

**Tori Allen**

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**From:** North West England Methodist District <admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk>  
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**To:** Tori Allen  
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# North West England District Weekly News

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12th August 2025

Welcome to the latest edition of our weekly newsletter!

In this week's edition:

- District News
- Events
- Resources
- Job Opportunities

A PDF downloadable copy of this newsletter is available at the bottom of this email.

## District News

### BBC Farm Watch

Rev David Newlove, Cumbria Mission Area Lead, spoke to 14 radio stations over the past week. 12 of these took place live on Sunday morning! David speaks about his son Alec's suicide which has become the legacy that is Farm Watch, and about farming from an Agricultural Chaplain's perspective. You can listen to 2 of these interviews [here](#):



Listen from 1:12:17 on BBC Radio Lincolnshire

Listen from 37:00 on The Late Show

David has selected four topics to talk on from his experiences:

- Wellbeing
- Mental health and suicide
- Grief and loss
- Life as an Agricultural Chaplain

If you are interested in finding out more about this, David can be contacted by email: [newloved@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:newloved@nwedmethodists.org.uk) or by phone: 07989 198487.

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### **Resources for responding to rising community tensions**

Recent comments made by public figures linking migrants to crime, alongside renewed demonstrations outside hotels housing people seeking asylum, are creating fear, anxiety and division among some of our congregations and communities. These feelings are not limited to refugees or those seeking asylum, but people of many backgrounds, particularly those of global majority heritage.

In this context, we encourage ministers and congregations to:

- Reach out to those in our communities who may be feeling unsafe, anxious, or unwelcomed.
- Speak truthfully and prayerfully about the forces of division that seek to harden hearts and close doors to those perceived to be different from the majority population.
- Create visible signs of welcome and hospitality in our church spaces and worship.
- Refuse to allow fear to become normalised.

The Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) have published an article on ways that church leaders can prepare positively for times of unrest: <https://jpit.uk/positive-preparation-for-times-of-unrest>. Other resources that may be helpful include:

Methodist Church guidelines on [\*Responding to disturbances – being present as a faith leader\*](#) and [\*Advice for Major Incidents\*](#).

HOPE not Hate guide to [\*Staying Safe amidst Far Right Violence\*](#) (particularly helpful around those doing direct work with asylum projects)

Let us remember that standing in solidarity is not merely a principle we affirm, it is a practice we embody. In our worship, in our witness, and in our care for each other, our neighbours and wider community. Let us recommit ourselves to standing alongside all who are marginalised, those who suffer injustice or are under threat.

**Jude Levermore, Head of Mission**

**Richard Armiger, Head of Ministries and Learning**

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**North West England District Safeguarding Audit 2025**

The annual District safeguarding audit which has been on hold this year will be going live for the next Connexional year. Please see below some details on who needs to complete the audit, when its due and how to submit the audit.

### **Who needs to complete it?**

Each Church Council is required to submit responses to the audit questions.

### **When is it due?**

Responses must be submitted within two weeks of your Autumn 2025 Church Council meeting.

### **How do we submit?**

Submissions will be made online, similar to the Annual Return process.

A printable version of the questions is attached for your convenience. If your church does not have someone able to submit the responses online via Microsoft Forms, please arrange for a suitable person in your Circuit to input them. Suggestions are provided at the bottom of the form: <https://forms.office.com/e/gPEhz3fizU>

### **For Local Ecumenical Partnerships (LEPs):**

If your church follows the safeguarding policy and procedures of another denomination (not Methodist), you will receive a different version of the audit later in August.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued commitment to safeguarding. Your efforts play a vital role in ensuring our churches become safer and welcoming spaces for all.

[Download a printable version of the questions](#)

## **Events**

## The Council of Nicaea 1700th Anniversary

Blackburn Cathedral, in partnership with Churches Together, is honoured to host an Ecumenical conference to celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. The event brings together theologians, ecumenical leaders and local participants to engage in meaningful conversations about unity, respectful disagreement and how faith communities can respond to conflict in the world today. The conference will explore how the principles of honest disagreement and loving engagement can help address the challenges we face - with both passion and compassion - and reflect on the enduring legacy of Nicaea.

[Find out more](#)

## Events: Greater Manchester Plus

Vishala Hrudayam (A Methodist Fellowship of Telugu Christians in Greater Manchester)

Invites you to join their children's special service on Sunday 17th August at 5pm, taking place at Heaton Moor United Church, Stockport, SK4 4HL.

Click on the photo to access the image with full details.



## Events: Liverpool Plus

**12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025, Ecumenical International Youth Day (EIYD) - Online**

On 12<sup>th</sup> August, the United Nations observes International Youth Day. Since 2019, the

World Council of Churches has introduced its own Ecumenical International Youth Day through the Youth Engagement desk. The Theme of this year's event is Rooted in Hope: Nurturing Faith and Mental Well-being in the Face of Climate Crisis (Eco-Anxiety). [Further information and a link to register can be found here.](#)

### **21<sup>st</sup> October 2025, Kids Matter...**

... is a Christian charity that helps churches to engage with their local community by training volunteers or members of staff as facilitators. These facilitators come alongside parents facing the greatest challenges, helping them to build strong, positive relationships with their children. For more information, please follow [this link](#) and please see [this flyer](#) with an invitation to a free breakfast to explore how families in need can be reached together. For further information please contact Lynne Ryder at [lynne.ryder@kidsmatter.org.uk](mailto:lynne.ryder@kidsmatter.org.uk).

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### **Englesea Brook Summer Barbecue and Quiz**

Friday 15th August, 6.8pm. Click on the image for further details.

### SUMMER BARBECUE AND QUIZ

**Friday 15th August, 6-8pm**

Tickets £12 each (under 16s £6) includes barbecue, cake, drinks (non-alcoholic) and free entry to our general knowledge quiz (with small prizes for winners!).

Bring a picnic rug or chairs if weather fine; event to be held inside if not.

To book email [admin@engleseabrook.org.uk](mailto:admin@engleseabrook.org.uk). Veggie/vegan? Let us know when booking. Pay on entry.



Tel: 01270 820836. Parking available. Scan the QR code to find us. Englesea Brook Chapel & Museum, Englesea Brook Lane, CW2 5QW



[www.engleseabrook.org.uk](http://www.engleseabrook.org.uk). Registered Charity No. 1122237

## **Resources**



## Artificial Intelligence Workshops

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?'

Find out more and book your place

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## Applications open for Youth President 2026/27

Is there someone you know in your churches who would 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 and 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.

For more information about what the Youth President does please [see their dedicated page](#) and take a look at [this page to learn more about the recruitment and election process](#). Alternatively, [please email Ian Belcher](#) for more information or if you have further questions.



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Read July's Caleb enews here

## Vacancies

### Internal

Vacancies can be viewed on the District website [here](#).

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Please click the link below to download the PDF version of this newsletter.

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## Contact Us

The deadline for sending your stories and events in to us is 12pm every Tuesday.

Please send all content to [admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk)

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North West England Methodist District · C/O Central Methodist Church · Lune Street · Preston, Lancashire PR1 2NL ·

United Kingdom

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