

North West England District Weekly News



19 May 2026

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

District News

Announcement from the NWE District Senior Leadership Team, and colleagues from the Learning Network in the North West

We were sorry to hear that Brec Seaton has stepped away from her role in the Learning Network. Those with a longer history in Cumbria will bear testimony to the level of support and assistance Brec has given to the church in Cumbria and of how she has served faithfully through the various iterations of her role. Brec has truly been a friend to Cumbria and we pray God's peace as she moves into this new season. Brec was particularly active through the year long process of forming the Cumbria Circuit and was always ready to offer her support, encouragement and to share wise advice and experience, for which we are grateful.



In addition to Brec's clear focus within Cumbria, as part of the Learning Network Team, Brec has served faithfully and very effectively across the whole North West England District (and its former Districts), providing valuable support to ministry teams, Circuits and local churches, whether conducting reviews and missional planning days or training in conflict resolution, and in many other ways.

We continue to have the support from our Learning Network team, though we will all miss Brec's presence amongst us, and are grateful for her service and dedication to

the role.

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Brec has been in the Learning Network for many years and will be missed a great deal. If anyone has a parting message or good wishes they would like us to pass on, could they send them to Mel (clarkem@methodistchurch.org.uk) or Kristie (evек@methodistchurch.org.uk) by the end of May.

District Wellbeing Days

Sustainable Ministry: Facing the Challenges Together

We are pleased to invite you to book onto one of our Wellbeing Days:

Tuesday 16 June for Ministers
Wednesday 17 June for Lay Employees from the District, Circuits or Churches

Venue: Lune Valley Methodist Hub, Brookhouse, Lancaster, LA2 9NY (if a lift from and to Lancaster mainline train station would be helpful, please contact jonesc@nwedmethodists.org.uk, and we will endeavour to arrange this)

Timings of the day: arrive from 9.30am for a 10am start. Finish at 3.30pm.

Please book your place by emailing Carole Jones by Friday 12 June: jonesc@nwedmethodists.org.uk

Please bring your own packed lunch, although biscuits, fruit, cakes and drinks will be available throughout the day. Please let us know of any dietary requirements you have.

We want this day to be accessible and supportive for everyone. If you have any access needs or there are resource adjustments that would help you participate and learn more comfortably, please let us know.



We appreciate that people may not be able to attend the day this year due to the short notice and geography of the venue.

We will aim to have the date for a future Wellbeing Day in the District diary earlier next year and will explore venues in other areas of the District (especially further south for

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next year).

The District Wellbeing Strategy Team

Superintendent Days for Circuit New Places for New People

Friday 19 June, 10am - 3pm at Lune Valley Methodist Hub, LA2 9NY

The Connexional Growth and Evangelism Team are offering a day in

the District to encourage Circuits to start, develop and embed New Places

for New People (NPNP). A small group

from each Circuit is invited to attend, including the Superintendent and other

key people.

There will be 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.

Lunch will be provided and drinks will be available at the venue. If you have any dietary requirements, please let us know by emailing admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk



The poster is for an event titled "SUPERINTENDENT DAYS FOR CIRCUIT NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE". It is organized by the "NORTH WEST ENGLAND METHODIST DISTRICT". The event is on "FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2026" from "10AM - 3PM". Attendees should "ARRIVE FROM 10AM FOR A 10.30AM START". The venue is "LUNE VALLEY METHODIST HUB, LA2 9NY". The text describes the event as a day for the Connexional Growth and Evangelism Team to encourage Circuits to start, develop, and embed New Places for New People (NPNP). It mentions that a small group from each Circuit is invited to attend, including the Superintendent and other key people. There will be an opportunity to celebrate, get assistance with next steps, and help with concerns or challenges. It is recognized that Circuits will be at different stages, but the hope is that the day will energize and equip everyone for what comes next. Lunch and drinks will be provided. Attendees are asked to book their place on Eventbrite and to email admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk if they have dietary requirements.

**NORTH WEST ENGLAND
METHODIST DISTRICT**

**SUPERINTENDENT DAYS FOR
CIRCUIT NEW PLACES FOR
NEW PEOPLE**

**FRIDAY 19
JUNE 2026**

10AM - 3PM
**(ARRIVE FROM
10AM FOR A
10.30AM START)**
**LUNE VALLEY
METHODIST HUB,
LA2 9NY**

The Connexional Growth and Evangelism Team are offering a day in the District to encourage Circuits to start, develop and embed New Places for New People (NPNP). A small group from each Circuit is invited to attend, including the Superintendent and other key people.

There will be 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.

Lunch will be provided and drinks will be available at the venue. Please book your place on Eventbrite. If you have any dietary requirements, please let us know by emailing admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk

BOOK YOUR PLACE ON EVENTBRITE

June District Online Worship

Taking place on Sunday 14 June at 6.30pm, with Revd Alan Bradley preaching. For the Zoom code (which remains the same), please email

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



District Testimony Service

A District Testimony Service will take place on Sunday 7th June at 4pm at Stricklandgate Methodist Church. The service is for Rev Michaela Barker and Deacon Samm Morris, who have been recommended for ordination.

We are seeking to recruit a District Secretary for Mission

Do you have a working knowledge of mission and a desire to shape and fulfil the mission of the Methodist Church through effective, innovative and creative use of resources?

Are you a team player with a commitment to inspiring others? If so, we are keen to

hear from you...

Find out more here

Synod follow up information

Please find below a variety of follow up information from Synod which you may find useful.

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Resources from the keynote talk:

Guidance and resources for mission planning available [here](#).

Our Church's Future Story resource pack available [here](#).

Children and Youth

Equip the equippers information available [here](#).

District Children, Youth and Family Strategy

The link to the survey, where you can share about the children, youth and family work happening in your context, is available [here](#).

District Committees

There are a few committees that would value additional members, if you feel able to assist in any of the following please get in touch with the Hub lead using the details below:

Admin and Compliance Hub: Data, Lay Employment and Communications.

Please contact Heather Fergusson on fergussonh@nwedmethodists.org.uk

Ministry and Vocations Hub: Sabbatical Support Group (perhaps a lay spouse / partner of an ordained minister, who would bring a family eye and perspective on how best to prepare for and make the most of sabbaticals). Please contact Phil Gough on goughp@nwedmethodists.org.uk

Mission and Leadership Hub: New Places for New People Embedding Group, particularly Lay and Deacons. Please contact Caroline Ainger on aingerc@nwedmethodists.org.uk

Events

Care for the Family's Playtime Conference

For Toddler Group Leaders and Volunteers

The District's Children's and Youth Work Support group wish to bring to the attention of all Toddler Groups within the NWE District the annual event run by Care for the Family for Toddler Group leaders, to gather for a fun day together of resourcing and encouragement in this vital ministry.

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This year, the event is in Wigan, on Saturday 19 September, and as it's in our District we'd encourage you to share the information widely, so we might get a good take up. Perhaps local churches and Circuits can contribute to the costs for individuals, although there is also the District Training Fund (accessed via Mission Area Leads or Phil Gough (District Secretary for Ministry & Vocations), if people need support to enable them to be there. You can contact the District Team by email at admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk

[Find out more](#)

Cliff Festival: 22-25 May 2026

How do the stories that we tell and the songs we sing shape us as Christians and as the church? What is the story God is calling us to tell in this time and this place? What are the songs burning in our hearts as we face the challenges and opportunities of being a Christian in today's world?

As God's people, we are called to bear witness to God's story of joyful news for all, and to sing this news out in every situation with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. Join us at Cliff Festival 2026 (22-25 May) for a morning, a day or a weekend of story and song, where we can encounter the living God in Jesus-focused, hope-filled worship and be inspired and equipped to live out our testimonies as ambassadors of God's joyful news!

[Get your tickets here](#)

Training

Thriving Under 5s Ministry

Monday 15 June, 9.45am - 12.15pm
on Zoom

Discover how children aged 0-5 can encounter God through play, ritual, and the gentle rhythms of early faith formation.

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Find out more here

Resources

Kingdom Over Nation

A new ecumenical resource developed through Churches Together in England (CTE) to help churches engage thoughtfully and prayerfully with the rise in Christian nationalism and the growing challenges surrounding identity, discipleship, and public life. Through eight Bible studies and theological reflections, the resource explores discernment, empire, ideology, justice, nationhood, and Christian witness in a divided age.



Download your copy here

Spring 2026 Methodists for World Mission (MWM) Prayer and Care Leaflet

For use alongside the MWM Prayer Handbook.

[Download the leaflet here](#)

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Fund for Human Need Order of Service

[Download the order of service here](#)

Good News Stories

Cumbria

Cumbria Methodist Women in Britain (MWiB) Spring Day

On 21 April at Tebay Methodist Church, 21 ladies gathered together to learn and share with Methodist Women in Argentina, with whom MWiB have developed strong links over 20+ years with.

[Read about the day here](#)

Lancashire

Official opening of the reflection garden at Wheatley Lane

Methodist Primary School

In the Burnley and Pendle Circuit

It all started when the children wanted a quiet outdoor space to go to think about special people to them that they had lost. The children designed the garden, fundraised and secured donations from local companies. Wheatley Lane Methodist Church donated a tree.



A team of volunteers led by two parents developed the reflection garden over a 12 month period. The Revd Adrian Perry (School Chaplain) led the official opening before cutting the ribbon, followed by light refreshments for guests and the children received ice lollies.

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Midge Hall Methodist Church Bed of Remembrance

Over the last 4 years we have created a Garden Of Peace beside our Church and now have the opportunity to upgrade the area where Ashes are scattered and we are wanting inspiration. The area is 20x10ft and is a blank canvas. We wondered if any of you have a similar area that we could look at or discuss with you. I would love to hear from you.



Leigh Naylor
beefriendleigh@aol.com



Vacancies

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

Contact Us

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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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