



# North West England District Weekly News

30 June 2026

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

## District News

### Statement from the North West England District Senior Leadership Team

#### Update on the health of our Chair of District, Revd Dr James Tebbutt

On behalf of the District Senior Leadership Team please find below an important statement for your information. Please share the information more widely within churches and circuits as appropriate, but you are asked not to include details on social media, thank you.

To make contact with the Senior Leadership Team, please email [SLT@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:SLT@nwedmethodists.org.uk) and your email will be shared with the relevant member of the team. Thank you.

Website link

PDF link

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## Methodist Conference 2026

The Methodist Conference 2026 is currently underway in Telford, taking place from 25 June - 1 July.

The Methodist Conference elected the Revd Mark Slaney to serve as President and Caroline Stead to serve as Vice-President, starting their year of office when the Representative Session of the Methodist Conference opened in Telford on 27 June 2026. Read the news release [here](#).

You can read the address given by Revd Mark Slaney [here](#), and by Caroline Stead [here](#).

The Methodist Conference has designated the Revd Dr Jennifer Smith to serve as President and Daniel Keen to serve as Vice-President next year, starting their year of office when the Representative Session of the Methodist Conference opens in June 2027.

On Conference Sunday, we celebrated with all those who were Received into Full Connexion and Ordained.

We especially give thanks for Revd Michaela Barker (Blackpool and South Fylde Circuit) and Deacon Samm Morris (Cumbria Circuit) for their journeys of discernment, their offering of themselves, and their ministries within the District, Mission Areas and their Circuits and Churches.

You can find out more about other key updates from Conference [here](#).

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## We are looking for a Volunteer Lay Employee Chaplain and Volunteer Lay Employee Supporter

Lay Employee Chaplain role  
description

Lay Employee Supporter role  
description

If you are interested or for further information, please contact Phil Gough: [goughp@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:goughp@nwedmethodists.org.uk) or Carole Jones: [jonesc@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:jonesc@nwedmethodists.org.uk)

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## Monthly Property Support Meeting

Thursday 9 July, 10.30am - 11.30am on Zoom

Join us for our next Monthly Property Support Meeting, where we'll be exploring **consent** – when and why it's needed, how the Methodist consents system works, **Annual Returns, Project Funding**, and **External Grant opportunities**.

There will also be plenty of opportunity for open discussion, so bring along

your property questions, projects or challenges. Everyone involved in Church or Circuit property matters is welcome, particularly new Property Stewards, Ministers, Superintendents and Circuit Stewards.



## Monthly Property Support Meeting

**Thursday 9 July, 10.30am on Zoom**

A monthly online meeting for anyone involved in church or Circuit property matters, including ministers, superintendents, property stewards and local church officers.

These sessions provide practical guidance, support and updates to help people better understand and navigate the often complex world of Methodist property.

**Topics for the July meeting include:**

- Consent** - when and why it's needed
- Permissions** - and how the consents system works
- Annual Returns** - what they are and why they matter
- Project Funding** - types available and the location of church or circuit funds
- External Grants** - that may be available for certain projects
- Open Discussion** - your churches, your questions, your challenges



### Zoom Details

**Join Zoom Meeting - Click Here**

Meeting ID:  
**991 9076 0467**

Passcode:  
**120761**

This meeting is being led by **Graeme Potts** and **Stephanie Roux**, District Property Secretaries for the NWE District.

If you have questions you'd like answered during the meeting, please send them in advance by [emailing us](mailto:property@nwedmethodists.org.uk).

This meeting is open to everyone - not just those who have attended before. New property stewards will find this information particularly helpful.

 **Graeme Potts**  
[gpotts@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:gpotts@nwedmethodists.org.uk)
 **Stephanie Roux**  
[sroux@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:sroux@nwedmethodists.org.uk)

If you already have a question or topic you'd like us to cover, we'd be grateful if you could send it to us in advance where possible, by email at [property@nwedmethodists.org.uk](mailto:property@nwedmethodists.org.uk). This helps us prepare and make the session as useful as possible for everyone.

## Methodist Youth President Visit

We pray for the visit of the Youth President, Genesis Padgett, to the District this coming weekend and for the various groups and young people that Genesis will meet with.

## Training

### Safeguarding Foundation Training

A face to face Foundation Module Training session is taking place at Shevington Methodist Church (Gathurst Lane, Shevington, Wigan, WN6 8HA) on Saturday 29 August, starting at 2:30pm. There are places available for anyone who wishes to attend. To book a place, please email Vivienne Lowe at [viv.lowe@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:viv.lowe@blueyonder.co.uk)

## Events

### Admin and Comms Online Coffee Morning

The date for the next online coffee is Wednesday 1 July at 11am and it would, as always, be lovely to see you. Please contact Kristie Eve [evek@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:evek@methodistchurch.org.uk) for the Zoom code.

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## Reflect

An independent group within Methodism which seeks to promote spirituality and spiritual practices for the Methodist people. There are two opportunities coming up soon, further information available below. Please contact Gill Dascombe with any enquiries by email at [gilldascombe@hotmail.com](mailto:gilldascombe@hotmail.com)

Online Quiet Morning on the  
'Practice of the Presence of God'  
- 10 or 18 July

Online course on Spiritual  
Practices

## Cumbria

### Sedbergh Youth Service

Saturday 4 July at 7.30pm, at  
Cornerstone Community Church,  
Sedbergh.

Click on the poster to download a copy  
for more information.



## Greater Manchester Plus

### BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2026 - Songs of Praise Special

Songs of Praise and BBC Radio 2 would love to invite you to a very special recording of BBC Young Chorister of the Year 2026 from the iconic Hallé St Peter's in Manchester.

#### WHEN:

**Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Junior Semi-Final (doors open 10:30am)**

**Wednesday 8th July 2026 - Senior Semi-Final (doors open 4:00pm)**

Age restriction: there is no minimum age for entry, all ages are warmly welcomed but children aged 17 and under should be supervised by a responsible adult at all times.

**WHERE:**

Hallé St Peter's, Audience Entrance on Hood Street, Ancoats, Manchester, M4 6BF

[Book your free tickets here](#)

## Lancashire

**The Roses Walking Pilgrimage**

**Middlesbrough to Blackburn, 15-30 August 2026**

All are welcome to join the Pilgrimage, which links the cathedrals of Middlesbrough, Ripon and Blackburn. There are rest days in Ripon and Skipton. Come with us and experience walking as part of our travelling Christian community, whether for a fortnight or just an afternoon! The walk is guided and luggage is forwarded. The cost is £350 to walk with us all the way, or £33 per night to book a shorter spell.

[Find out more here](#)

## Liverpool Plus

**Bread and Wine Circuit Service**

We warmly invite everyone to join us for a joyful and uplifting service, where we will share in Holy Communion together and celebrate the wonderful music of our newly formed Circuit Choir, with music written by our very own Superintendent, Revd Darren Garfield.

Sunday 12 July 2026

5:30pm – refreshments and 6pm - start

Moor Lane Methodist Church (190 Moor Lane, Crosby, L23 2XJ)



## Resources

An advertisement for "Chapel in the Fields". The main text reads "CHAPEL in the FIELDS" in a large, elegant font, followed by "AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE HIRE". Below this, it lists "FULLY EQUIPPED KITCHEN &amp; DINING" and "LARGE MEETING ROOM RURAL SETTING". To the right, there are three small images: a view of the chapel building, the interior of the chapel, and a close-up of a candle. At the bottom, it says "BOOKING ENQUIRIES" and provides the email "VICKY@CHAPELINTHEFIELDS.ORG.UK".

**Chapel in the Fields** is available for private hire and has good availability at the moment for the summer months and into autumn. The Chapel is fully equipped and offers a large meeting room, kitchen and dining, and is located in a rural setting. For further information, please contact Vicky by email at [vicky@chapelinthefields.org.uk](mailto:vicky@chapelinthefields.org.uk)

## Single Friendly Church Week

27 September - 4 October 2026

For one week, churches, leaders, and individuals across the UK are coming together to say clearly: single people at every stage of life are welcomed, valued, and included here. Whether you're never married, divorced, widowed, or a single parent, you belong at the heart of this community, and not on its edges.

[Find out more 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](mailto:admin@nwedmethodists.org.uk)

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