



North West England District Weekly News

17th March 2026

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

District News

Digital New Places for New People

In our digital age, the internet is a crucial platform for mission for younger generations and for those who are isolated, housebound or far from home. The Methodist Church is committed to understanding, exploring and innovating around what it means to be followers of Jesus online, and several digital NPNPs have been established already, including our District's Sanctuary and Soul led by Revd Phil Jackson.

There is still some exploratory funding available for Digital NPNPs. If you would like to apply for this, contact Julian Bond (bondj@methodistchurch.org.uk) with a short descriptive paragraph of your proposal and how much funding you think you will need, up to a maximum of £20 000, by April 6. Successful applicants will be expected to join a network of digital pioneers including everyone from podcasters to gamers.

To find out more, visit [Experimenting with Digital Evangelism](#), and to see examples of digital NPNPs that have been funded, check out

[Don't wake the baby!](#)

[Shoreline Methodist Community](#)

[Metal Methodist](#)

Once the Connexional NPNP team have received expressions of interest and reviewed these against the [NPNP criteria](#), and available funding, they will be in touch with a funding submission form and support for the process. All funds will be awarded **by 31 August 2026**.

NWED District Safeguarding Conference 2026

Trauma-Informed Practice: Learning,
Reflecting, Growing Together

We are delighted to announce our first in-person conference as a new district! This year we will be focusing on Trauma-Informed Practice, with a rich programme designed to inspire, challenge, and equip all who work to create safer environments across our district. Join us for a day of insight, conversation, and shared learning, featuring contributions from:



- Karen Jobson, returning after highly valued sessions at the 2025 and 2026 Connexional Safeguarding Conferences
- The Methodist Survivors Advisory Group, delivering a dedicated session
- Q&A with Tim Carter, Director of Safeguarding for the Methodist Church
- Facilitated table discussions throughout the day
- Regional Officers for Safeguarding, available for support, questions, and conversation

This is a wonderful opportunity to learn together, hear lived experience, explore good practice, and strengthen safeguarding culture across the district.

Event details:

Saturday 16 May 2026, 10:00am–4:00pm (arrivals from 9:30am)

Leyland Methodist Church (9 Turpin Green Lane, Leyland, PR25 3HA)

Help Us Spread the Word

Please share the event poster widely in your churches and circuits, include it in newsletters, distribute the QR code/link, and display it in local churches. Your support helps us welcome as many people as possible to this important day.

[Download the flyer](#)

[Book your place](#)

**NWED District Online Update: this
Thursday, 19th March at 7:30pm**



NORTH WEST ENGLAND METHODIST DISTRICT

NWED ONLINE UPDATE

Thurs 19th March

ONLINE EVENT
HOSTED ON ZOOM
7.30 - 8.30PM
(ARRIVE FROM 7.20PM FOR A 7.30PM START)

Come along to this information evening to hear updates on the progress being made within the North West England District. This evening will include:

- Devotions
- An update from each hub, to hear developments on various areas in the new District
- An update from our EDI/JDS Group
- An update from the Neighbourhood Project
- Q and A session

To Join:
<https://zoom.us/j/98395346174?pwd=qRS6YnostSxHeuPrLyO8YTEd9Ajw6D>
Meeting ID: 925 4191 1633 **Passcode:** 734505

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, PLEASE EMAIL ADMIN@NWEDMETHODISTS.ORG.UK

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- Devotions
- An update from each Hub, to hear developments on various areas in the District
- An update from our EDI/JDS Group
- An update from the Neighbourhood Project
- Q and A session

To help the evening run smoothly, if you have any questions or comments you wish to make, please email: admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk in advance of the meeting.

To Join:

<https://zoom.us/j/98395346174?pwd=qRS6YnostSxHeuPrLyO8YTEd9Ajw6D>

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Lent 2026: Week 5

During Lent we're joining the Connexional invitation to see the season as a journey of pausing, breathing and making space for God.

Through Lent we are sharing weekly reflections on the theme, 'Our Story, Our Song: A Journey Through Lent', exploring how the hymns and worship songs can guide us more deeply along the road to the cross. Each week, a different contributor will reflect on a hymn or worship song of their choosing and its connection to the themes of Lent.

This week's reflection, from Linda Locke, Regional Officer for Safeguarding, is now available to read via the links below. We would like to encourage you not only to read

it, but to share your thoughts, respond to the questions, or tell us what hymn or worship song is speaking to you this Lent in the comments on Facebook.

Website link

Facebook link

Presidential Visit

Today marks the final day of the visit of the President and Vice President of the Methodist Conference to the District. You can find out about what they have been up to [here](#).

The President, Rev Richard Andrew, spoke on BBC Radio Cumbria on Sunday morning. You can listen again [here](#), from 2:11:55. Thank you to everyone that attended our Online Worship on Sunday 15th March with Revd Richard Andrew, President of the Methodist Conference preaching.



If you were unable to attend, the recording of the sermon is now available to view on our YouTube channel [here](#).

Superintendent Days for Circuit New Places for New People

The Connexional Growth and Evangelism Team are offering three one-day events around the country to encourage Circuits to start, develop and embed New Places for New People. A small group from each Circuit is invited to attend, including the superintendent and up to two other key people. There will be an opportunity to celebrate where you have got to, assistance with next steps, and help with any concerns or challenges. It is recognised that Circuits will be at very different stages but the hope is that this will be a day that will energise and equip us all for what comes next.

Please book with Julian Bond (bondj@methodistchurch.org.uk) by March 18, confirming who is attending and on which date. Also, let Julian know if you wish to book a 1:1 slot with him for a more focused conversation about finance. All events are 10am-4pm.

April 16 URC, Tavistock Place, London
April 29 Brunswick Methodist Church, Newcastle
May 19 Four Oaks Methodist Church, Birmingham

News from Connexion

Online Suite Update

Andy Webb, the Director of IT and Jane Bates, Senior Governance Executive Officer, have released an update regarding the Online Suite.

[Read the update](#)

Events: Greater Manchester Plus

The Stations Of The Cross Exhibition

Glazebury Methodist Church (Warrington Road, Glazebury, WA3 5LD) are hosting an exhibition through Lent of The Stations Of The Cross, by local artist Gill Hamilton, for the second year. The Olive Branch Cafe and the Church are open Tuesdays to Saturdays, 9am to 3pm, for open viewing.

Liverpool Plus

Pentecost Celebrations: Two Cathedrals March

Sunday 24th May 2026, 3-5pm

Starting at Liverpool Metropolitan
Cathedral and walking along Hope
Street to Liverpool Cathedral.

The theme of the Pentecost Celebrations 2026 is 'Many Voices - One Faith'.

Celebrations will be based on the [Manifesto for Hope](#).



Good News Stories

Layton Methodist volunteers recognised at Blackpool Town Hall

Volunteers from Layton Methodist Church were recently recognised at a special Thank You Event hosted by the Mayor of Blackpool in the Mayor's Parlour at Blackpool Town Hall.



[Read more about the event and volunteer work at Layton Methodist here](#)

Resources

THE4POINTS Easter Campaign 2026 by Together for the Harvest

The aim of this campaign is to tell as many people as possible in the Liverpool City Region about the Good News of Jesus this Easter. There are a number of ways to get involved, including football outreach at upcoming games on 21st and 28th March.

[Find out more](#)

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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