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The **Methodist** Church

The **Methodist** News

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](#)



Edinburgh Fringe

Lost in Wonder



This week a team of individuals from across the connexion have joined in with the beautiful mayhem of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. They've been wheeling their sofa out each day and inviting people to take a seat and share their story.

They offer a space to pause and find peace in the chaos of the festival, and ask the people they meet to tell of a time they have been 'lost in wonder'.

[Read more here](#)

A Small Pilgrimage with a Small Pilgrim

Former Vice-President's Scottish pilgrimage with her granddaughter



“Our first pause was on the threshold of our holiday cottage, where we discussed what it means to ‘Depart’. For someone just getting used to the idea of going to school, that had relevance.”

Jill Baker, former Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, shares a pilgrimage she did with her granddaughter in Scotland and how it was an occasion to engage with concepts such as ‘Depart’ and ‘Devotion’ in a practical and creative way.

[Read about Jill's pilgrimage here](#)

Suicide Prevention

Papyrus and the Deacon

Trigger warning: this article discusses work around the area of suicide. Please only read it if you are in a good place to cope with the topic. Should you find it triggering, please contact one of the charities listed at the end of the article (or others known to you).



"I believe in the living, loving God who knows us and loves us completely. I think of psalm 139 that says that 'we're fearfully and wonderfully made'. Made in the image of God. Every person, no matter what they've gone, or are going through, is precious, is of worth."

Deacon Helen Coleman has been working in suicide prevention and suicide bereavement since discovering that her teenage daughter had suicide ideation. Seeking information and training eventually led to her supporting people in the community as part of her work, first in Cornwall, and then in the northwest. Read about Helen's journey and advice.

[Read Helen's story here](#)

Youth President Visit

The INSPIRE community in Germany where all are welcome



"My experience when visiting INSPIRE was incredible. The events were varied and fun, the outreach was a beautiful example of how mission can be selfless, and above all the people were the most welcoming and friendly you could ask for while travelling to a new place alone."

Last October, the current Youth President, Bea Hulme, did their international trip as Youth President and visited the INSPIRE community centre in Chemnitz, Germany.

[Read about Bea's visit here](#)

Exam results

Today is results day for A-level, T-level and BTec students



Receiving exam results can be a stressful and emotional moment for those who've worked and studied hard. The Revd Andrew Stobart, Cliff College Principal, invites us to pray for those receiving results today.

[Watch the prayer here](#)

Youth President Nominations

Become Youth President for 2026/2027

Would you, or someone you know in your church, be interested in becoming our Youth President for 2026/2027? This is an incredible and rewarding role in the life of our Church and is open to any young person aged between 18 and 23 who will be a member of the Methodist Church by 1 August 2026. They will become a member of the Connexional Team, employed on a 13-month fixed-term contract from 1 August 2026 through to 31 August 2027.

[Find out more and apply here](#)

The Power of Stillness

Making time for spiritual growth in a busy world



"By setting aside time each day to be still, we can not only improve our general wellbeing but importantly give space to deepen our spiritual connection with God. Isn't that reason enough to allow ourselves to have moments of stillness?"

Many of us will be getting ready to go on holiday and will have been busy with all the preparations, stresses and responsibilities that this can bring. So perhaps this is a good time to look at what 'being still' can bring to our lives during the next few weeks of August. Tracey Collins, Wellbeing Officer for the Southwest Peninsula District, shares this blog.

[Read the blog on stillness here](#)

Anti-migrant Protests

Support for churches

Anti-migrant protests are currently hurting communities, as are rumours of demonstrations. If recent threats against asylum seekers are affecting you, your church or your community, you are invited to come together in an informal online support gathering on Monday 18 August from 7.00-8.15pm. We will share experiences, concerns and wisdom with others and pray together for justice for people seeking refuge and for peace in our communities.

Please share this invitation with people who might be interested, but please do not post it on social media.

Read the Joint Public Issues Team blog on [positive preparation for times of unrest](#).

[Register for the meeting here](#)

Creating a Social Media Policy

Designing a clear approach for our social media



The Methodist Church encourages all churches that use social media, whether they are registered as a charity themselves or not, to create and maintain a social media policy to ensure best practice is being followed. This enables churches to set a clear approach to their social media use, including having shared aims and tone of voice. It helps identify the processes needed to support the policy, and what to consider if something goes wrong.

The connexional Digital Team have released the following guidance to help churches define their own policies around social media.

[Read the guidance here](#)

The Connexion Magazine

Summer journeys



Whether you're enjoying a staycation at home this summer, or holidaying thousands of miles away, we are all on a journey, which is the theme of this issue of *The Connexion*.

The Connexion is a free magazine about the life and work of the Methodist Church, bringing together inspirational stories from Methodist people who are passionate about sharing God's love to change lives.

[Read a copy here](#)

Warm Welcome

Impact report for 2024-2025 released

The Warm Welcome Campaign has published their Impact Report for 2024-2025. With over 5,300 spaces now registered, 2.6 million people visited Warm Welcome Spaces in the last year and 68 per cent of people now live within 30 minutes of a warm space. Read how the campaign wants to increase accessibility to warm spaces and ensure that everyone has a place of connection and belonging close to home.

[Read the report here](#)

Listen Here

BBC Farmwatch Day

The Revd David Newlove's son, Alec, was a Lincolnshire farmer who took his own life in March 2024.

As part of last week's BBC Farmwatch Day, David shared the story of Alec and of mental health in the farming community.

[Listen here](#)

Journey of Faith

The President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Richard Andrew, has shared his 'journey of faith' with Kat Cowan on BBC Radio York, Leeds and Sheffield.

[Listen here](#)

Pause for Thought - BBC Radio 2

Former Youth President, Thelma Commey, joined Scott Mills to consider 'He is enough and he has made me enough also.'

[Listen here](#)

In her Pause for Thought, Deacon Sue Peat reflected on the age-old dilemma of 'Is it jam or cream first?'

[Listen here](#)

Events

The Neighbourhood Project

Hayley, from Liverpool, is a pioneer who, with a team of others, has helped shape a vision and began The Neighbourhood Project - a network of small Christian gatherings in people's homes, cafés and community gardens.

Could God be calling you to explore pioneering? Learn more about how the Methodist Church supports pioneers and can help you.

[Watch the pioneer film here](#)

[Start a New Place for New People here](#)

AI and the Environmental Impact

Join us on 27 August from 12 noon to 1.00pm. Bring your lunch, your questions and join the conversation!

Artificial Intelligence might feel invisible, but it has a real environmental footprint. In the UK, the growing demand for AI data centres is putting significant pressure on local resources, especially water and energy, while globally, the impact is even greater.

As we embrace powerful new technologies, we must ask: 'Who pays the price, and can we afford it?'

[Book 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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