



Learning & Development Newsletter

Message from Delyth Wyn Davies

Welcome to the Learning & Development Newsletter!

We are now in the season of Eastertide, a time when the Church remembers the 50-day period between Jesus Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. It's a time to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and to reflect on its implications in our daily lives.

Little is said in the Bible about this period in the lives of Jesus' followers following the resurrection stories. As I reflect on the early church's experience, I sense that prayer would have been key in all this. In fact, we are told by Luke in Acts 1, that after the Ascension *'they all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.'* It was a way of reconnecting with the resurrected Saviour and to strengthen their relationship with God and with each other as God's people. And it sustained them in a testing time of not knowing what was ahead of them, and possibly in the face of opposition from others, until the time came for the Holy Spirit to descend on them in a powerful and life giving way.

Christians today use this season as a time of prayer and reflection, to explore the significance of the resurrection in their own lives and in joining in with God's mission to the world. There are lots of wonderful opportunities to do this. You may want to join in the 'Thy Kingdom Come (TKC)' global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension Day on 29th May to Pentecost on 8th June for more people to come to know Jesus. Find out more here: [Thy Kingdom Come | Thy Kingdom Come](#)

The Methodist Church has a vast range of useful resources and prompts for prayer through [the Prayer Hub](#) on its website. As well as the [prayer for the day](#), a section for [creative prayer](#); a page on [healing prayer](#); there is a new section entitled '[help with prayer](#)', with prayer prompts relating to different emotional states. This is offered to Methodists to help them in their own prayer life and as well as something they can use in their mission and evangelism work.

In addition, there is a six week course to help churches explore mystery and paradox of prayer. Do check out [Sunshine and Showers: Prayer's beautiful messiness - The Methodist Church](#) to explore ways to refresh the way your community prays.

May this season be a time of resurrection joy and blessing to you.

Delyth Wyn Davies
Learning and Development Manager



3-5 October 2025 | NEC Birmingham

3Generate 2025 tickets are ON SALE NOW!

Join us for an even bigger weekend of faith, fun and worship this October, as 3Generate returns to the NEC in Birmingham!

We're delighted to announce 6 new venues this year – including the Orb Stage for larger worship and performances, Sound Studio for jamming and music making workshops, and The Lounge for those in School Year 11+, offering a chance to go deeper into many of the topics discussed over the weekend. Keep an eye out for more information on other new venues in the coming weeks!

Click [here](#) to find all the info you need, and the ticket purchasing page. Make sure to read through the information as there have been changes to our safeguarding/DBS processes since last year.

Celebrate Action for Children Sunday

Action for Children invites you to celebrate their amazing partnership with churches and the difference they make together by holding a special worship service. This year's theme is 'Driven by



love, we take action for children.'

It's normally on the second Sunday in July, but churches can choose to do it whenever you like.

The Action for Children Sunday newsletter and worship booklet are now available on their website. Just visit actionforchildren.uk/faithFR and scroll to 'Action for Children Sunday'. The worship material includes Bible readings, hymns and real-life stories of how church donations help children.

Less than a month go... Book now!



FAITH THAT LASTS A LIFETIME: THE WELL CONFERENCE 2025

Led by
John Roberto
(Lifelong Faith)



When?

Friday 13 June –
Saturday 14 June

Where?

Kents Hill Park,
Milton Keynes

the **well**

Faith that lasts a lifetime: The Well Conference

There are still spaces left for our exciting two-day conference, taking place from Friday 13th to Saturday 14th June at Kents Hill Park, Milton Keynes. This is an opportunity for anyone involved in discipleship or planning for mission and growth to learn from one of the leading thinkers in lifelong faith formation, John Roberto. Participants can learn together and leave inspired, with a blue print

for things they'd like to try when they get back home. We have a limited number of subsidised places available at just £60! So make sure you don't miss out and buy your [ticket now](#).

Director of Place for Hope



Are you a leader who would like to make a real difference in faith-based peace and reconciliation?

Then this exciting role might be for you...

Under its current 5-year strategy (2021 – 2025), '**Choosing Peace in times of fear & division**', Place for Hope has successfully grown and diversified its partnerships, funding and volunteer team. This has enabled us to grow our reach and impact in equipping people and faith communities to be peacemakers working towards a more peaceful and reconciled world.

The new Director of Place for Hope will continue to develop Place for Hope as they work with Trustees, Staff and Volunteers to shape and finalise the next 5-year strategy that ensures Place for Hope is fit for purpose in a changing UK landscape for charities and faith communities. They will provide leadership and to be responsible for the overall management and administration of the charity within the strategic and accountability frameworks agreed by the Board of Trustees.

Closing Date for Applications: Thursday 5th June 2025 at 10am

Interviews: will be held across the week commencing Monday 16th June 2025

Please download the job application pack [here](#) or for more information contact [Carolyn Merry](#).

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

A poster for 'Working Out Worship' with a teal background and colorful puzzle pieces. The title 'Working Out Worship' is written in large, white, distressed letters. To the right, it says '(Mondays, 7-9pm)' and '4 WEEKS' TRAINING ON PLANNING FOR:'. Below this is a list of activities and dates: 'Local Arrangements 1: 2nd June', 'Local Arrangements 2: 9th June', 'Creative Worship: 16th June', and 'Intergenerational Worship: 23rd June'. At the bottom right is the logo for 'The Methodist Church' with a red cross symbol.

Working Out Worship

(Mondays, 7-9pm)

4 WEEKS' TRAINING ON PLANNING FOR:

Local Arrangements 1:	2 nd June
Local Arrangements 2:	9 th June
Creative Worship:	16 th June
Intergenerational Worship:	23 rd June

The Methodist Church

Working out Worship is a series to help anyone who is looking to resource worship in their Local Church. For lay people, or ordained. For youth workers, Sunday school leaders, worship leaders, stewards, local preachers, ministers or those who are interested in starting to get involved in leading

worship. Registration for one session is only for one session, please register for multiple sessions if you wish to attend more than one.

Click [here](#) to book and for more information.



Could you be a Sticky Theologian?

Do you love chatting about tricky topics like how you encounter God, why there is suffering in the world, how you read the Bible, and the meaning of life?

Could you spend a day in Leeds in June?

If you answered 'yes' to both of these questions, you might be just who we're looking for! Find out more: [Could you be a Sticky Theologian?](#)

NPNP/CAM/MPP

New life is emerging across the Methodist Church in Britain. In unexpected places, new Christian communities are beginning to grow.

This is the story of [Street Banquet](#), a new Christian community led by and for those experiencing homelessness in Birmingham.



See also the story of [Peckwood Forest Space](#), an NPNP in an ancient woodland on the edge of Birmingham.

Find out where else [new life](#) is springing up:

Or sign up for an NPNP [Taster Session](#).



Attending Rural Events

From the Bishop Monkton potato challenge to the Masham sheep fair, many rural Methodist communities across the UK are engaging with their local festivals, fairs and agricultural shows.

Are you a Methodist who takes part in your local festival or show? Or maybe you're a community who longs to join the celebration and show up at your local event. We've produced a brand new guidance pack to help specifically rural communities explore how they might engage with local events.

Download the resource [here](#).

Northern Retreat
14th–16th October 2025
Let Nothing Disturb You – The Spiritual
Wisdom of Teresa of Avila



Join us at Minsteracres Retreat Centre, Consett, Co. Durham, for a peaceful and reflective retreat led by the Revd Judith Jessop, Chair of Reflect and a Methodist minister in the Sheffield District.

Minsteracres Retreat Centre is a Christian place of prayer and hospitality, home to a resident community of Roman Catholic Passionist priests and laypeople. Set within a stunning 110-acre estate in the North East of England, it provides a tranquil space for spiritual renewal and contemplation.

Cost: £250

Contact [Rev Sandie Exley-Watts](#) for more information.

A banner for 'Germinate Leadership'. The background is a blue sky with several birds in flight. The text 'GERMINATE LEADERSHIP' is written in large, white, serif capital letters. Below the text is a blue wavy line representing a field. In the bottom left corner is a circular logo for 'THE ARTHUR RANK CENTRE' featuring a cross and a book. To the right of the logo, the text 'Starting September 2025' is written in green.

Applications now open for Germinate Leadership 2025-26

Are you a Methodist minister or lay leader experienced in serving in a rural setting? Are you looking to deepen your confidence, connect with others on a similar journey, and grow in your leadership?


Germinate Leadership is a 15-month ecumenical programme designed for those rooted in rural contexts.

Run by **The Arthur Rank Centre**, the national charity supporting rural churches for over 50 years, the programme has been running successfully for more than a decade.

Through a combination of 3 residential gatherings, mentoring, peer support and practical learning, participants are resourced and encouraged in their calling to lead with hope, resilience and creativity.

 **Starts:** September 2025

 **Location:** Cliff College, Derbyshire

 **Who it's for:** Clergy and lay leaders from all denominations

Click [here](#) to find out more and apply.



2025 ASIAN THEOLOGIANS-UK *Conference*

on the theme of

**THE BIBLE ON
THE MOVE:
POSTCOLONIAL
THEOLOGIES OF
MIGRATION**



**Saturday, 14th of June 2025
9.30AM - 4 PM**

**Heaton Moor
United Church,
Stanley Road,
Stockport SK4 4HL**

For details contact:

devadasonj@methodistchurch.org.uk
inderjitbhogal153@gmail.com



Have something you want to see in this monthly email?

The next newsletter is due to come out on Wednesday 18th June.

For any submissions, please email [Funmi Oyedokun](mailto:Funmi.Oyedokun@methodist.org.uk) by **4pm Wednesday 4th June**.

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.

Methodist Church House, 25 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9SF 020 7486 5502 (Help Desk) www.methodist.org.uk

Registered charity no. 1132208

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Forward this email](#)