

North West England District Weekly News



8th July 2025

Welcome to the latest edition of our weekly newsletter!

In this week's edition:

- District News
- Digital Digest
- Events
- Resources
- Training
- Job Opportunities

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

District News

A short film introducing our new President and Vice-President 2025-26, Revd Richard Andrew and Matthew Forsyth, has been produced.

They introduce themselves, and talk about their theme for the presidential year - 'Our Story, Our Song'.

[Watch the video](#)

Conference 2025 updates

The Methodist Conference 2025 has met in Telford, during which twenty-one presbyters and three deacons were welcomed into Full Connexion and ordained. You can find a selection of highlights from this year's Conference below. The Conference Business Digest and film, available soon, will share more details of the Conference and its decisions. You can watch all public sessions of the Conference again [here](#).

Revising *The Methodist Worship Book*

The Conference voted to revise the Church's authorised liturgies. This decision sets in motion a major project to equip the Church with new and revised liturgical resources, available in a wide variety of formats, including digital and printed versions.

[Read here](#)

Armed Forces Board

The report from the Methodist Forces Board highlighted the work of those who minister to His Majesty's armed forces throughout the UK and around the world. The report calls upon the Methodist Church to consider how it may increase its support for military chaplains to achieve the objectives of the Forces Board as the global security situation gives serious cause for concern.

[Read here](#)

3Generate and the Voices of Children and Young People

The Conference heard from the Youth President that last October's children and youth event, 3Generate, was the most successful yet but that the Church needs to make a greater commitment to encourage young people to remain as they grow.

[Read here](#)

Healing Ministry and Neurodiversity

The Methodist Conference received a report about the appropriateness of prayers for healing, particularly around neurodivergence, and how the gifts of those with lifelong conditions may contribute to the life of the Church.

[Read here](#)

Digital Digest

Choosing the Right Social Digital Channels

The church has always found new ways to reach people. Today, the digital world offers a mission field unlike any other. However, with so many platforms available, it can feel overwhelming to know where to start.

Your church doesn't need to be on every platform to have a strong digital presence. The key is to choose the right channels, ones that connect with your congregation and local community, reflect your capacity and serve your mission. Below is a breakdown of some of the most commonly used platforms, what they're best for, and a few practical tips.

Facebook

- Best for churches wanting to reach a broad, local audience—especially adults aged 35+.

Why use it:

- Many church members are already on Facebook.
- Great for promoting events, sharing photos, and livestreaming services.
- Local community groups and events are often based on Facebook, making it ideal for outreach.

- Use Facebook Groups for internal communication (e.g., a prayer team or toddler group).

Instagram

- Best for visual storytelling and connecting with younger adults (under 40s).

Why use it:

- Ideal for beautiful photos of church life, events, and worship spaces.
- Instagram Stories and Reels are great for behind-the-scenes or quick, engaging content.
- Instagram is image-driven—if you don't have strong visual content, it may not be the best use of your time.

YouTube

- Best for livestreaming or uploading full services, sermons, and devotionals.

Why use it:

- Many people search for spiritual content on YouTube.
- Videos can be embedded on your church website or shared via email/newsletters.
- YouTube Shorts are similar to Instagram Reels—short videos for engagement.

Email

- Best for: Reliable, direct communication with church members.

Why use it:

- Email is still the most effective way to keep people informed and engaged.
- Ideal for weekly newsletters, pastoral updates, and event reminders.
- Use platforms such as Mailchimp, Mailer Lite, or Brevo to manage contacts and send professional looking, GDPR-compliant emails.
- Segment your mailing list (e.g., church council, youth team, wider congregation).

- WhatsApp / Messenger Apps
- Best for small groups, volunteer teams, and internal communications.

Why use it:

- Quick, informal, and accessible to most people.
- Great for sharing reminders, prayer requests, or last-minute updates.

How to Choose the Right Channels? - Ask these questions to help guide your decision:

- Where are your congregation and community already active?
- What content can you realistically create (photos, videos, blogs, etc.)?
- Do you have the capacity to manage and respond to engagement on multiple platforms?
- What are your communication goals—information, inspiration, invitation, or interaction?

Start small and do it well. It's better to use one or two channels effectively and consistently than to stretch too thin across five.

If you have any questions or need support, our Digital Enabler, Samuel Rimmer can be contacted by email: rimmers@nwedmethodists.org.uk or by telephone: 01772 372160 (ext. 130).

Events: Greater Manchester Plus

Bramhall and Wythenshawe Circuit Service: 'Loving through a broken heart'

Palestine & Israel in the shadow of Gaza & Iran with guest speaker Rev David Hardman, Methodist Liaison Officer

Sunday 27th July 2025, 6.30pm at
Bramhall Methodist Church

[View the flyer](#)

CIRCUIT SERVICE

'Loving through a broken heart'

Palestine & Israel in the shadow of Gaza & Iran



GUEST SPEAKER: REV DAVID HARDMAN
METHODIST LIAISON OFFICE

'Loving through a broken heart' is a direct quote from a resident of the West Bank. Rev David will share personal stories and images from people in the West Bank and Israel to explore the current reality in the Holy Land.

Through their experiences, we will ask: What should our response be from the UK?

'If only you knew what makes for peace...'

DO COME ALONG TO HEAR MORE

Sunday 27th July 2025 at 6:30pm

Bramhall Methodist Church

There will be a craft stall with goods from the West Bank on sale.

The Methodist Liaison Office in Jerusalem was officially launched in October 2012 to engage the world Methodist family in Christ's ministry of peace, justice, truth, and mercy among all peoples living in the Holy Land in partnership with the Palestinian Christian community.



Powered By Hope, hosted by Christian Aid

Date: Saturday 4 October 2025

Location: Friends Meeting House, 6
Mount St, Manchester M2 5NS

A day to fuel your faith, fill your cup
with hope and inspire action.



[Find out more](#)

Events: Lancashire

Quiet Day: Be Still With God

Saturday 12th July 10:00am – 4:00pm at the Lune Valley Methodist Hub, Brookhouse Road, Brookhouse LA2 9NY

All are welcome, open to everyone. During the day there will be 2 sessions of teaching and then time to reflect & pray. You may like to bring your own Bible, a notebook and a pen.

Drinks will be provided but please bring your own lunch. There will be no charge for the day but voluntary contributions will be welcome.

Booking is not essential but if you are able to email info@lunevalleymethodisthub.com to inform us that you will be attending, it will help in the planning. For more information on Be Still With God click [here](#).

Royal Lancashire Show (18th-20th July 2025)

The Royal Lancashire Show is an agricultural show that takes place every year. Churches Together in Lancashire (CTiL) are building a Church Tent Team with representatives from their Network Partners. This year, they are partnering with Citizens UK to highlight Rural Poverty and the Living Wage Campaign.

CTiL are looking for volunteers to be part of the Church Tent Team on the morning of Sunday 20th July. Please contact Anton Muller for more information by email at antonmuller@ctlancashire.org.uk

Resources

Are you using Artificial Intelligence in your life or work? Got thoughts? We want to hear from you! 💬

The Methodist Conference has asked for work to be done to explore AI—how it's shaping our world, our theology, and the way we do church. To help the Methodist Church reflect, respond, and create good guidance, we need your input.

💡 Does AI support or complicate your life and ministry?

🙏 What theological or pastoral questions is it raising?

🔒 Are there ethical or data privacy concerns we should be tackling?

👂 Whether you're experimenting with ChatGPT or just curious about AI, we'd love to hear from you.

Take the short survey by Saturday 19 July and help shape the Methodist Church's response.

Take the survey

Training

Safeguarding Foundation Module Training session

To be held on Sunday 20th July, 1:30-4pm

at Timperley Methodist Church Stockport Road, Timperley, WA15 7UG.

All are welcome.

To book please email Sue at: safeguarding@traffordmethodist.org.uk

Vacancies

Internal

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

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

PDF Download

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
