

The Methodist News 21st December

[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.

[Christmas Break](#)

The Communications Team will be taking a break between 23 December and 2 January. There'll be no Methodist News next week, but it will be back again in your inboxes on Thursday 4 January. If you need to speak to someone about an urgent media issue then please call the out of hours number: 07799 902580. Happy Christmas from the Communications Team

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



President & Vice-President Christmas message



In their Christmas message, the President of the Methodist Conference, Revd Gill Newton, and the Vice-President, Deacon Kerry Scarlett, talk about finding 'hidden treasures' within ourselves and how to discover our talents.

[Download the video here](#)

David Hardman's Christmas reflection



David Hardman reflects on his time in the Holy Land and the impact of the conflict there this Christmas.

[Watch the video here](#)

David Hardman on the radio

BBC
LOCAL
RADIO

On Christmas Eve morning the Revd David Hardman, the Methodist Liaison Officer, Jerusalem, currently based in the UK, will be on the radio sharing how Christmas in the Holy Land will be different this year. He will be on various BBC Local Radio stations between 6:30am and 8:30am.

Call for a ceasefire

Christian Aid, along with other organisations and churches, have issued a joint statement saying that a permanent ceasefire would be the only way to deliver necessary aid to Gaza.

“We need a full and permanent ceasefire now. There is no military solution to this conflict. Instead, we are seeing our worst fears realised of a ‘pause bomb, pause bomb’ scenario. This is dehumanising, unacceptable and offers little room for hope or the conditions to achieve a lasting peace.”

[Read the statement here](#)

Death of Vivienne Jeannot



Vivienne Jeannot, a former National in Missions Appointments (NMA) postholder, has tragically been killed during an attempted kidnapping in Port au Prince, Haiti. You can read prayers and more on the life on Vivienne Jeannot on the Global Relationship [news pages](#).

[Read about her life here](#)

Carol service at prison



The President led a carol service at HM Prison Lindholme this week. Look out on our social media channels for the full story.

St Nicholas arrives for Ukrainian children



St Nicholas Day is a tradition celebrated in Ukraine and it has arrived at [Salisbury Methodist Church](#) with the help of the [Ukrainian Hub](#). More than thirty young people attended as they waited in anticipation to see St Nicholas in his cream and gold robes.

“We tried to do something for our fellow Ukrainians as we are missing our traditions. We wanted to give our kids a miracle for them to be happy.”

[Read more here](#)

Five reflections



Holly Adams, the Evangelism and Contemporary Culture Officer for the Connexional Team, shares five reflections on the future of the Church that she brought home with her from a recent visit to Mexico.

[Read her reflections here](#)

Unbounded Love



A range of resources that connect the Gospel readings from the Sunday lectionary throughout Lent to weekly themes, each one a line lifted from the hymn “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling.”

Charles Wesley's famous hymn Love Divine, All Loves Excelling talks about Jesus as ‘unbounded love’ – a kind of love that cannot be contained, that works in our lives and in our world to free us and heal us. Unbounded Love is the theme of the Lent campaign of the Methodist Church in 2024 – holding together our commitments to be a justice-seeking church, and a people who experience and proclaim the good news of God's uncontainable love.

For individuals - Forty daily discipleship prompts, delivered straight to your email inbox every day of Lent, excluding Sundays. Daily emails will include Bible studies, creative activities and challenges to take action.

For churches - A poster to advertise the email reflections, digital assets to advertise the email reflections, light-touch guidance for either Sunday services or small groups and a social media campaign pointing people to local churches.

[Find out more](#)

Highlights of 2023

Imagine Peace - Eurovision 2023

[Read what they got up to here](#)

Out of the Ordinary



Our Christmas campaign Out of the Ordinary was a hit this year. With the [film](#), the single [Be Born](#) and the [daily reflections for Advent](#), the campaign encouraged us to scratch beneath the surface this Christmas to discover how God's extraordinary love can transform our lives.

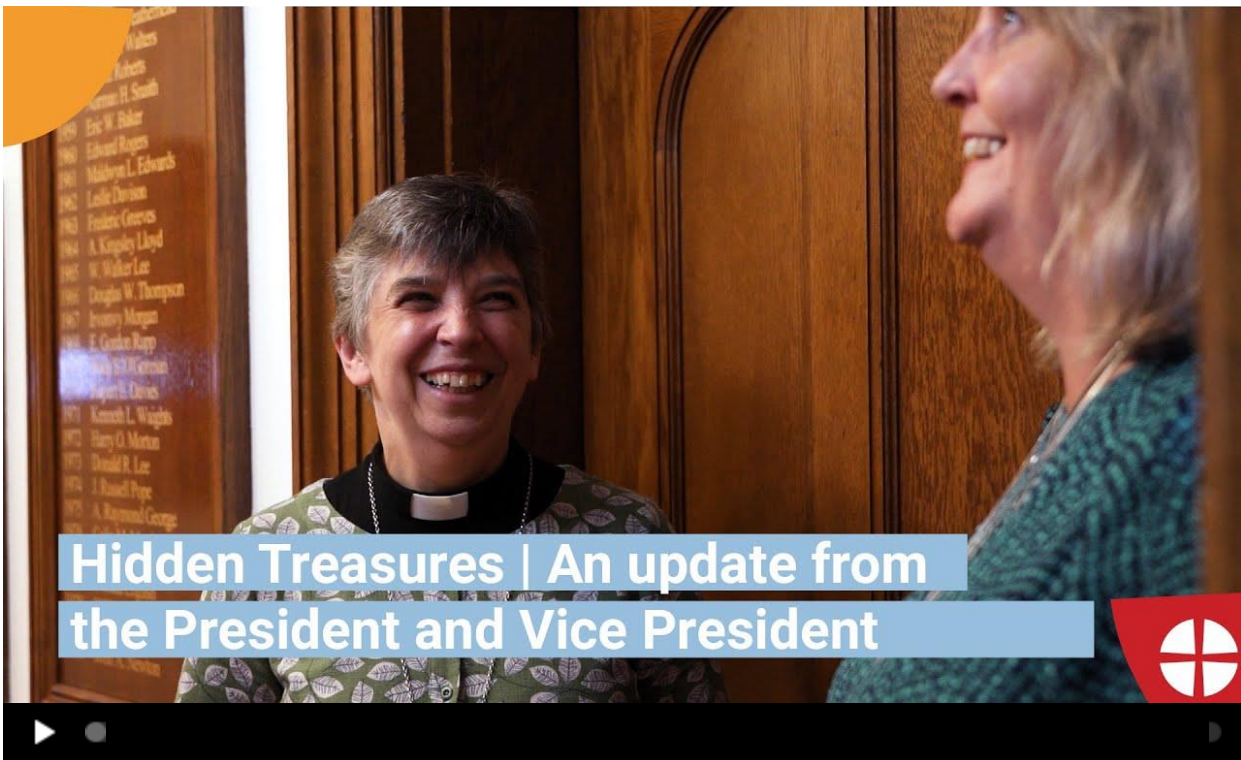
Church leaders oppose the Illegal Migration Bill



A statement signed by more than 1,450 church leaders opposing the government's Illegal Migration Bill, was delivered to 10 Downing Street in April. The statement said that the government's proposals are "incompatible with our Christian conviction that all human beings are in the image of God".

[Read more here](#)

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 their year in office.

Church of Sanctuary award



In March, Methodist churches in Brighton & Hove were awarded Church of Sanctuary status, pledging to create a culture of solidarity, inclusivity and welcome. The five churches from the Brighton & Hove Methodist Circuit were the first Methodist churches in Britain to win this award.

[Find out more here](#)

Rural church wins two national awards



Providence Methodist Chapel at Throwleigh, in the Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District, won two awards from the National Churches Trust in the "Open to Visitors" category for the UK. This prestigious event took place in October and is an amazing achievement for a rural church that was struggling a few years ago.

[Read about their win 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

