

# The Methodist News 10<sup>th</sup> August 2023

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[Details on how to contact the Media team can be found on our website.](#)

Make sure you're following us on social media to stay up to date with everything going on across the Methodist Church. Remember to share and tag us in your posts so that we can see the amazing things going on in your local area too.

**The Methodist Church Communications team**

[Find out more about the Communications team](#)

## A Reflection for Exam Results Month

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Barbara Easton, who is the Head of Service for the Methodist Academies and School Trust, shares her thoughts and reflections for all of those who are receiving their exam results this month.

[Read more here](#)

## Lost in Wonder

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### LOST IN WONDER



The City of Edinburgh Church, in partnership with Hope & Anchor, is launching a fringe-registered show – *Lost in Wonder* – to engage with festival goers.

This immersive storytelling experience, which includes moments of silence and reflection, will run from 14 to 19 August in Nicolson Square Gardens. The Revd James Patron Bell, a Minister in the Forth Valley Circuit, explains more.

[Find out more here](#)

## Junior Church Sets the Stage

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A traditional Sunday school that snowballed into a thriving junior congregation, renowned locally for its musical theatre productions, is set to perform at the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly, [3Generate](#).

The group will perform songs from the popular musical, *School of Rock*, as well as talking to the 3Generate audience about what belonging to church means to them.

[Read more here](#)

## Food Security in Africa

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In this blog, Andrew Ashdown, Partnership Coordinator for Africa for the Global Relationships Team, reflects on how the Church is contributing to food security and sustainability.

[Read his blog here](#)

## Exploring Digital Online Conference

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Our keynote speakers for this event have now been announced! Register for your free ticket and join us online on Saturday 30 September for a day exploring how we can make the most of the digital world as a mission field for the church.

- James Poulter – AI, Everywhere, All At Once: understanding the theology of artificial intelligence
- Emma Sijuwade – From Bulletin Board to Engaged Community: how to transform your church social media
- The Revd Katie 'Kt' Tupling – Online and Onsite Church: presence, accessibility, inclusion, belonging...

We're privileged to have the Revd Dr Jennie Hurd, Chair of [Synod Cymru](#), leading our opening worship and plenary sessions, and the Revd Mark Slaney, District Chair of [the Methodist Church in Scotland](#), leading our closing worship and commissioning.

We're also hosting a Q&A panel with experts ready to help with your local circumstances so we can discover ideas together. Find out more details about the event and register for your free ticket on our website.

[Register for your free place here](#)

## Be a Part of The Connexional Team

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If you're interested in being a part of the Connexional Team or interested in volunteering with the Methodist Church, then take a look to see what roles are available. Please make sure to share if you know of anyone who may be interested.

[Be a part of the Connexional Team](#)

## Methodist Youth President 2024/2025

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We're looking for the Methodist Youth President for 2024/2025. If you're interested then you need to be between the ages of 18-23 and a member of the Methodist Church.

This is a great role and opportunity to travel round the UK and overseas, to learn new skills and leadership, and be the face of the younger generation of the Methodist Church.

[Apply here](#)

## Have a Watch!

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The Youth President of the Methodist Conference, James Carver, talked to Notts TV about his year in office. Themes included how he has been finding ways to make churches more inclusive to people with neurodivergence. You can watch from the 13m mark.

[Watch his interview here](#)

## Auditions for our Christmas Advert

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Are you, or someone you know, a Methodist singer? We're looking for a young female singer to feature on the soundtrack for this year's national Methodist Church Christmas film!

The chosen singer will be recorded performing a modern rendition of *O Little Town of Bethlehem*. Applicants should send a short audition clip to Ben Lawrence by Monday 18 September. Auditions can be an audio or video clip of any song, and should be accompanied by some brief information about yourself, including where you live and your availability from late October to early November.

[Submit your audition here](#)

## News & Events

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### Book Release

Jill Baker, the former Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, and former Chair of the Methodist Council, has published a book on pilgrimage. *Bigger and Wilder: Life, Loss and Learning to be a*

*Pilgrim* encourages readers to step into the pilgrim spirit and discover more about the God who constantly calls us to follow.

[Get your copy here](#)

### **Rural Ministry Course**

This course is for lay and ordained leaders who are new to a rural context, entering a rural appointment for the first time, or are in need of a 'rural refresher'. The course will run from 17 – 18 October at King's Park, Northampton. If you require more information, then you can contact Sarah Hulme who is the Rural Mission and Ministry Officer.

[Contact Sarah here](#)

### **Disability Awareness**

It's estimated that one in five people in the UK have a disability, yet church life rarely reflects that. To begin to address that issue, churches are being encouraged to join in with Disability Awareness Sunday on 17 September (or an alternative day of their choice).

A free resource pack is available from Through the Roof.

[Download the resource pack here](#)

### **Reflect Online Quiet Morning**

Everyone is welcome to join an online quiet morning, titled 'Exploring Life with Hildegard of Bingen'. Participants are promised a glimpse into the life of this 12th Century visionary who has gained popularity due to her creativity and insights, including on the theme of the 'greening' power of God. This event will run on Friday 15 and Saturday 16 September.

[Find out more information here](#)

### **Communities for Afghanistan Round Table**

The Citizens UK network of community organisations is appealing for people to join them in their call for action for safe routes for Afghan asylum-seekers.

The network, which also wants to show that UK communities are ready to welcome Afghans through local sponsorship, are holding a round table discussion on Friday 18 August from 11am to 12pm. This will be an opportunity to hear from Afghan refugees and learn how we can support those who are already in the UK.

[Reserve your place here](#)

### **Find us on social media**

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