



North West England District Weekly News

4 August 2026

A PDF downloadable copy of this newsletter is available [here](#).



District News

We are saddened to report the death of Liz Wilkinson on Tuesday 28th July. Liz was the Pastoral Worker in the Alderley Edge and Knutsford Circuit, Agricultural Chaplain in Cheshire and a member of the NWED Synod. We give thanks to God for Liz and for her ministry, and we hold her family in our prayers. The contact person for any further information, including funeral arrangements, is Revd Alan Bradley. A thanksgiving service for Liz will be held at Knutsford Methodist Church on the 21st August at 1.30pm.

Save the Date: District Wellbeing Day on Tuesday 1 December 2026 **Sustainable Ministry: Facing the Challenges Together**

Please disregard the date circulated in last week's newsletter, as the Wellbeing Day will now be taking place on Tuesday 1 December. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused.

We are pleased to invite you to save the date for our upcoming Wellbeing Day on Tuesday 1 December 2026. This session is a repeat of our June sessions held at the Lune Valley Hub, near Lancaster, so if you missed out in June, this is a great opportunity to attend. To make it more accessible for others, we are aiming to host this gathering in a venue in the southern half of the District.

Keep an eye out for further details and booking information in the coming weeks.

Solar Eclipse Reflections

Revd Katie Smith, Mission Area Lead for Greater Manchester Plus and Deputy Chair, shares her reflections ahead of the opportunity to see a partial solar eclipse in the UK on 12 August.

[Read more here](#)

There's still time to take part in the Day of Outreach, being held to mark the solar eclipse. It provides a great opportunity for churches to hold viewing events and encourage members and non-members alike to visit their local church.

The celebration can be in any form and offers the chance to start conversations and engage in faith-sharing. A planning guide, plus resources and ideas for the day are available to help you make the most of the occasion.

[Access the resources](#)

Copyright and Streaming

Are you covered to livestream your church services? This week's Digital Digest explores the basics of copyright and streaming, why a standard church licence may not be enough, and shares simple steps to help keep your livestreams from being taken down.

[Read the Digest here](#)

September District Online Worship

A reminder that there is no Online Worship in August. We next meet on Sunday 13 September at 6.30pm, with Revd David Newlove, Mission Area Lead for Cumbria and Deputy Chair, preaching on the theme of Creation Justice. For the Zoom code (which remains the same), please email

prayer@nwedmethodists.org.uk or
direct message us on Facebook.



**NORTH WEST ENGLAND
METHODIST DISTRICT**

**District
Online
Worship**

**Sunday 13th September at
6.30pm**

With Revd David Newlove,
Mission Area Lead for
Cumbria & Deputy Chair,
preaching on the theme
of Creation Justice.

District Online Worship is held on
the second Sunday of every
month. For the Zoom code (which
remains the same), please email
prayer@nwedmethodists.org.uk
or direct message us on Facebook

A Prayer for the new Mayor of Greater Manchester

By Rev Dr Raj Patta

God of justice, hope and flourishing,
we pray for Bev Craig as she begins her mayoralty.
Grant her wisdom to listen,
courage to lead,
and integrity to turn every manifesto promise
into meaningful action.

May her leadership secure housing for those without homes,
build a green economy that benefits every community,
and inspire bold action in the face of climate change.

May Greater Manchester flourish in its multiculturalism
and be a sanctuary for migrants, refugees
and all who seek safety.

May she, through her leadership, strive to resist
xenophobia, racism and far-right extremism,
defending the dignity of those pushed to the margins.

May justice guide her decisions,
compassion shape her policies,
and peace define her mayoralty.

May Greater Manchester become a place
where no one is left behind
and everyone can flourish.

Amen.

2026-27 Welcome Services

We are pleased to share with you revised details of the upcoming Welcome Services for Ministers. We will continue to update this list and will share it again in due course.

Welcome Service details - revised version

Could you use your talents as part of the District Scrutiny Committee?

The District Scrutiny Committee plays a vital role in supporting the District Policy Committee (DPC). Before DPC considers any item requiring a decision (that isn't grants or property related), the Scrutiny Committee reviews it and carries out a detailed analysis to ensure all the necessary information is included and is in line with District process. They then present this to the DPC along with a recommendation for a decision, which DPC then exercises its own informed judgement on.

Is this an area of work whereby you could use your talents? It involves about 4 meetings a year, which are usually by zoom.

Please contact Graham Pegg, a member of the Scrutiny Committee, for an informal conversation. Tel: 01925 756730 or email: grahamcpegg@btinternet.com

Events

Greater Manchester Plus

Solar Eclipse Viewing Party

**At The Ridge Methodist Church,
Marple**

This is a free event, taking place on 12 August, 5.30pm - 8.30pm and includes a light meal.

Book via the QR code or contact Revd Katie Smith to get a free pair of eclipse glasses and confirm your place.
Email: revkatiesmith@gmail.com

Phone: 0161 430 2964

Download the poster here



Resources

Exam Results Prayer

Loving God, We thank you for all our amazing young people who are awaiting their exam results, at whatever stage they are at. Lord we pray that they get the grades they deserve and will know to seek you in their rejoicing. Lord we also pray for those who may not quite get the results that they desire, but we pray that they know their grades do not define them, only your love does. Lord we thank you for your patience and your guidance at these times.

Amen

Genesis Padgett, Youth President 2025/2026

Methodist Insurance Dialogue

This edition looks at security and late-summer planning, with guidance to help churches protect buildings, maintain momentum and prepare well for the months ahead. [Read more here.](#)

Leadership Learning Space 2026/27

Applications are now open for Leadership Learning Space (LLS), designed to equip both lay and ordained leaders with practical skills and spiritual insights.

[Find out more](#)

Ecumenical International Youth Day 2026

[Ecumenical International Youth Day 2026](#) will be commemorated on 13 August under the theme “Creating Healing Spaces: R.E.S.T. - Restore, Empower, Strengthen, Thrive.” Young people, churches, and faith communities around the world are invited to become agents of healing, restoration, reconciliation, and hope.

Education Sunday: 13 September 2026

Churches are invited to reflect on the theme “Living Well Together”. Drawing on Scripture’s vision of reconciliation, forgiveness and mutual responsibility, these resources encourage us to consider how we can build communities where people from different cultures, backgrounds and beliefs can flourish together.

[Access the resources](#)

Shine Your Light Campaign: 11-13 December 2026

A nationwide grassroots movement bringing Christmas carols and the Gospel message to public spaces across the UK and Ireland. Shine Your Light are keen to engage with local Churches Together groups as well as those working at the intermediate level.

[Find out more here](#)

Good News Stories

Net Zero Success

The historic Lymm Methodist church will turn up the heat in their fight against climate change by using new electric heat pumps to warm the congregation, removing their use of gas entirely.

[Read the story here](#)

Liverpool City Council Unites Behind Manifesto for Hope

Church Leaders behind the *Manifesto for Hope in our City Region* have welcomed the Liverpool City Council's resolution supporting the initiative, describing it as an important step in strengthening the city's long tradition of partnership, social justice and commitment to the common good.

Delivered by Churches Together in Merseyside in partnership with Together Liverpool, the Faith in the City project developed the Manifesto for Hope, a document shaped by voices from across the region and setting out shared priorities for a fairer, more compassionate Liverpool City Region.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Liam Robinson and seconded by Councillor Jane Corbett. Presented to Liverpool City Council on 29 July 2026, it welcomes the nine priorities set out in the *Manifesto for Hope*.

Councillor Jane Corbett (pictured, fourth from the left) is a Methodist member in Liverpool South Circuit. The District extend our thanks to Jane for her commitment to justice-seeking.



[Read the story here](#)

Vacancies

[Find current internal vacancies listed here.](#)

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

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