

# The Methodist News 28<sup>th</sup> September 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](#)



## Black History Month

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This Sunday marks the start of Black History Month. A prayer to mark the start of the month has been written by Norman Mullings MBE, part of Harlesden Methodist Church in North London. Norman arrived in Britain from Jamaica in 1958. Filmed at the Windrush monument on London Waterloo Station.

[Watch the prayer](#)

## Inclusion Week

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To mark Inclusion Week, 25 September to 1 October, we have been illustrating the Church's continuing work to become more inclusive and accessible for those with disabilities. From gluten allergies to physical access, [read how Portholme Church in Yorkshire](#), a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) between Selby United Reformed Church and Selby Methodist Church, is working hard to become as inclusive as possible.

There are also YouTube films with guidance and lived experience of [sight loss](#), [physical disability](#) and [neurodiversity](#), with hearing loss to be added soon.

[The Inclusive Methodist Church](#)

## Response to government announcement on net zero

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Church leaders, including the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, have signed a statement expressing their dismay at the Prime Minister's announcement on net zero policies. The statement was coordinated by The Joint Public Issues Team.

[Read the statement](#)

## Warm Welcome Launch event

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You are invited to join the online launch of Warm Welcome 2023 on Wednesday 4 October at 7.30pm. Could your district host a Warm Welcome this year? Whether your district ran one last year or you are aware of churches considering joining in for the first time, you are invited to find out more about Warm Welcome and how to get involved by registering for the online launch event.

[Learn more and register](#)

## Railways at Romiley

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An open day at Romiley Methodist Railway Modellers near Stockport was attended by hundreds of families in the village and raised more than £1,800 for Action for Children. The club is open to all with members of Romiley Methodist Church an important part of the club.

[Read about the exhibition](#)

## Coach Training

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Do you enjoy helping others develop and reach their potential? Are you a good listener, but keen to develop your active listening skills? Have you noticed how great questions open up a conversation? Then you may have the potential to be a great coach. Coaching is a gift we can offer one another as we seek to become a growing,

evangelistic, justice-seeking church of gospel people. Coaches help people reflect on their practice through structured conversations, asking great questions, and holding people accountable to the action points they have set themselves. It's not about having all the answers, or about giving good advice, but about guiding people as they reflect, act, and reflect again. This course is fully funded by Evangelism and Growth for participants who satisfactorily complete a coaching taster session, or who have had a conversation with us about their suitability to train as a coach.

[Email to find out more](#)

## Challenge Rural Poverty

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An online conversation unpacking the recent Rural Poverty Today research will take place on Tuesday 10 October at 7:30pm. Gather with other rural leaders to hear from Prof Mark Shucksmith about the realities of rural poverty and how we, as faith communities, can challenge poverty in both our local and national contexts. Hosted by

Deacon Eunice Attwood, Hannah Fremont-Brown & Sarah Hulme.

[Further information and register](#)

## MWOL Online Session new resources!

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Have you ever thought of life as like being on a train? Faith has often been described as a 'journey' and we're embracing the metaphor! Do you feel like your church community is on the train, waiting on the platform, or maybe even stuck outside the gate? Join one of our 45 minute online sessions on 2 October to explore our new Methodist Way of Life discipleship resources, share some tips for getting started as a community, and time for Q&A.

[Book](#)

## Church Planting Intensive

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The next Church Planting Intensive (CPI) is on 3-5 November 2023. It begins with a residential at Cliff College, from 6pm Friday evening until Sunday lunchtime, it is really important that anyone booking is able to attend the whole course, you may need to arrange for others to lead worship on your behalf. Following the residential, we meet for a further five sessions on Thursday evenings between 7-8.30pm. The CPI is a fully funded hybrid course for those who are planting NPNPs, designed for those who actively shaping a vision, about to launch or in an existing project. It mixes teaching and reflection, prayer and deepening our calls. Places limited to 30, and we still have spaces. We also support planters through Methodist Pioneering Pathways, more details [here](#).

[Book](#)

## Digital training for local preachers and worship leaders

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More dates have been added to the digital training for worship leaders and local preachers – now available in 2024!

This short, three-week course is an introduction to how Local Preachers and Worship Leaders can develop their digital skills and become more confident about their role in a digital world.

Week 1: What's digital got to do with me? (why should LPs bother with the digital world at all?)

Week 2: Going digital in worship (including videos in PPT, recorded music, etc)

Week 3: Developing online prayer and worship on social media

Follow us on Eventbrite for registration, details and dates of the courses.

[Register](#)

## 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.

[Take a look at our job and volunteering opportunities](#)

## News In Brief & Events

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### BBC Radio Four - Daily Service

The Revd Michaela Youngson, Assistant Secretary of the Conference, considered harvest and everlasting growth when she undertook the Daily Service on BBC Radio Four Long Wave on Wednesday morning.

[Listen to the service](#)

### Global Relationships

Revd Dr Daniel and Grace Pratt Morris-Chapman serve as Mission Partners in Uganda. In their latest update they write about visiting one of the many rural circuits where some of the churches are attended by up to 300 people.

[Read their update](#)

### Community organising and congregational life

We know how community organising practices strengthen and transform ourselves as leaders, and the communities around us. The Methodist Church in the West Midlands is currently running a pilot exploring how local Methodist congregations can use the same practices to help them move from vision into action. On Thursday 9 November come and join the conversation around what they are discovering.

[Join the conversation](#)

### Homelessness & Housing Gathering

A free, online event on 5 October for those dealing with poverty, housing and services for the homeless. There will be updates on recent lobbying and current developments in social housing and discussions on increasing The Methodist Church's involvement in affordable housing schemes.

[Join the gathering](#)

### Green Church Awards

The Church Times has launched the 2024 Green Church Awards in recognition of the urgent environmental crisis and the efforts being made by Christian organisations and communities, churches and church schools, of all denominations, to care for creation.

[Read more](#)

Find us on social media

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