

The Methodist News 7th September 2023

[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](#)



Hidden Treasures



To welcome in the new Connexional Year, the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference talk about hidden treasures and what they are looking forward to during the year ahead.

[Download the video here](#)

Welcoming the new Youth President



Thomas Hart is the new Methodist Youth President for this Connexional year. A service will be taking place this Sunday 10 September at the Side Door Youth and Community Church in Grimsby from 10.30am. You can watch the service online.

[Watch the service here](#)

Highlights of the Methodist Conference 2023

The highlights video of the Methodist Conference 2023 will be available tomorrow, 8 September. You can download and use the video for your church synods.

[Find the link here](#)

Death Café



The thought of chatting about death over tea and coffee may seem strange. A Death Café was started by Deacon Bob Stoner from the Strathclyde Circuit last September at Pollokshaws Methodist Church in Glasgow. Even though it's a taboo subject for some, the idea is to approach death in a different way and help people feel more comfortable talking about it.

[Read more here](#)

Exploring Digital Online Conference



It's not too late to join together with Methodists from all over Britain for a special gathering. Learn from key individuals who've mastered the digital world on how to connect and share the Gospel online. The event will feature insightful keynotes, group discussions and an expert panel. Don't miss this chance to enhance your church's online presence and explore faith in the digital era!

- **When:** Saturday 30 September, 10am to 3:30pm
- **Where:** Online, so you can join wherever you are
- **Cost:** We are providing this day free of charge

We've been blown away with more than 450 tickets being registered. Some of these include watch parties, organised in churches, so we know even more people will be joining in on the day. We cannot wait to join with you all as we explore the digital world together. If you cannot join on the day, we'll be making the keynote sessions available for playback after the event. Register for a ticket so we can send you the links to watch them back.

Our three keynote speakers for the day are:

- **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
- **Revd Katie 'Kt' Tupling:** Online and Onsite Church: presence, accessibility, inclusion, belonging...

We'll also be led by the **Revd Dr Jenni Hurd**, Chair of Synod Cymru, and the **Revd Mark Slaney**, Chair Scotland District and Chair Shetland District, who'll be leading Opening and Closing Worship during the day.

[Register for your free ticket here](#)

Reusing and Recycling School Uniforms



In 2020 a group of parents came together to talk about a scheme re-using and recycling old school uniforms and making them more affordable for parents who are struggling with rising costs. With the help of Lorraine Jones, Family Ministry Co-Ordinator at [Haxby and Wiggington Methodist Church](#), they set up the School Uniform Bank.

[Read more here](#)

RAAC - Property Advice

The Connexional Property Team have released advice for those concerned about the use of RAAC as a building material in Church properties. The Property Team will continue to monitor any developments through the Government websites and other sources of technical information and provide updates if needed.

[Read the guidance here](#)

God Welcomes All: How faith informs Safeguarding



Use the *God Welcomes All* resource to explore why and how safeguarding matters to everyone. This guide encourages all church members to look at our Christian calling that offers a welcome to all, whilst ensuring that our worship and wider church life is safe for everyone.

- User-friendly study materials
- Accessible series of short films
- Versatile for use by individuals or groups

The Methodist Church is committed to supporting survivors of abuse of any kind and especially abuse that occurred within a church context. The 2021 Methodist Conference adopted the report on The Theology of Safeguarding which explores issues including the abuse of power within a church context. *God Welcomes All* helps us all reflect on what God's love means through safeguarding. You can see what others think of *God Welcomes All* by watching this [short video](#).

[Get the resources here](#)

A Sense of Calling

Earlier this year, Helen Cain took part in a visit to the Holy Land organised as part of the work of Global Relationships and the Methodist Liaison Office in Jerusalem. Her encounters there have sparked a sense of calling.

[Read more here](#)

Have a listen!

Sarah Rodgers is participating in the Methodist Pioneer Pathways and is a composer who will be having her new commission 'Seascapes' premiered as part of this year's BBC 'Proms At' concerts. The concert will be happening at Great Yarmouth Hippodrome Circus Theatre and will be broadcast live on 8 September on BBC Radio 3 at 6:00pm.

[Find the link here](#)

Be a Part of The Connexional Team

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](#)

Correction! Methodist Prayer Handbook

The newly released 2023/2024 Methodist Prayer Handbook incorrectly omitted Scotland District from Day 30, page 95. Methodist Publishing deeply regrets this error, and apologises to everyone using the Handbook. At the top-right corner of page 95, instead of just the Shetland District, please read:

Scotland District, Shetland District, Chair, Mark Slaney
Shetland District, Deputy Chair, Stephen Charman

[Find the correction here](#)

News & Events

Discipleship Toolkit

A fresh model for the discipleship journey, the toolkit includes activities and interactive resources and stories to encourage individuals and communities to engage with the twelve commitments of A Methodist Way of Life. There are starter guides for anyone with a leadership role.

[Explore the courses here](#)

Methodist Homelessness and Housing Gathering

Tackling homelessness, poor housing and their causes are important aspects of social justice. Updates on lobbying and recent developments in social housing and homelessness outreach and prevention will be shared at the next Methodist Homelessness and Housing Gathering.

This will take place via Zoom on Thursday 5 October 2023 between 11.30am. and 1pm.

[Book your place here](#)

Bloomin' Church

Bloomin' Church is a play by Anne Middleton about a fictional Methodist Church that will be performed from 18 to 21 October at Devonport Playhouse, Plymouth. If you would like to have it performed at your church, then get in touch with Anne.

[Contact Anne here](#)

Find us on social media

