



NORTH WEST ENGLAND METHODIST DISTRICT

NWED Weekly News

Your weekly newsletter from the North West England District.

25th March 2025

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This week's newsletter includes:

- **District Spotlight**
- **District News**
- **Events**
- **Resources**
- **Training**
- **Good News Stories**
- **Job Opportunities**

[District Spotlight: Meet Jack Watson](#)

District Safeguarding Officer (Lancashire and Greater Manchester Plus)

Telephone: 01772 372160 (ext: 114) or 07444 101 130

Email: watsonj.dso@nwedmethodists.org.uk

My name is Jack Watson, and this photograph of me was taken on my 30th birthday this January. Reflecting on the start of my 20s, I could never have imagined that the final day of that decade would find me addressing all the superintendents in the district.

My professional journey began in teaching, I have a PGCE in Primary Education. I spent a couple of years as a primary school teacher. Later, I became a children's worker with the Wirral Methodist Circuit. In 2021, I became the Circuit Safeguarding Officer (CSO) for Wirral. By 2022, I had taken on the CSO role for Southport, and in 2023, for the newly formed North Liverpool and South Sefton Circuit. In 2024, I became District Safeguarding Officer for the new North West District, covering the Lancashire Misson Area and supporting Helen with the Greater Manchester Plus Mission Area. I am currently doing an MSc in Safeguarding at Birmingham City University

Beyond Methodist safeguarding, I work as a safeguarding advisor, providing guidance and training to local charities and companies. Additionally, I collaborate with local councils on cases involving children's and adults' services. I also serve as Vice-Chair of Governors for a local Alternative Provision and recently became a trustee for a charity.



My connection to the church began as a child at Christ Church, Bootle. At the age of nine, I auditioned for Liverpool Cathedral Choir, and have spent the last 20 years singing in the choir, became head chorister, and then a deputy lay clerk, and am a member of the choristers guild, and was secretary to the guild, and now volunteer with the choir by teaching probationers—a role that brings me great joy as I once stood where they are now.



In my spare time, I enjoy organizing and performing in concerts, I have a music degree from Liverpool Hope University. Recently, I performed the music of Harold Arlen at Liverpool Cathedral and St. Mark's Methodist Church, as well as a concert titled *These You Have Loved* in Aughton, Formby Methodist Church, and Biddulph Methodist Church as part of the Biddulph Festival. Currently, I'm preparing a concert of Stephen Sondheim's music, which I hope to perform in May 2025.

District News

NWED District Updates Webinar

A reminder of the NWED District Updates Webinar on Thursday 27th March 2025 at 7:30pm.

Come along to this information evening and hear the updates following the launch of the North West England District.

This evening will include:

- Devotions

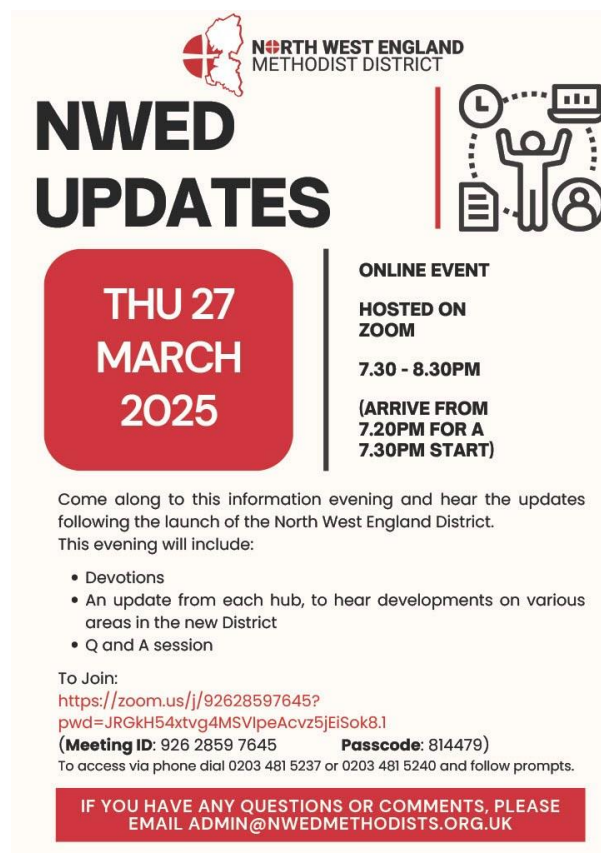
- An update from each Hub, to hear developments on various areas in the new District
- Q and A session

To

Join: <https://zoom.us/j/92628597645?pwd=JRGkH54xtvg4MSVlpeAcvz5jEiSok8.1> (Meeting ID: 926 2859 7645 Passcode: 814479)

To access via phone dial 0203 481 5237 or 0203 481 5240 and follow prompts.

We look forward to seeing you there.



**NORTH WEST ENGLAND
METHODIST DISTRICT**

NWED UPDATES

**THU 27
MARCH
2025**

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

Come along to this information evening and hear the updates following the launch of 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
- Q and A session

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

1 - More information about the NWED District Updates Webinar

District Online Worship: Sunday 13th April at 6.30pm

Following a successful launch in March, our next District Online Worship will take place on Sunday 13th April at 6:30pm. This month our speaker is the Rev Phil Gough, District Secretary for Ministry and Vocations. The Zoom link is as follows:

<https://zoom.us/j/97923125645?pwd=L656LDUauCGtv46fg2PoKXxwI24E8a.1>

Meeting ID: 979 2312 5645

Passcode: 543701



**NORTH WEST ENGLAND
METHODIST DISTRICT**

**District
Online
Worship**

Palm Sunday

**Sunday 13 April at
6.30pm**

With speaker Rev
Phil Gough, District
Secretary for
Ministry and
Vocations

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

2 - More information about this months online District worship.

District Leadership Media Training

Last week our Mission Area Leads (MAL's) met up with Jill Moody and Mike Ivatt from the national Communications Team at Manchester Central Hall to receive media training.

The training focused on messaging and story-telling and provided the MAL's with the tools and preparation needed for media interviews, podcasts and panels. We hope to see their learning put into action in media interviews in the near future!



3 - Jill Moody and Mike Ivatt from the national Communications Team joined with our Mission Area Leads, Rev Alan Bradley, Rev Sharon Read, Rev Katie Smith and Rev Caroline Ainger as well as our Communications Officer, Tori Allen and Digital Enabler, Samuel Rimmer.

Events

Greater Manchester Plus

Glazebury Methodist Church are hosting an exhibition of The Stations of the Cross by the local artist Gill Hamilton.

Gill began these sketches in Lent 2003 and has now produced the finished paintings which are now on display in our church during Lent.

Gill has a Facebook page where further details can be found. It would be lovely for anyone to come to see them. The church is open Tuesdays to Saturdays 9am to 3pm for open viewing. For anyone viewing in person there is a booklet available called Behold which contains images of all the paintings together with accompanying prayers for £2.50 to take away.

Glazebury Methodist Church is located on Warrington Road, Glazebury, WA3 5LD.

Resources

Connexional NPNP Update

An update on New Places for New People and Church at the Margins for March 2025 is available [here](#).

A link to this week's Monday Meditation is available [here](#).

This week's meditation focuses on Giving, one of the Lenten disciplines.

Training

Due to high demand, the Methodist Training Network are hosting an additional Lay Orientation Training Day on Thursday 19th June.

The online session will provide an opportunity for new Lay Employees to meet, explore their role, understand Methodism and get to grips with key employment practices and much more!

For more details and to register for the event, please visit the link below:

[Lay Orientation Training Day Registration, Thu 19 Jun 2025 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Good News Stories

Science and Faith

What a fantastic weekend we had at Mossley Methodist Church (Glossop and Tameside Circuit).

It started on Friday with a visit from Yr5's from each of the 5 primary schools in Mossley (about 100 young people). They came and explored how science and faith are connected, they had a fabulous time doing some hands on experiments. Friday evening Family Fun Club (SEN youth group) had a chance to do the hands on science experiments which was very enjoyable.

Saturday saw the Science Wonder Day with over 240 people coming through the church doors and exploring science and faith. It was a great opportunity to see so many families trying out lots of science experiments. The Sunday service explored the science and faith theme (you can watch the service on the [Mossley Methodist Church FB page](#))

Thank you to Gavin, Believing Science volunteers and all those who came and volunteered their time throughout the weekend.





Job Opportunities

Internal:

We are recruiting for a District Property Secretary, details for which are available [here](#).

Current Circuit vacancies can be viewed [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.