

26/06/2025

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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](#)





The Methodist Conference takes place from 26 June to 2 July at the Telford International Centre.

The Conference is the governing body of the Methodist Church and meets annually to discuss matters affecting the life of the Church, the nation and the world.

[Find out about the Conference here](#)

Streaming

During the 2025 Methodist Conference all worship services and public business sessions will be available to watch live.

Friday 27 June

12.30pm-1.00pm Service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance.

Saturday 28 June

2.15pm-6.30pm Opening of the Conference and first Conference business session.

Sunday 29 June

10.45am-1.00pm Reception into Full Connexion and Conference Worship.

(Ordination services will be [available to watch from the individual venues' pages](#))

Monday 30 June – Wednesday 2 July

9.15am-6.30pm Monday, Tuesday | 9.15am-1.00pm Wednesday

All Conference business, unless the Conference is in closed session.

Whether you're joining us in Telford or following along on the Livestream, join in the conversation on BlueSky using the hashtag #MethodistConf

[You will be able to watch live here](#)

[Follow us on BlueSky here](#)

Ordinations

The ordination of new presbyteral and diaconal ministers is a highlight of the Conference week. Having been received into full Connexion at the service of Sunday Worship in the morning, presbyters, deacons, family and friends travel to local places of worship around Telford to be ordained. Ordination Services will take place on the afternoon of Sunday 29 June. You can find details of the venues [here](#).

Some of the ordinands have shared the story of their journey to ministry.

[Get the ordinands here](#)

Wear Red

Many experts recognise that there are red lines in international and humanitarian law that have been crossed in the Israeli government response to the Hamas attacks on Israel. To show solidarity with the Palestinian people who are suffering the consequences, members of Conference are invited to wear red on Wednesday 2 July. A photo will be taken at lunchtime and all those taking part will be invited to participate.

Beckly Lecture



Join us for the Beckly Lecture 2025, at Methodist Conference in Telford, or online.

Anthony Reddie, Professor of Black Theology at the University of Oxford, will be speaking on the topic: 'Whiteness is the Sea, not the Shark: a postcolonial critique of British Methodism'. It will take place at 6.45pm on Monday 30 June.

[Reserve your free place here](#)

Glass fusing and poetry retreats



“We've recognised that buildings designed for contemplation and community gathering can serve these purposes in ways the original Victorian builders never imagined.”

The transformation into the Lakeside Creative Arts Centre is an audacious approach to church regeneration. Newmillerdam Methodist Church embraced artistic activities and gained a new space in the community.

[Read here](#)

Finding God in the waves



"I usually go early morning. I like to go just while it's still dark, pitch black. I have a rock and I sit on it and watch as the sky turns into pre-dawn, half-light, first light, sunrise. It's magical."

Starting a New Place for New People project can be challenging. Pioneer Ian Stimpson shares his journey of coming up with the idea of Sea Soul in the Newcastle District.

[Read here](#)

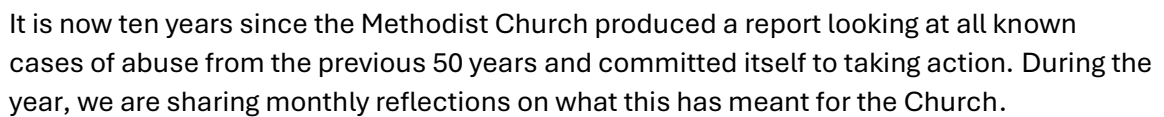
Carbon Literacy Awards



At a ceremony in Manchester, the Connexional Team of the Methodist Church became the first Carbon Literate Church Group to receive a bronze Carbon Literacy Award.

[Read here](#)

Past Case Review: ten years on



"As Chair of the Safeguarding Committee, I can see at first hand the positive changes in embedding a healthy safeguarding culture where it is much easier to speak out and shine a light on unacceptable behaviour."

Judith Davey-Cole, the Chair of the Connexional Safeguarding Committee, pays tribute to those people who spoke out about what they'd experienced, which created a change in attitude.

Responding prayerfully to the Assisted Dying Bill

Following the recent vote on [The Terminally Ill Adults \(End of Life\) Bill](#) in the House of Commons, the Joint Public Issues Team have offered this prayer to help ‘continue to listen and engage with the conversation about assisted dying faithfully, prayerfully and compassionately’.

[Read the prayer here](#)

AI experiences survey

The AI Working Group is charged with identifying the theological and pastoral issues AI raises; exploring how it might support or complicate traditional ministry practices; and report back with both interim guidance and a more comprehensive set of proposals at the 2026 Methodist Conference.

We're asking people from across the Methodist Church to share their experiences and opinions of AI by filling out our survey. This will help inform the Working Group's guidance and final report back to Conference.

[Take our AI experiences survey](#)

The graphic is a promotional poster for 'Wholehearted Monthly'. It features a red and white color scheme with a large, stylized red heart shape in the background. Overlaid on the heart is a photograph of Mayor Andy Burnham, who is wearing glasses and a dark suit, gesturing with his right hand. Text elements include: 'July 8 Tuesday' in a calendar-style box; '7-9^{BST} PM' and 'sign up now' in a handwritten style; 'wholehearted monthly' with a heart icon; 'online and immersive'; 'monthly spiritual series'; 'with special guest Mayor Andy Burnham'; 'live in conversation across the globe'; and 'Hosted by The Methodist Church open to all' with a small church logo.

July
8
Tuesday

7-9^{BST} PM
sign up now

wholehearted
monthly

online and immersive

monthly spiritual series

with special guest
Mayor Andy Burnham

live in conversation
across the globe

Hosted by
The **Methodist** Church
open to all

Mayor Andy Burnham is the guest for Wholehearted Monthly on Tuesday 8 July at 7.00pm. Andy has served as the Mayor of Greater Manchester since 2017. Before that he was Member of Parliament from Leigh, and served in Gordon Brown's Cabinet as Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Culture Secretary and Health Secretary.

Wholehearted Monthly is for anyone committed to a vibrant friendship between "Church" and "World" with a desire for both to flourish. Each month, find testimony from local innovators, input from a renowned guest speaker, and wisdom-sharing in networks around Gospel justice, inclusion, evangelism and growth.

[Sign up here](#)

BBC Radio 2 Pause for Thought

Jo Cox Darling considers 'beauty, love, and hope' as part this week's Pause for Thought theme, 'The Ultimate Headliner.'

[Listen here](#)

Trey Hall joined Scott Mills for BBC Radio 2's Pause for Thought, considering his theme of 'Take me to the river'.

[Listen here](#)

Inderjit Bhogal considered how 'That too draws me to Jesus' in this Pause for Thought.

[Listen 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](#)

Find us on social media



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