

The Methodist News 15th October

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](#)



60th Anniversary of the Aberfan Disaster



One of the worst mining disasters in British history struck the Welsh valleys in October 1966. A total of 116 children and 28 adults lost their lives.

Witnessing the aftermath was the Revd Irving Penberthy, a Methodist minister. Nearly 60 years on, he remembers seeing Pantglas Junior School in Aberfan engulfed by a collapsed slag heap.

Warning: This article features a powerful account of the Aberfan disaster that involved the death of many children and the ministry that took place in its immediate aftermath.

Read the Revd Penberthy's memories of the tragedy and a prayer for the people of Aberfan:

[Read more here](#)

Keeping an Ideal of a Christian Society Alive



"Violent oppression will not have the final word."

The Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, Secretary of the Methodist Conference, shares his thoughts after attending the World Methodist Council in El Salvador. He reflects on the assassination of the country's Archbishop Óscar Romero in 1980, drawing analogies with the 12th-century archbishop Thomas Becket, and considers what it means to be a Christian nation.

[Read more here](#)

Methodism and Me



As we celebrate Black History Month, we learn about the journey of the Revd Joseph Kwallah from his hometown in Kenya to the East Riding of Yorkshire, and what led him to become a Methodist minister while praising God through the art of DJing.

[Read more here](#)

Once Struggling Church is Now Booming



A Methodist church once on the brink of closure now boasts a booming multinational congregation who can listen to services in their own languages.

[Read more here](#)

Methodist Homes (MHA) Care Staff Impacted by Visa Changes

Methodist Homes' CEO, Sam Monaghan, warns that "we risk creating another social care workforce crisis," if the Government proceeds with proposals to lengthen the qualifying period for care workers on a sponsored Health and Care Worker Visa.

[Read Sam's blog here](#)

Methodist Prayer Handbook – Prayer Request



Take a stand for God's good purposes for all by submitting a prayer to the 2027/2028 Prayer Handbook, *Together for Good: Together for All*.

You are invited to contribute a prayer for the Church to welcome all, be justice-seeking and share in solidarity with communities seeking to build new life.

[Read more here](#)

Church Action on Poverty

The theme for this year's Church Action on Poverty is Food, Faith & Fellowship. Congregations are being encouraged to take part on Sunday 18 October to help "ensure everyone can live life to the full, freed from poverty".

[Find more information and resources here](#)

Missional Use of Property Online Consultation

Our properties are a visible sign of our presence in local communities. Following a report to the Methodist Conference, Church members are invited to take part in online consultations on how we can best use our properties for missional purposes. Three consultations will be held in November.

[Dates and booking here](#)

Humanitarian Crisis in South Sudan



Millions of people in South Sudan are caught up in the humanitarian crisis in the country. Conflict has been on the rise since 2013, with thousands dying or being displaced.

Christian Aid, which has provided support on the ground since the 1970s, is holding an online discussion evening on Thursday 22 October.

[Register here](#)

Nurturing Growth – Step by Step Sessions

The discipleship team is offering practical online training on starting and growing ministry with children, young people and families. The first of five sessions starts on 17 November.

[Sign up here](#)

Listen Again

Pause for Thought – the Revd Dr Jo Cox-Darling

“Music has a mysterious power for emotional and social connection.” The Revd Dr Jo Cox-Darling considers the theme ‘My Essential Album’ and concludes that music, whether ancient or modern, provides comfort in uncertain times.

[Listen here](#)

Pause for Thought – the Revd Matt Finch

“I will dance again.” The Revd Matt Finch reflects on the theme ‘My Essential Album’ and is thankful he has his faith to support him when he feels stuck.

[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](#)

Find us on social media

