

The Methodist News 19th February 2026

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.

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



25th Anniversary of the Foot and Mouth Outbreak

"I was not able to visit the farmers who were having to deal with this emotional trauma. I kept in touch by telephone and tried to offer support, because not only was this people's livelihoods... there was an emotional attachment. All of this created mental health issues, isolation, fear and a reminder of how vulnerable we all are."

Today (19 February) marks the 25th anniversary of the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the UK. The Revd Richard Teal, Past President of the Methodist Conference, remembers how his ministry had to adapt to the horror the disease brought.

[Read Dealing with Emotional Trauma](#)

We are marking the anniversary with thoughts and reflections from those affected at the time including reflections from agricultural chaplains, a District Chair and a farmer.

[Read Foot and Mouth 25 Years On](#)

To coincide with the FMD anniversary, the Methodist Rural Solidarity Circle has produced a Rural Emergency Response document that draws together existing wisdom for our rural churches and wider communities and gives some pointers to further learning from responses to various tough chapters in rural life.

The document also signposts to various charities and organisations that can support local communities and is a handy starting point for discussion and action.

[Read the Rural Emergency Response Document](#)

Lent 2026 – A Journey with Jesus



During Lent and Holy Week you can follow regular video reflections and insights from the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference.

[Watch the videos here](#)

You can still sign up to receive a short email each week during Lent, as well as daily emails throughout Holy Week. These emails are for those wishing to explore their faith in a deeper way, and include spiritual practices and Bible reflections.

[Sign up for Lent emails here](#)

Methodists pay tribute to the Revd Jesse Jackson

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The death has been announced of the Revd Jesse Jackson, the American civil rights campaigner. The Revd Jesse preached at Wesley's Chapel in June 1995 and marvelled at standing where John Wesley stood. The Belonging Together Group has also released a memorial.

[Read more here](#)

New Investment for Wesley Hotel, Euston



The trustee body of the Methodist Church, the Connexional Council, has approved funding of £1.2m for improvements to the Wesley Hotel in Euston, London. It will be used for decarbonisation projects and to make the building more sustainable.

[Read more here](#)

LGBT+ History Month



"Being inclusive is not just something we do, but who we are. It's understanding that this space belongs to everyone."

"Seeing a diverse and relaxed range of cheerful people when you come in means not feeling like you're the odd one out."

Read about the journeys of two churches to become places where all are welcome – Wesley Church Centre, Chester, who became part of the Open Table network, and Union Church, Margate, where creativity is part of them being an Inclusive Church.

[Read the Wesley Church Centre story](#)

[Read the Union Church Margate story](#)

Connexional Council Report



The Connexional Council, the trustee body of the Methodist Church, met last week at Methodist Church House in London. They discussed several items including strategy, new investment in the Wesley Hotel in Euston, London and a partnership between the Methodist Church and Eco Church.

[Read the report here](#)

Listen Again

Trey Hall – BBC Radio 2 Pause for Thought

“If the son of God can be honest about his own temptations, then I can admit mine too.”

Trey Hall considers the start of Lent with presenter Scott Mills.

[Listen here](#)

Join the Methodist Church Young Adult Think Tank



We're looking for a team of young adults (ages 18–30) to join the Young Adult Think Tank for one year, whether you're deeply involved or on the fringes of church life. A chance to meet others, grow skills and influence transformation across the Methodist Church in Britain. Applications close 23 March.

[Apply here](#)

Young Adult Mission Placement Scheme (YAMPS)



Supporting young adults (18–30) to explore vocation, deepen faith and grow real-world skills through short-term, mentored placements. YAMPS partners with Methodist churches, circuits, districts and connected projects who want to invest in young adults – co-designing meaningful mission opportunities that strengthen both vocational learning and community impact. Placements are part-funded to help hosts create high-quality experiences.

Find out more or sign up as a young adult, host church or mentor.

[Find out more and 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



