

The Methodist News 20th August 2026

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The World Methodist Council – Reflections from the Secretary of the Conference



"The important work of the Council is not always in the business sessions but in the mealtimes."

The Secretary of the Conference, the Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, recently visited the World Methodist Council (WMC) in El Salvador. There were discussions about the future direction of the Council and on the theme of the gathering – 'the Kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit'.

The President of the WMC opened the Conference by telling delegates that "the important work of the Council is not always in the business sessions but in the mealtimes." This

was echoed by Dr Hustler, who reflects that it was often around the dinner table that difficult conversations were had and friendships made.

[Read more here](#)

A Climate Wake-Up Call



All We Can is launching a campaign looking at the devastating impact of climate change across the world. A series of reflections will look at the effect the changing weather is having on some of the world's most vulnerable people. In the first blog, the Methodist Church's Net Zero Officer writes about the record-breaking heat waves, droughts and wildfires affecting much of the UK.

[Read more here](#)

Farmers Given 'Rural Recharge'



West Devon Methodist Church has started a new support group for farmers, which aims to offer a place to rest and chat.

For many family-run farms in the county, farming can be a lonely and difficult life, with few interactions with colleagues or other people in the community, amid a backdrop of a higher suicide rate for those living and working in rural areas.

[Read more here](#)

'Loaves and Fishes' at Eclipse Party



Two thousand spectators descended on one Methodist church-organised eclipse party last week, with attendees sharing just 200 pairs of special glasses – drawing comparisons to the famous loaves and fishes miracle. Like when Jesus fed 5,000 on the banks of the Sea of Galilee with limited resources, a Methodist circuit on the Fylde coast unexpectedly found itself dealing with thousands of people arriving, having only prepared for a fraction of their number.

[Read more here](#)

Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum Celebrates its 40th Anniversary



Founded in 1986, Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum has long attracted visitors interested to find out more about the history of primitive Methodism.

[Read more here](#)

Scholarship and Leadership Training (SALT)



“It became a source of hope and encouragement.”

A postgraduate student in Zambia who was helped in his studies by a Scholarship and Leadership Training (SALT) grant has spoken of his appreciation for the scheme. The Revd Dr Derrick Kalanga received his doctorate in Peace and Conflict Studies, after being supported by SALT and funding from his local church in Zambia.

[Read more here](#)

Connexional Economic Justice



If you'd like to share your experience and opinions on ways to achieve more economic justice within the Methodist Church, you can join an online gathering. The working group, set up in 2025 to look at ways the Church can put economic justice into practice, is inviting people to take part in a listening session on Monday 24 August 7.00-8.00pm.

Anyone from across the Methodist Church in Britain is welcome to air their views and their understanding of economic justice in their own context and that of the Church. Input from the meeting will feed into the work of the group.

[Register for the gathering here](#)

[Read more about Connexional Economic Justice here](#)



The Leadership Year is an exciting opportunity for 18–30-year-olds in the Methodist Church aimed at those just starting a leadership role, or who want to be involved in leadership, either within or outside of the Church. It runs over three residential weekends, with a chance to reflect on what it means to be a Christian leader in church, secular workplaces and local communities.

There are 12 fully funded places available and applications close on 20 September.

[Read more here](#)

Exam Results Prayer

We are holding all students in our prayers as exam results are announced today.

Loving God,

We thank you for all our amazing young people who are awaiting their exam results, at whatever stage they are at.

Lord we pray that they get the grades they deserve and will know to seek you in their rejoicing.

Lord we also pray for those who may not quite get the results that they desire, but we pray that they know their grades do not define them, only your love does.

Lord we thank you for your patience and your guidance at these times.

Amen.

Genesis Padgett, Youth President 2025/2026

Listen Again

Pause for Thought

"God can offer acceptance, hope and new beginnings."

In 'Grades don't always define ability', the Revd Tony Miles reflects on this week's theme of 'My best result' and concludes many traits, including honesty and openness, make you who you are, whereas exam results offer only a tiny snapshot of a moment in time.

[Listen 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](#)

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