

The Methodist News 27th June 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](#)



Methodist Conference 2024

The Methodist Conference is currently taking place in Leeds (27 June – 3 July). You can find the full [agenda and timetable](#) for this year's Conference on the website. A list of highlights is given [here](#). If you are not going in person but don't want to miss out, then you can [watch the Conference](#) as it is livestreamed.

[Find all things about the Conference here](#)

Ordination stories

Five ordinands have shared their testimonies as they prepare for their ordination services that are taking place on Sunday 30 June at five churches in and around Yorkshire. Reception into Full Connexion of presbyters and deacons will take place during the Conference Worship on Sunday morning.



Rachel Collins

"Growing up in a very Methodist family, I'm a sixth generation preacher and my Great, Great, Great Grandad was a Primitive Methodist minister as well as many generations in between, and most recently my Mum. It was almost expected I'd be a minister 'like my mum!'"

[Read Rachel's testimony here here](#)



Phil Robinson

"Even now, I occasionally catch a glimpse of myself in the mirror wearing a clerical collar and think 'this is crazy!'"

[Read Phil's testimony here](#)



James Patterson

"Every time I was asked 'Have you ever thought about becoming a minister?' I experienced all manner of feelings: fear, dread, affirmation – but mainly fear!"

[Read James' testimony here](#)



Jonny Bell

"We sat on the floor of the school, and my teacher asked us what we wanted to be when we grew up. I said, 'I want to be a priest'. Her reply, 'Yes, I can see you doing that!'"

[Read Jonny's testimony here](#)



Blayze White

"Yet through the love and grace of an almighty God I was shown the ladder to Heaven. The journey God had planned for me and the climb that was ahead of me. But the blessings He has poured out on my life is nothing short of miraculous."

[Read Blayze's testimony here](#)

Election 2024



The Joint Public Issues Team have written this helpful article about what to do on polling day next Thursday. It is particularly good for first time voters or those who haven't voted in a while.

[Read the article here](#)



This week's episode of JPIT's 'Politics in the Pulpit?' podcast discusses how we might appropriately preach and pray about the election.

[Listen here](#)

Where is your urgent plan to tackle hardship?

Seven million low-income families have gone without essentials like food, heating and adequate clothing in the last six months. With the election just a week away, The Methodist Church has joined over 200 organisations to ask our political leaders: Where is your urgent plan to tackle hardship?

"Poverty is not inevitable, and those with power can make choices that could end poverty for good. We urge all those who seek our votes to commit to make ending poverty a priority."

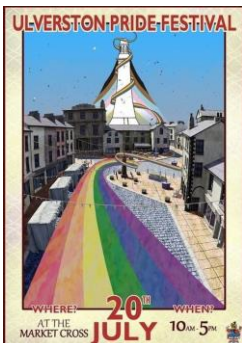
[Read the open letter here](#)

Passing of Revd Dr William Davis

Revd Dr William 'Bill' Davis, who was President of the Methodist Conference 1987-1988 and was the Principal for Cliff College from 1983-1994, has sadly passed on 23 June 2024.

A thanksgiving service for Revd Davis will be taking place on Friday 19 July at 11.30am at [Thornton Methodist Church](#) in the North Fylde Circuit of the Lancashire District.

Preparing for Pride



Celebrating the LGBTQ+ community, Pride is an established event in many towns and cities. In this blog, the Rev'd Hayley Edmondson from Ulverston Methodist Church, shares how she is helping to bring the first Pride event to this Cumbrian market town.

[Read more here](#)

Elvet Church hosts its first same sex wedding



Elvet Methodist Church, in Durham, has celebrated the first same-sex church wedding in the city.

"We're over the moon that it's in a church because it means so much for us both!"

[Watch this report from the BBC here](#)

Hope & Anchor



Our podcast Hope & Anchor is back! We're talking about the spirituality running through everything, and we want you to join in the conversation. Recent guests include Amanda Lovett, from series 1 of The Traitors, and William Hansen, the UK's leading etiquette expert. Coming soon: one mum and daughter's pilgrimage to Taylor Swift's The Era's Tour.

[Listen here](#)

Have a listen!



Trey Hall, Director of Evangelism and Growth, was on BBC Radio 2 Pause For Thought. This week he talks about how we can be 'chameleons' with the uncanny ability to sometimes switch styles to get noticed.

[Listen here](#)



Farming Today explores pilgrimage and "champing" in the churches and chapels of The Peak Wesley Way.

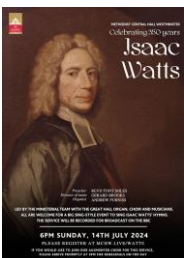
[Listen here](#)



Listen to this inspirational story of hope where a Methodist Church in the New Forest has re-opened its doors to provide midweek worship after they thought they were closed for good.

[Listen here](#)

Celebrating 350th anniversary of Isaac Watts



A celebration service will be taking place at Methodist Central Hall Westminster on 14 July at 6.00pm to celebrate the work of renowned hymn writer Isaac Watts. He's known for his contributions to Christian worship and has inspired generations through his hymns.

[Get your tickets here](#)

News and events

Peace grant available for young people

The Rex Barker Fund was established to support young people who were either doing courses in peace work or working for peace overseas or in this country. Contact the Methodist Peace Fellowship if you would like to apply for a grant.

[Apply for a grant here](#)

Small and missional

At this gathering you will hear stories of small churches that have made big steps in discerning God's call. There will also be an opportunity to network with others and to receive input to help you in your own discernment. All small church leaders, both lay and ordained, are welcome.

[Reserve your place here](#)

Good news for all

This online conference seeks to inspire you to discover the particular gifts your churches have to offer to the world and to create simple, useful plans for positive action.

[Register for your tickets here](#)

Exploring Digital lunchtime learning



Have you heard the latest episode of the Hope & Anchor podcast? It's time to tune in because podcasts are becoming more popular - they are free, easily accessible, have a global reach and are a great tool for mission and evangelism.

In our upcoming Lunchtime Learning session, on **Wednesday 10 July 12.00pm-1.00pm**, we dive deep into the world of podcasting with Trey

Hall of the Hope & Anchor podcast and Sam Roberts from Faith, Hope and The Journey podcast. They'll explore the why, what, and how of podcasting.

Don't miss out on these transformative conversations! Whether you're a seasoned podcast listener or new to the scene, these shows offer something truly special. Tune in, be inspired, and join the conversation!

[Book your place 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

