

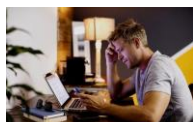
The Methodist News 16th May 2024

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](#)



Find hope and healing



This week is Mental Health Awareness Week. Tracey Collins, Wellbeing Officer in the Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Methodist District, has written a blog to shed light on how we can tackle the stigma surrounding mental health.

[Read her blog here](#)

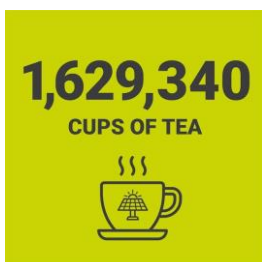
Crisis in Haiti



In response to the crisis in Haiti, the World Mission Fund has provided a grant of £20,000 to support the food programmes and ongoing work of the Methodist Church in Caribbean and America's Haiti District. In reply, Bishop Revd Everaldo Galbraith shared his deep appreciation on behalf of the MCCA to the Methodists in Britain for their kind and thoughtful response, standing in solidarity with those in need. "May God continue to bless the MCB". Donations to the World Mission Fund can be made at the link, below. Please continue to keep Haiti and MCCA in your prayers.

[Donate here](#)

Ashden Awards for climate justice



With more than 500 organisations applying for the [2024 Ashden Awards](#), only six get to be finalists and the [Yorkshire North & East District](#) is one of them. The district is recognised for its development of the [Tea & PV](#) project to reduce church carbon footprints and bills. So far, 28 churches around the district have had solar panels installed and there are hopes of more in the future.

You can listen to [Tim O'Brien](#), the district Net Zero Officer who is managing the Tea & PV project, when he talked to [Kat Cowan on BBC Radio Yorkshire](#).

[Discover more here](#)

Global Accessibility Awareness Day



Today, 16 May, marks Global Accessibility Awareness Day and to mark it we are highlighting the work of Bridlington Newspaper. The team, who operate from [Sewerby Methodist Church](#), collate, read and record articles from local newspapers to share with people living with visual impairments and other print disabilities.

[Read more about their work here](#)

Aldersgate Sunday

You can find a wide range of resources to support your Aldersgate Sunday service, including prayers, hymns and reflections, on the Methodist Church website.

[Find the resources here](#)

General Elections resources launch webinar



The Joint Public Issues Team are holding a webinar on Tuesday 21 May at 7.00pm, to explore how individuals and churches can engage with politics and the upcoming general election as we are called to Love, Pray and Vote. You can find resources on the special [JPIT election page](#) and register for the webinar.

[Register to the webinar through here](#)

Coffee Pot Memory Café



The Coffee Pot Memory Café has officially received its KAVS award (King's Award for Voluntary Service). Founded in 2017 at [Drighlington Methodist Church](#), the café now has up to 60 people attending every Friday for the regular tea and biscuits sessions or for the monthly lunch.

Trevor, one of the founders of the café, says, "To have our hard work recognised is amazing. It is a tribute to everybody who volunteers."

[Discover more about the café here](#)

The Bread of Life



Fair Trade Centres support local producers with fair wages and help improve their quality of life. The Bread of Life, located in the [London Methodist District](#), is committed to promoting Fair Trade to make the world a fairer place.

Mary Watson Nunziato, Centre Manager, says "Volunteering in a Fair Trade Centre is not just about helping Fairtrade producers get a better life for them and their families but also helps our community by giving it good quality and ethically sourced products."

[Read more here](#)

Pride 2024

Many churches organise their Pride celebrations in June or join with events in their area to show their support for the LGBT+ community.

We would love to be able to share these celebrations with the rest of the Methodist Church. If you would like to share, you can use the hashtag #MethodistsAtPride. Ensure those in the images are happy to be included as by using the hashtag you consent to us re-sharing the photo.

Call for Stories

The 50th anniversary of the first ordinations of women as presbyters in the Methodist Church in Britain will be marked on 2 July 2024. To celebrate this milestone, we would like to hear your stories to share on our website.

If you'd be interested in contributing, please email mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk and we'll get back in touch with the details of what we're looking for.

News and events

LGBTQ awareness webinars

The Children, Youth and Family Team is excited to be partnering with Frontier Youth Trust to host two webinars that are open to anyone who wants to learn more about how we can be a more inclusive church. The first webinar, 'Introduction to LGBTQ awareness', is on Tuesday 21 May from 7.00pm-8.30pm and the second webinar, '[LGBTQ awareness – going deeper](#)' is on Tuesday 24 June from 7.00pm-8.30pm.

[Sign up to the first webinar here](#)

Fresh Expressions the economic margins

An online ecumenical 'brave' space for Church at the Margin advocates and practitioners with Fresh Expressions and the Methodist Church. Hosted by Tim Lea, Fresh Expressions Networks facilitator & animator and Eunice Attwood, Church at the Margins Officer, the Methodist Church. The theme is Let's End Poverty with guest speaker: Hannah Fremont-Brown, Let's End Poverty Movement Coordinator.

[Register here](#)

Holiness: Hidden Treasure

This online 'overnight' retreat is led by Ermal Kirby, 12-13 July. It will begin with a zoom session on the Friday evening after which participants are invited to hold an overnight silence, if possible. The retreat will then resume online at 9.00am on Saturday.

[Find out more here](#)

Finding Jesus on the streets

On 10 June, Street Pastors are joined by Bejoy Patel, the CEO of the initiative's parent charity, the Ascension Trust, to share the lessons learned over the years when the Street Pastors initiative began and to answer the question 'How we might find Jesus on our local streets?'

[Sign up 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



