



## Learning & Development Newsletter

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### Message from Katie Deadman-Vernall

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Welcome to the Learning & Development Newsletter!

In this newsletter, we focus on the concept of 'celebration'.

Greetings in this season of Easter! In what I hope feels to be a celebratory time of spiritual renewal and tangible personal transformation.

I am journeying through this season experiencing great personal and professional change, experiencing that celebration can sit alongside mourning, joy can sit with sorrow, excitement can sit with fear; reminded that we rarely exist in only one 'state', or at least not for long and that this...is...life. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, and the Byrds version of Peter Seeger's adaptation springs to mind.

I know God is with me. God is with us. When we're in the proverbial deserts, in all the seasons, we are never alone and we are always loved. It is the simplest reminders of my faith that bring me the greatest comfort!

My prayer is that we might all find peace and a sense of balance within the complexity of our humanness, within our faith journeys; that we may always feel God's hand on us in the calm and in the chaos — that warm, soothing reassurance of God's love, forgiveness, and eternal life — that this feeling is one that all people come to know and celebrate.

May celebration be a significant part of our days as we continue to witness God's mastery, as we feel the Holy Spirit moving through our lives...as we turn, turn, turn...

[Turn! Turn! Turn! \(Ecclesiastes 3:1-8\) - Pete Seeger](#)

Katie Deadman-Vernall

**Director of Ministry Learning**



Do you want to join a dedicated team of volunteers supporting the country's largest Christian youth assembly? 3Generate is looking for volunteers to make this year's event even bigger and better!

We have roles available for those with any experience, gifts or ability, and you're guaranteed to join an incredible team of like-minded people supporting a weekend full of fun, faith and worship!

See below for a message from Jude Levermore, Head of Mission, to learn more about volunteering at 3Generate – you can sign up here: [Join the 3Generate Delivery Team](#)

[Volunteering at 3Generate - Jude Levermore](#)

### **LWPT RESOURCES:**

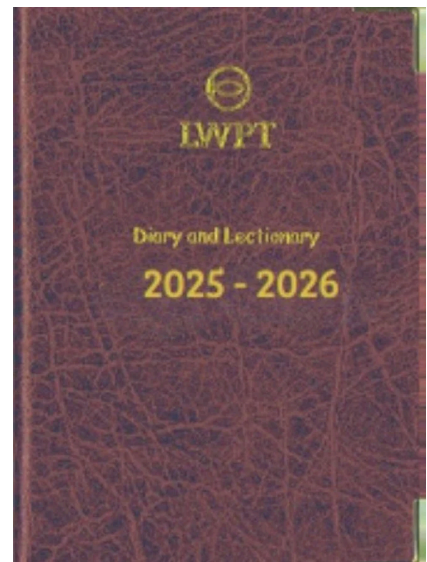
Get a **FREE** sample of the upcoming **Methodist Local Preachers' Diary 2026-2027!**

This **18-month pocket-sized diary** (Jan 2026 – June 2027) includes:

- Local Preachers' Agenda
- Key Religious Festivals
- Week-to-View format
- Notes section & pencil

Price: **£8.50 + P&P** (Available from Sept 2025)

To request a **FREE sample**, email [lwptoffice@lwpt.org.uk](mailto:lwptoffice@lwpt.org.uk) with your name, address, and **"FREE SAMPLE DIARY"** as the subject. We'll follow up in September when the new diaries arrive!



Preaching with Purpose: Bob Hartman's Guide to Storytelling

### LWPT Webinar – Narrative Preaching Style

LWPT recently hosted a webinar featuring **Bob Hartman**, where participants explored **narrative preaching** and had the chance to ask insightful questions.

Watch the webinar here: [Preach Magazine YouTube Streams](#)

Perfect for those looking to enrich their storytelling approach in ministry!

### LWPT Tuition Grants – Supporting Bible-Based Ministry Studies

The Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust offers tuition grants for **Methodists and Wesleyans** pursuing church-based ministry at UK institutions.

Funding Available:

- Up to £2,000 for tuition
- Up to £500 for books/resources

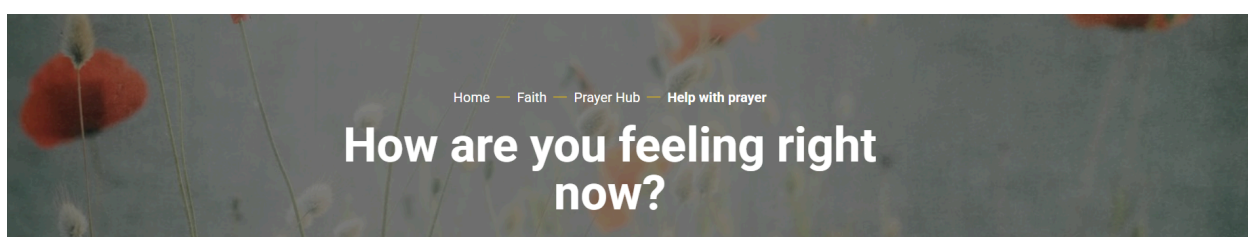


Eligible studies include certificate, diploma, and undergraduate degree programs that benefit church ministry.

**Application Deadlines:** May 3rd & October 3rd

To apply, email [lwptoffice@lwpt.org.uk](mailto:lwptoffice@lwpt.org.uk)

Download the application form [here](#)



## How do you feel right now?

From Anxious to grateful, and from lonely to seeking hope, the Prayer Hub features prayers and prayer prompts for a variety of different emotional responses to this question. The prompts are designed to help those unfamiliar with prayer to pray for the first time, or for those who pray regularly to explore different styles of prayer.

A new emotion will be added to the Prayer Hub each month. Email your suggestions or offers to write prayers to [mwol@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:mwol@methodistchurch.org.uk).

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### Upcoming Learning Opportunities



Did you know that the Methodist Church has a dedicated programme to support people who are exploring a vocation in the church?

When you register on The Explore Programme, you will be offered support through:

- Reflecting with an **Accompanist**
- **Journaling** your experiences
- **Shadowing** people involved in work of the kingdom of God
- A range of **learning & development** resources and support to dip in and out of
- Being part of a group who learn together on a **9 month course**

You can register up at any time of year, although the course element has two cohorts a year and usually runs from September - May, and May - January.

There is a Taster session for the May 2025 Cohort on Thursday 24th April 7-9pm and the booking [link is here](#). The sooner you book to join the Programme, the sooner we can assign you an Accompanist, the sooner you will get the film about journaling, and the sooner you can talk with your church leader about your emerging vocation. To register for all of this support please click [here](#).



# Methodist Church Eco Community Network



Are you passionate about faith and the environment?

Do you want to get involved in climate care in your church context, but don't know where to start?  
The next session will focus on: Greening your Spaces: Window Boxes in Community Gardens

Click [here](#) to book.

The **Methodist** Church   
Learning Network

## Reflective Line Management for Lay Employees

### Reflective Line Management for Lay Employees in the Methodist Church

A one-day course for first-time or long-time line managers offering a holistic approach and an exploration of good practice.

Click [here](#) to book.

2025  
**ASIAN  
THEOLOGIAN-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:

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[inderjitbhogal153@gmail.com](mailto:inderjitbhogal153@gmail.com)





### **Foundations: Ministry in the Methodist Tradition**

Join Cliff College on campus in Derbyshire for *Foundations: Ministry in the Methodist Tradition*, from 14-16 July 2025. This three-day intensive will introduce you to how Methodist ministry has developed in the past centuries and enable you to identify distinctively Methodist characteristics of ministry. Learn alongside others from around the country in a community of worship and prayer – visit the [Cliff College website](https://www.cliffcollege.co.uk) to learn more.

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**Have something you want to see in this monthly email?**

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

For any submissions, please email [Funmi Oyedokun](mailto:Funmi.Oyedokun@methodist.org.uk) by **4pm Wednesday 7th May**.

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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