



# The Methodist Church

## Learning & Development Newsletter

### Message from Delyth Wyn Davies

Welcome to the Learning & Development Newsletter!

After all the excitement of the General Election and its results, I've been wondering what made those who voted decide where to place their cross on the ballot paper. Some would have voted because of their commitment to a particular party. Others would have gone for the leader or prospective prime minister who appealed the most. Perhaps a specific issue would have been the basis for the decision for some electors, or perhaps local matters was most important. But for many, the character and reputation of a candidate standing to be elected as their Member of Parliament would have attracted them to support them. As we have experienced in the weeks leading up to this election, knowing how politicians live their life can attract people towards them or turn them away completely. In the votes count, how one lives counts.



**Live** is the theme of this newsletter. In brief, the emphasis on the 'Live' practice in A Methodist Way of Life is how we, made in the image and likeness of God and blessed and gifted with what makes us unique, can live in a way that will attract others to Jesus. How we live our lives, in word and deed, can have an impact on others and make them want to know more about God.

I can think of examples of this in my own life, from the lovely and caring Sunday school teacher in my early childhood to the two girls who attracted me during the first few weeks at college with their gratitude and joy through every experience. That had a great influence on me, leading me to come to know Jesus in a real way, and I am indebted to them. I wonder which people come to your mind? What can we learn from them?

One of my favourite Welsh hymns is the traditional children's hymn 'Dod ar fy mhen dy sanctaidd law' by Eifion Wyn, a hymn writer who is buried in our village. The last verse is a prayer for the kind of life that attracts people to God. I once saw the last two lines quoted in a reference for someone applying for a job!

Grant me a better heart each day  
And grace a means to live  
So that others may through me  
Know for themselves God's love. (tr. DWD)

In the same vein Madeleine L'Engle said "We draw people to Christ not by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it."

It reminds us of Jesus' words that we, his followers, are 'the light that gives light to the world... you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do. Live so that they will praise your Father in heaven.' (International Children's Bible)

May we live in a way that allows God to shine out of us.

Delyth Wyn Davies

Learning and Development Manager

# THE METHODIST CHURCH

A PLAN TO HELP US CHANGE AND WELCOME NEW PEOPLE

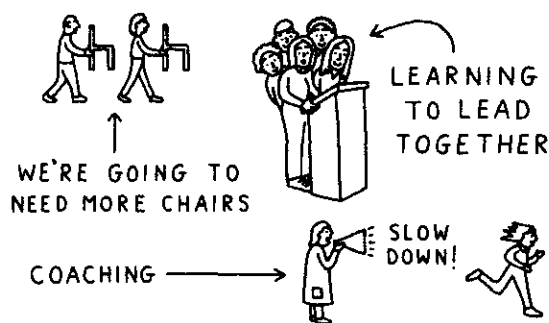
## 1 A CHURCH FOR EVERYONE



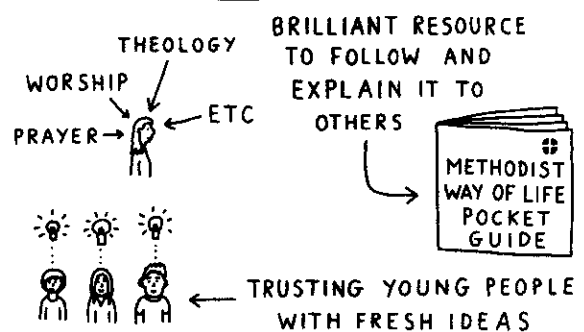
## 2 TELLING OUR STORY



## 3 PUTTING MISSION FIRST



## 4 LIVING AS CHRISTIANS



The Methodist Church

davewalker.com

God for All Strategy

The Methodist Conference joyously recommitted to the God For All Strategy, the Church's focus on Gospel growth, inclusion, evangelism, and justice. So we asked the cartoonist [Dave Walker](#) to draw an image to celebrate these ongoing commitments, and he made something fabulous.

**3 BIBLE month**

**NEW**

**Your invitation to study the Book of Genesis**

A four-week Bible study course for groups of all ages

Order today at [preachweb.org/books-and-diaries](http://preachweb.org/books-and-diaries)

**LWPT** **The Methodist Church**

The Locks of Worldly and Wealth: Book covers are registered charity copyright and a company limited by guarantee (20111011 - lwpt.org.uk)

### ["Bible Month" study guide](#) – Book of Genesis

LWPT's usual annual Bible study guide is available as single issues or bundles of 10. This A4 size study guide are ideal for house groups as well as congregations and preachers who want to focus their attention on one book of the Bible in one month.

**3GENERATE 2024**  
Methodist Children & Youth Assembly

**4-6 October  
NEC Birmingham**

**Join one of these  
three fabulous  
volunteer teams**

Bring your gifts and help make 3Generate 2024 happen. With roles to suit all skillsets, join a fabulous volunteer team and have a weekend to remember.

Find out more about different roles and sign up below.  
[www.methodist.org.uk/3GenVols](http://www.methodist.org.uk/3GenVols)

**Care Help Engage**

**“**Witnessing the entry of these children with their leaders and the caring way the team welcomed and prepared them was completely amazing.  
**”**

**2023 Volunteer**

### 3Gen Update



3Gen is getting ever closer, and the ticket deadline has now passed! However, if you still haven't booked don't worry. Here's some more info about booking tickets and volunteering at the event:

### Tickets

Join us for an action-packed weekend of workshops, talks, arts and crafts, sports and so much more! If you would still like to book tickets, please [contact us](#) to find out more about ticket booking. Take a look at our [video](#) for a sneak peek of what's on offer this year.

### Volunteers

3Generate would be nothing without our wonderful team of volunteers, and we still need some more helping hands to make the weekend as perfect as it can be! We are especially in need of Village Hosts, Youth Support and Set-Up team (who operate on Friday and Sunday only). To learn more click [here](#).

For more information on volunteering and the roles available, watch this [video](#).

### 4-7s

Our 4-7s area is back—and it's even bigger and better this year! We'll have LEGO, play areas, a soft play party bus, and a whole range of interactive workshops and fun activities. If you would like to find out more about bringing your child to 3Generate, [email us](#).

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Opportunities at Cliff



### **Cliff College: Foundations units available from September 2024**

Cliff College's Foundations units are 15-week online units covering essential topics for Christian mission and ministry today. This September, you can choose from two units – ***Integrating Theology and Practice*** or ***Reading the New Testament***. Both units offer a combination of live seminars and content for you to work through at your own pace, as well as opportunities to contribute to discussion boards and learn from other students' thoughts and reflections.

*'I really enjoyed this course. Theological reflection is a helpful tool for ministry and our own Christian walk, and engaging with it has been enriching for me.'*

Integrating Theology and Practice student

*'The course offers a comprehensive overview and has helped broaden my understanding of the New Testament in context.'*

Reading the New Testament student

Both units start on 30 September 2024; applications close at the end of August 2024. For more information, [visit the Cliff College website](#) or send us an [email](#).

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Upcoming Learning Opportunities



**EXPLORING**  **Explore programme**  
Autumn 2024 start

**Explore** is an opportunity for any member of the Methodist Church in Britain to take a step back, and consider how you are called to respond to God's invitation to church leadership

**9** sessions **1** evening a month  
**2** hours per session **countless** benefits

**Taster: Thursday September 5th 2024**

You can register at any time of year, although the course element starts May or September.  
Next course starts 19th September 2024

**[Booking link for taster](#)**

To book for the whole course, contact Alice at [explore@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:explore@methodistchurch.org.uk)  
**[www.methodist.org.uk/explore](http://www.methodist.org.uk/explore)**

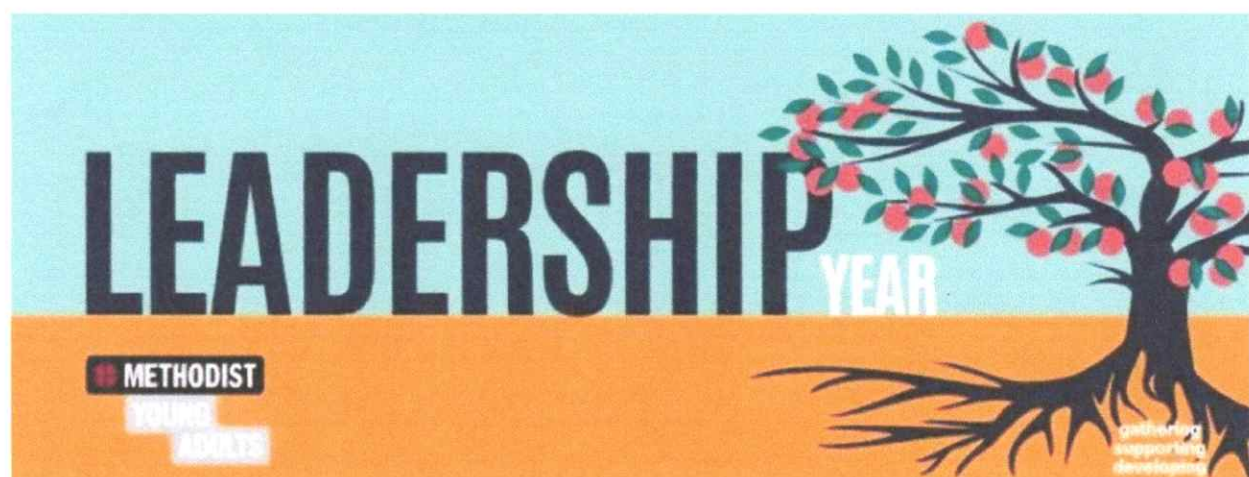






**Faith-Rooted Community Organising**  
8th-10th November | Cliff College

Discover how you can harness people's power for change through relationships built on one-to-one conversations - [view dates and sign up here](#). And you [can read here about what The Methodist Church is doing](#) to ensure contexts marked by economic marginalisation are privileged when allocating Connexional resources (look at p207 for more details and the top of p242 for the resolution).



**The Leadership Year**

Are you aged 18-30 and just starting out in leadership, or wondering what it's all about? The Leadership Year focuses on what it means to be a Christian in leadership (whether that is in the

Church or society). You'll find out more about yourself, gain a greater depth of understanding about leadership, and discover what the next steps are for you to grow in your leadership. [Apply now.](#)



**Church Planting Intensive**  
**11th-13th October | Cliff College**

*"We're searching for a new language of spirituality which relates to people of today; a language which says God is everywhere, that speaks of the present moment and the immediate experience,"* declare Methodist pioneers Geraldine Allen and Sarah Rodgers.

If you too are inspired to create a church for everyone, sign up for the next [Church Planting Intensive course](#). To hear more from Geraldine and Sarah and some of our other fabulous pioneers, [check out this video playlist](#).



**The Leaders of Worship  
and Preachers Trust**

**Are you interested in studying further for local Methodist church ministry?**

LWPT (The Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust) has a restricted fund set-aside specifically for students who wish to study further in order to benefit a local Methodist church &/or wider Circuit. We want to ensure that emerging leaders whose local church cannot afford to support them are not hindered from studying further.

We offer £2,000 tuition grants plus £500 for books/resources. The next deadline for your application is the **3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024**. Click [here](#) for more information.

**New dates for coach training courses**

If you love enabling others to grow and develop in leadership and mission, there are opportunities coming up in 2024/5 to train as a coach. Whether you're a complete beginner or you've got some

coaching experience and you want a refresher, [email](#) to register your interest. There are both online and onsite training options, including an evening course.



**Have something you want to see in the Midweek email?**

**The next newsletter is due to come out on Wednesday 21st August**

For any submissions, please email [Funmi Oyedokun](#) by **4pm Wednesday 7th August**.

To avoid delays, please include the following in your message:

- A paragraph of supporting text as you would like it to appear in the monthly mail
- Any and all links and email addresses that are required for readers to click for more information
- An image of the logo or anything related to the text, which should be clear and in jpeg format.

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