

The Methodist News October 19th 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](#)



Pray for Israel and Palestine

Loving God
I see the news and I am afraid.
Violence is spiralling out of control.
I don't know what to think or feel.
The temptation to fall into hatred, or despair
feels very close at hand.
Help me to remember that nothing in all creation
can separate me from your love
that I know in Jesus.
May your perfect love for me cast out my fear
and free me to discern what is mine to do
amidst the chaos of this suffering world.
Amen



The **Methodist** Church

The President and Vice President have [released a statement](#) on the situation in Israel and Palestine. They have written to the UK Government to ask them to work for peace in the region and are asking you to join them in praying for those affected by the attacks. The Methodist Church has published resources, prayers, background and reflections.

[Find the resources here](#)

Christian Aid Middle East Crisis Appeal

"We didn't sleep last night. We are so scared. Many people have been killed. Some of our staff are evacuating and some of them have lost their houses already. We've not had any electricity for more than 24 hours." – Christian Aid Partner in Gaza

Christian Aid has launched an appeal to support people living in Gaza. By clicking the link, you can find out how can donate and show your support.

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[Show your support here](#)

Let's End Poverty



Around 270 people have come together for the launch of the Let's End Poverty movement. It was hosted online by Hannah Freemont-Brown, the Anti-Poverty Movement Methodist Coordinator, and Ali McMillian, a Deacon at Central Hall Westminster. Find out more about what the movement is planning and how you can get involved.

[Find out more here](#)

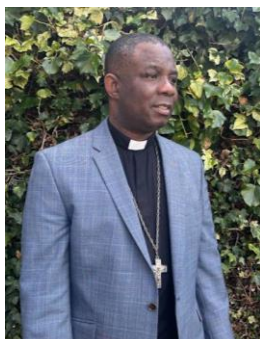
Fight against poverty



As part of [Challenge Poverty Week](#) 2023, we are highlighting initiatives undertaken by the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Methodist District to support their community, where Methodist churches and their partners are working tirelessly to aid those most in need during these times of financial uncertainty.

[Read more on their initiatives here](#)

Savage systems of the past and their ongoing impact



As part of Black History Month, the Revd Dr Kennedy Gondongwe, coordinator of the Methodist Solidarity Circle for Racial Justice, considers slavery and how its impact has affected on British Methodism, the savage system in colonies and their institutions as well as the British wider society.

[Discover more here](#)

Mission Week

The Revd Peter Clark, a Methodist Minister from North Yorkshire, talks about chaplaincy to the horse racing industry in this video as part of Premier's Mission Week.

[Watch here](#)

Insieme (*Together*)



In this blog post, the Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, Secretary of the Conference, reflects on his recent trip to Rome where, along with a group of young Methodists, he took part in *Together – Gathering of the People of God*.

[Read his reflection here](#)

Out of the Ordinary



This week the Communications Team has been in Norwich to record the film for our Christmas campaign *Out of the Ordinary*.

Don't forget that the Advent and Christmas resources for our campaign are [now available for you to download and order free from Methodist Publishing](#). You can also [sign up for our Daily Advent reflections via email](#) throughout Advent.

[Find the resources here](#)

Have a listen!



The Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, Kerry Scarlett, has been a guest on the [Leeds Sanctuary podcast](#). Justice x Sanctuary: Toxic Masculinity, Misogyny & Modern Slavery Part one is available for you to have a listen.

Methodist Prayer Handbook



We need your Prayers!

The 2024/2025 *Methodist Prayer Handbook* title and theme is: Praise and Protest. Please contribute your prayer of no more than 120 words each, based on this theme:

Praise and Protest

In her song of praise, the 'Magnificat' (Luke 1:46-55), Mary thanks God for the child Jesus, who will announce God's kingdom which "brings down the powerful from their thrones and lifts up the lowly." To engage in God's mission and be part of that transformation, we believe the Methodist Church is called to become an increasingly evangelistic, inclusive and justice-seeking Church.

Following the prophet Isaiah's call, echoing through the ages to us and reflected in Mary's prayer, the 2024/2025 *Prayer Handbook* will focus on how the Church can "learn to do right; seek justice and defend the oppressed" (Isaiah 1:17a, NIV).

We invite you to offer prayers using Isaiah's three key actions for becoming the justice-seeking Church we are called to be, in response to God's love in Christ:

- **Learn**

We invite prayers that we might be attentive to God's ways, and discern how we go about learning to live justly in our local communities and churches.

- **Seek**

Please offer prayers that see God and God's ways, and invite us to love God and to love our neighbours. Prayers could relate to looking actively for what God is showing us as the Body of Christ corporately, or more personally, to become people who recognise injustice and take action.

- **Defend**

Finally, we welcome prayers for the Church to become more aware of the voices of the people we are called to defend – those who are marginalised and silenced. We welcome prayers that support others in their protest and prayers for how we get involved.

Your contributions to 'Praise and Protest' are required by 8 January 2024.

[Check Methodist Prayer Handbook for submission details](#)

News & Events

Methodists offer a Warm Welcome

This year's Warm Welcome Spaces has been launched and if your church wants to host a warm space, you can register before 29 October. By then, the map of all the Warm Welcome Spaces will be available to go live and will be online until 31 March. The idea is to provide a space where people can find friendship and connection and help people feel less lonely this winter.

[Sign up your church here](#)

Fundraise in your church - Action for Children

Holding a fundraising event in your church, big or small, can help improve the lives of vulnerable children across the UK. You and your church can join in one the annual activities by using one of the many resources from [Action for Children](#), and find inspiration on how you can help make a difference in a child's life.

[Find the resources here](#)

Church for change

Join in at this free event 'Church for Change' on 4 November at Harcourt Hill Campus in Oxford. The event will be about learning about the historical and contemporary social justice work for The Methodist Church. You can find the agenda of the day [here](#).

[Register for the free event here](#)

Our Justice Journeys

The volume of essays from the 2022 Methodist Heritage Conference features an introduction from Lord Beith, Chair of Methodist Heritage Committee. There are pieces relating to collections at Epworth and The New Room and essays on individual Methodist stories.

[Discover more on the essays 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](#)

Find us on social media

