

The Methodist News 25th January 2024

[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.

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



Holocaust Memorial Day



Saturday 27 January is Holocaust Memorial Day. The Revd Michaela Youngson, Assistant Secretary of the Methodist Conference and Connexional Ecumenical Officer, shares this prayer.

[Read the prayer here](#)

New Year Honours List



Revd Derek Johnston

The Revd Derek Johnston has been awarded an MBE for services to chaplaincy and well-being during the Covid pandemic. He is the Lead Chaplain for the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust at Belfast Royal Victoria Hospital.



Bernard Vause

Bernard has been awarded BEM for his services to music and the community in Morecombe. Mr Vause is a stalwart member of Torrisholme Methodist Church, part of the Lancashire District.



June Edna Nicol-Dundas

June has been awarded an MBE for her services to education and young people. She is a member of Walworth Methodist Church in the Southwark & Deptford Circuit.

Christine Gendall

Christine has been awarded a BEM for her service to the community. Christine was the chair of the Churches Together in Penzance Foodbank. She's also a member of Wesley Rock Methodist Church in the West Cornwall Circuit.

Lorna Cocking

Lorna has been awarded an MBE for her services to education. She is the Chair of the Board of Trustees for the National Foundation for Educational Research, and Chair of Governors at Kent College, Canterbury.

The world is grey

"Even if you don't fully understand why it matters to them, making a small difference could make someone else's day. You could call it loving thy neighbour..."

This blog explores the way social media has shaped our culture, and how we can consider the way we communicate with people. It also explains how resources, such as [The Inclusive Language Guide](#), can help us to hold better conversations.

[Discover more here](#)

Inclusive Language Guide Reuters Fact Check

The international news agency Reuters has reported that recent coverage of [The Methodist Church Inclusive Language Guide](#) used the guide's words out of context.

[Read more here](#)

Fighting for climate change



Stirling Methodist Church is embedded in the local community. It has a rich history and is still making history today with its commitment to social and climate justice. The church was instrumental in setting up 'Start Up Stirling', a charity which provided start-up packs for those moving into their first homes after a period of homelessness. The area's anti-fracking campaign was also initiated here.

[Read more about their work here](#)

LGBT+ History Month



With February being LGBT+ History Month, Pam Gold, coordinator for the Methodist LGBT+ Solidarity Circle, has written this prayer which can be shared with your churches.

[Discover the prayer here](#)

Exploring Digital lunchtime learning



Can we create authentic relationships online?
What does it mean to be an inclusive church?
What are the possibilities of an online church/ community?
Sharing their thoughts, insights, and inspiring experiences are:
Laura Neale: The founder of "YouBelong," an online community that offers support and connection to those who are chronically ill and disabled.

Tori Allen: The Digital and Communications Officer for the Manchester and Stockport District, and the mind behind "Your Space," a safe haven to explore life, faith, and the importance of well-being while battling isolation.

Bring your lunch and an appetite for learning, as we delve into:
Developing digital skills
Building digital confidence
A safe space to ask questions and share your thoughts
Leaving with a digital toolkit full of resources and mission ideas.

The course is happening on **Tuesday 20 February 12noon-1pm** and tickets are selling fast.

[Book your place here](#)

Have a listen!



Trey Hall joined Zoe Ball on BBC Radio 2's Pause for Thought. He talks about the wonder that is Dolly Parton and how her qualities can help us see our beauty.

[Listen here](#)

No faith in fossil fuels

People up and down the country are joining together during Lent for a 10-day climate justice prayer vigil outside the Houses of Parliament from 14 to 24 February.

“We are gathering for a vigil, to pray for our global neighbours, for the planet and for bold climate action from the UK Government. We hope people will join us, whether in London or elsewhere and call on the Government to make the UK’s biggest polluters pay for climate action.”

[Sign up here](#)

News & events

Every Church Counts

With hundreds of churches facing closure each year, a national plan is urgently needed to help secure their future. The National Churches Trust are doing everything they can to support church buildings in need and are asking for your help in tackling the UK’s single biggest heritage challenge.

[Sign up here](#)

Day of Reflections 2024

[AtaLoss](#) are partnering with Marie Curie on the Day of Reflection which is happening on Sunday 3 March and will include a minute’s silence at midday. This is an opportunity to recognise the impact of grief and bereavement. [AtaLoss](#) is encouraging the engagement of churches in the events.

[Find more information here](#)

Gathering outdoors

A webinar aimed at people looking to gather outdoors, explore, encounter and journey together, to pioneer new ways of being a church and to develop mission in rural communities. [Rural & Wild Pilgrimage](#) takes place on 5 February at 7pm. On 5 March [Forests & Firepits](#) shares stories of rural communities gathering outdoors.

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

