

The Methodist News 1st February 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](#)



LGBT+ History Month



February is LGBT+ History Month and Pam Gold, coordinator for the Methodist LGBT+ Solidarity Circle, has filmed her prayer to mark the beginning of the month.

[Discover the prayer here](#)

Creating space for hope and encouragement



To celebrate the launch of the new [A Methodist Way of Life discipleship toolkit](#), the Evangelism and Growth Team is producing a new monthly blog series on leadership and culture change. Whether you're mission planning, starting New Places for New People or re-orienting your church's focus to discipleship, hopefully these monthly blogs will provide encouragement and guidance.

[Read the new blog here](#)

Have a listen!



Trey Hall joined Zoe Ball on BBC Radio 2's Pause for Thought on Monday. He talked about how people can face mountainous terrains when it comes to their mental well-being and spiritual journey.

[Listen Here](#)

Young Methodists sleep out for homelessness



Young Methodists in the [Yorkshire North and East District](#) have spent a cold and damp night in the garden of Lidgett Methodist Church. The event was held to increase awareness of the situation facing the local homeless community and to raise money for two of the charities who support them. "It really was a pretty miserable experience. It was hard for any of us to get any sleep. We were safe, but for those who are forced to sleep rough, there is a real fear of violence."

[Read more](#)

Three years on from the military coup in Myanmar

It is three years since the military coup in Myanmar. The Methodist Church in Upper Myanmar has been in touch with Shelia Norris, Partnership Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific, with insights into the current situation there and prayer requests.

[Learn about the current situation](#)

Revitalising the Manx language



The [Isle of Man Methodist District](#) is holding services to share the Manx language and culture.

Claudia, one of those helping with the services says, "I love the Manx language. It's a wonderful thing that we're bringing Manx services back."

[Read more here](#)

Caring for the world in Summerbridge



Six Methodist churches have achieved the A-Rocha Gold Eco Church award. One of the churches is [Summerbridge Methodist Church](#), in the [Yorkshire North & East Methodist District](#). Reaching the standard to win the environmental award required motivation, commitment and resourcefulness.

[Read more about their work](#)

Methodist Council report

Methodist Council met online on 29 and 30 January. Here's a report of the proceedings, including an update on the process regarding nominations to the Connexional Council and embedding the Conference report *A Justice-Seeking Church* across the Connexion.

[Find the report here](#)

Racial Justice Sunday



Sunday 11 February 2024 is Racial Justice Sunday, which this year focuses on the movement of people from their homelands to the places they now call home and explores the welcome they receive on arrival. Churches Together in Britain and Ireland have published a range of resources.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 11.02.24
EXODUS!

[Discover more about the resources](#)

Exploring Digital Lunchtime Learning

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Laura Neale
Founder and Director of YouBelong

An onsite church brings joy to many, but others find them inaccessible due to physical barriers and a lack of understanding about disability and chronic illness from a theological and Christian perspective.



On Tuesday 20 February from 12noon-1pm, we enter into the world of online church and online community - what can we learn about being an inclusive church? Can we create authentic relationships online?

Laura Neale, Founder and Director of YouBelong says:

"I set up YouBelong in January 2019 and rapidly realised that there are thousands of people like me, who cannot attend an onsite church or connect in with a church community due to chronic illness and disability. As wonderful as onsite church settings are for many people, for others, they are inaccessible, not just due to physical barriers like a lack of ramps, loop systems or accessible toilets, but also due to the lack of understanding of disability and chronic illness from a theological and Christian standpoint.

"During this session, I hope to teach and equip you to pastor and care for chronically ill and disabled people in your church and community."

[Book here](#)

News & events

Church Planting Intensive

The next Church Planting Intensive is happening 15-17 March 2024. It starts with a residential at Cliff College and will be followed by five sessions on Thursday evenings between 7-8.30pm.

It is a fully hybrid course designed for those who are actively shaping a new vision, planting New Places for New People or about to launch an existing project. Places are limited to 30, and there are still spaces available.

[Sign up here](#)

A Methodist Way of Life service outlines

A new series of service outlines have been created to help embed A Methodist Way of Life into your church and community. It's filled with notes for sermons, creative activities and discussion questions for

all ages. These are in an accessible Word document and PowerPoint slides are also available. These service outlines are created so you can tailor the services that are best suited for you.

[Find the service outlines 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

