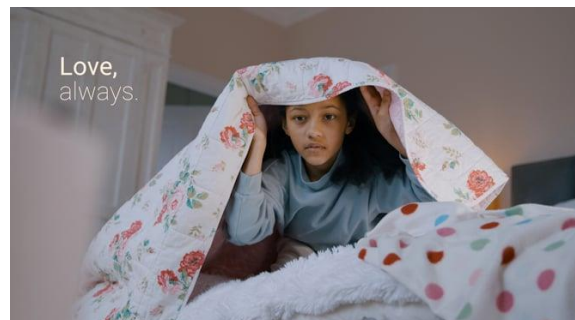
Sometimes big things, like hearts.

The story of Easter shows us that love is alive in us today.

Yes, sometimes we'll feel lonely, or lost, and things will get broken.

But love puts down roots in broken things, including you.

[Watch our Easter short film and share it across social media.](#)



### **Easter Offering Service 2023**

#### **No borders to God's love**

Hear stories of the Methodist community offering welcome, hospitality and support to people who are displaced, forced to migrate and seeking a new life. Easter Offering is prepared by Methodist Women in Britain and raises funds for the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church in Britain. Find out more [here](#).

### **CCJ Explainer on 'Christian Seders' launched**

Pesach (Passover) and Holy Week are two highly significant festivals for Jews and Christians, respectively, which overlap next week. The Council of Christians and Jews has [released a guide](#) explaining more about Pesach and its connection to the Easter story (especially in relation to the Last Supper). You can also read Methodist Church guidance [here](#).

# 1450+ Church Leaders Oppose the Illegal Migration Bill



A statement signed by more than 1,450 church leaders opposing the government's Illegal Migration Bill has been handed to 10 Downing Street, saying that the government's proposals are "incompatible with our Christian conviction that all human beings are made in the image of God". Revd David Hardman (far left), Revd Steve Tinning (second left), Revd Tessa Henry Robinson (centre), Richard Reddie (second right), Revd Ben Aldous (far right) all went to 10 Downing Street to hand in the bill. [Read more about the statement and signatories on our website.](#)

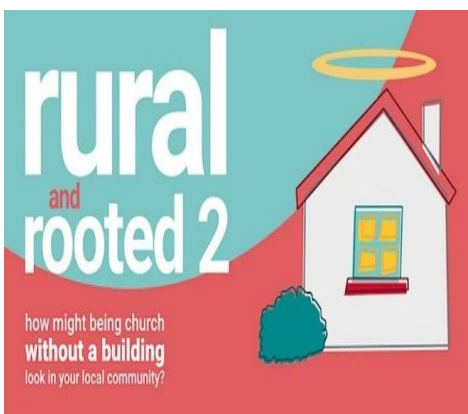
## Bristol Mural



A church is sharing the faith and the concerns of its young people with a new mural that has been painted on the wall of Parkway Methodist Church in Bristol, a city famous for its street art.

The minister at Parkway, Revd Richard Sharples, came up with the idea of the mural as a way to help the church engage with residents in the St. Werburgh's community, one of the more alternative areas of the city where murals are often painted on buildings. The new, 8 x 4 meter, painting replaces a previous mural that had been on the side of the church. [Read more on our blog.](#)

## New Guidance for Smaller Churches



Each small church has a gift to offer its community, a part to play in God's mission, and a share in God's hopeful future. Sometimes living into this hope will mean joining with another church to share resources. Sometimes it will mean letting go of a cherished building in order to worship in people's homes or in a community centre. Whatever the end result, each small church gets there by starting with its mission: its particular part of God's calling to share the love of Christ with the world. [These new webpages offer guidance and resources for circuit mission planning, including different models of merger, and details of all the help that's available.](#)

## Methodist Education International Conference



Methodist Schools UK and the International Association of Methodist Schools and Colleges (IAMSCU) are pleased to invite you to the **Transforming Lives Methodist Education**

**International Conference** for the family of Methodist educators in April 2023. We are excited to offer a linked series of three events – each focused on a different stage of Methodist education, and each seeking to deepen our shared understanding of how our work can transform the lives of school children, as well as those in higher education and students of theology, and the lives of those in the communities around them. To read more click [here](#).

## **Leadership Learning Day**



On May 11, there will be leadership learning day for anyone who is curious to know a bit more about leadership in the Church and reflect with others. The event will be held onsite at Cliff College. All our speakers are working in a Methodist context and are lay and ordained practitioners from across the connexion. We have also also invited some of those who are studying or have recently completed postgraduate research in leadership as students at Cliff College and the Queen's Foundation to share some of their findings with us. Any questions then please email Christine Dutton ([duttonc@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:duttonc@methodistchurch.org.uk)) or Nigel Pimlott ([pimlottn@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:pimlottn@methodistchurch.org.uk)). Or to find out more information or to book onto the course then you can go to the [link here](#).

## **Social Justice & Evangelism**



### **Prison Chaplaincy and ex-offenders ministry - Tuesday 11th April at 6pm.**

What does 'good news' look like to people within our prison system. What is God's invitation to us as individuals and churches? Come and join this conversation to listen, learn and share with others. Introducing our speakers, Deacon Sue Culver, and Karen Brown: Sue is an ordained Methodist minister in the Cannock Chase Circuit and a chaplain at HMP Oakwood. Sue has served in five diaconal appointments including being the Warden of the Methodist Diaconal Order. Karen is a Resettlement Support Worker at HMP Oakwood and a local preacher in the Cannock Chase Circuit. The webinar is hosted by: Eunice Attwood, Church at the Margins Officer and Holly Adams Evangelism and Contemporary Culture Officer. Click [here](#) to register.

## **Global Relationships Resources**



For

**Junior Mission for All**

regular updates on JMA and JMA resources, [sign up to the JMA newsletter](#).

## **Worship Resources**

You can find a wealth of worship resources on the Global Relationships webpages on the Methodist Church website, including worship resources that take a global Church perspective on this year's presidential theme 'The Greatest Commandment'.

Global Relationships: [Resources \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://methodist.org.uk/resources)

Singing the Faith Plus: [Global Relationships Anytime Sunday \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://methodist.org.uk/global-relationships-anytime-sunday)

## **New Action for Hope Implementation Officer**

Dr Hamish Leese rejoins the Connexional Team as the new Action for Hope Implementation Officer. His job is to help the Methodist Church of Britain reduce its carbon emissions, aiming for net zero by 2030.

This role was made possible by funding from The Benefact Trust.

Hamish was previously part of the Connexional team working in research before coming back in January 2023. [Read more about this new role.](#)

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