

TAKE YOUR NEXT STEPS IN EVANGELISM AND GROWTH

**Opportunities and resources
for individuals, churches and circuits
2021/2022**





In 2020, the Methodist Church adopted *God for All: The Connexional Strategy for Evangelism and Growth*, expanding our commitment to be an inclusive, growing, evangelistic and justice-seeking Church – so that new people become disciples of Jesus Christ, faith deepens for everyone, and diverse communities and churches experience transformation.

This booklet provides an overview of some of the key programmes and resources to help you take an intentional step into action. You'll find descriptions of what's on offer – from discipleship to evangelism to pioneering to digital mission and more – and ways to get connected.

One word of advice: this booklet is not a tick-list that every individual, church, and circuit must work through and complete! We suggest that you reflect on your context and calling, read the information, and choose one or two areas of focus to engage with prayerfully and meaningfully in the seasons ahead. Your next step is not necessarily about doing more: it's about making reflective decisions to spend your time, energy and resources on the most important and life-giving activities.

We hope the questions at the end of this booklet will encourage you to get involved. If you would like our help in any way, please email us at **evangelism@methodistchurch.org.uk**. We would love to hear from you.

May God give us all the courage and humility to speak of, listen for and live out the goodness of God!

The Evangelism and Growth Team



CENTRED IN GOD

Mapping rhythms of discipleship and prayer

A METHODIST WAY OF LIFE

A Methodist Way of Life is a set of practices that offer you a way to live out your discipleship. Based on Our Calling, it consists of 12 commitments structured around worship, learning and caring, service and evangelism. A Methodist Way of Life is supported by a suite of printed and online resources for information and guidance.



WHO IS IT FOR?

All Methodists, others associated with the Methodist Church and those exploring the Christian faith.



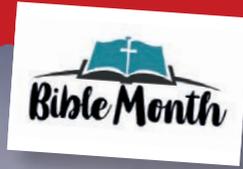
HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at
methodist.org.uk/mwol



Contact us at **MWOL@**
[methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:mwol@methodistchurch.org.uk)



WHO IS IT FOR?

All those responsible for teaching and preaching programmes in Methodist churches and Methodists who wish to deepen their biblical engagement.

BIBLE MONTH

Bible Month is a programme that equips your church to engage with the Bible and to develop an understanding of its meaning and purpose in Christian discipleship. It is centred on an annually produced resource to help you reflect or preach on a biblical book over four weeks. Bible Month is offered in partnership with the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/biblemonth



Contact David Harmer at harmerd@methodistchurch.org.uk

EVERYONE AN EVANGELIST

Building confidence to speak of God



EVANGELISM FOR LEADERS COURSE

This is a free course for all leaders in the Methodist Church, lay and ordained, paid and unpaid. Over five sessions, the course aims to equip you to model confidently what it means to follow our shared calling to evangelism, to prioritise and promote evangelism, and to cultivate a culture of authentic faith-sharing that raises up those with the spiritual gift of evangelism.

WHO IS IT FOR?

All leaders in the Methodist Church, including ordained ministers, lay workers and people serving in a voluntary capacity, such as Church and Circuit Stewards.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/evangelismforleaders



Contact Holly Adams at adamsh@methodistchurch.org.uk





EVERYONE AN EVANGELIST PROCESS

Everyone an Evangelist is a process for your church to work through that is designed to build confidence and skills in telling people about God, equipping your whole church for faith-sharing. It can be used by groups of all sizes, from a few passionate individuals to a whole church. The process includes time for discussion, learning, reflection, practising and planning, so that you all might live out your calling to speak authentically of your faith to others.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Local Methodist churches who want to develop their evangelism.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/everyoneanevangelist



Contact Holly Adams at adamsh@methodistchurch.org.uk



EVERYONE AN EVANGELIST

Building confidence to speak of God

COMMUNITY OF EVANGELISTS

The Community of Evangelists brings together evangelists or those who are exploring a particular calling to evangelism for ongoing spiritual and practical support, coaching and training. All Christians are called to share the good news, but some are gifted in particular ways and called to the ministry of evangelist. You may be paid to exercise this ministry on behalf of the Church; alternatively, you may fulfil your calling to evangelism as a bank clerk, a carer or a taxi driver – however you spend your days.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Individual Methodists who are spiritually gifted and called as evangelists, or those who are exploring such a call.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/evangelistcommunity



Contact Holly Adams at adamsh@methodistchurch.org.uk



STORY PROJECT

PROJECT OF THE
METHODIST CHURCH
PARTNERSHIP WITH
CLIFF COLLEGE.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Individual Methodists
and churches looking
to embed a culture of
testimony.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at
thestoryproject.org.uk



Contact Ali Johnson at
[a.johnson@cliffcollege.
ac.uk](mailto:a.johnson@cliffcollege.ac.uk)

THE STORY PROJECT

The Story Project is centred on a website that equips you and your church to build public testimony into the whole of church life. Sharing testimony – sharing your story about being part of God’s story – is something we can all do to communicate the good news of God. The Story Project aims to give you both the platform and the confidence to share your story.

TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Equipping people to lead into change



TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP LEARNING COMMUNITY

The Transformational Leadership Learning Community is a one- to three-year programme of training, reflection and coaching that equips you and your team with the skills and confidence to bring about transformation. Along with other lay and ordained leaders from your church or circuit, you commit to learn, plan, act and reflect together over a sustained period of time to help make your dreams a lived reality.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Teams of lay and ordained leaders from the same circuit, large church or mission project who want to bring about transformation.



HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/tllc



Contact us at transform@methodistchurch.org.uk



EVERY CHURCH A GROWING CHURCH

Enabling circuits and churches in mission



WHO IS IT FOR?

Methodist ministers and lay leaders whose churches would like support to write an effective mission plan.

THE EIGHT-STEP MISSION PLANNING PROCESS

This is a simple and practical eight-step process to guide your church or circuit through the task of discerning and writing a helpful and effective mission plan. It is supported by the web-based Mission Planning Toolkit, which explains each step in depth and signposts useful resources.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/missionplanning



Contact Emma Nash at nashe@methodistchurch.org.uk

EVERY CHURCH A GROWING CHURCH

Enabling circuits and churches in mission



LEADING YOUR CHURCH INTO GROWTH TRAINING

This training is delivered in partnership with the ecumenical organisation Leading your Church into Growth (LyCiG). It is designed to help your church or circuit realise its potential to grow. Ordained and lay leaders attend LyCiG training as a team, either online or at a residential conference, apply the learning together, and come up with an action plan for their context.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Teams of lay and ordained leaders from the same church or circuit who want to see their churches grow.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/lycig

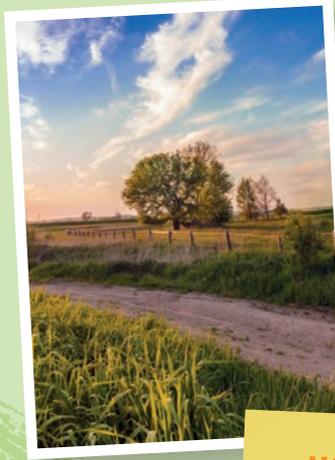


Contact Emma Nash at nashe@methodistchurch.org.uk



RURAL MINISTRY COURSE

If you are a minister or lay leader who is new to rural ministry, or looking for a refresher, this course is for you. Run by the Arthur Rank Centre, the Rural Ministry course explores the rural context and how it shapes mission and evangelism.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Lay and ordained leaders in rural areas, especially those new in post.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at
arthurrankcentre.org.uk



Contact Deb Soesan at
deb.soesan@arthurrankcentre.org.uk

NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE/ CHURCH AT THE MARGINS

Starting new Christian communities with unaffiliated people

METHODIST PIONEERING PATHWAYS

Methodist Pioneering Pathways (MPP) is a community that supports, equips, coaches and connects pioneers and their projects. It is there for you at every stage of your pioneering journey – whether you are just starting out or very experienced. MPP provides training, through short courses and regular webinars, and coaching to help you and your project become fruitful.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Individual Methodists who are already pioneering or who are sensing a call to pioneer.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at
methodist.org.uk/mpp



Contact us at
[pioneering@
methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:pioneering@methodistchurch.org.uk)



CHURCH AT THE MARGINS

Church at the Margins is a long-term commitment to starting new Christian communities and proclaiming the good news of the gospel with people at the economic margins of society. These communities will be led by or in partnership with indigenous leaders who already have deep knowledge and wisdom about their communities.

Perhaps you personally sense a call or maybe your church or circuit has discerned an invitation from God to explore the deep biblical connection between evangelism and social justice? We would love to hear from you.



Find further information at
**[methodist.org.uk/
churchatthemargins](https://methodist.org.uk/churchatthemargins)**



Contact Eunice Attwood at
**[attwoode@
methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:attwoode@methodistchurch.org.uk)**

NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE/ CHURCH AT THE MARGINS

Starting new Christian communities with unaffiliated people

NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE HUBS

New Places for New People (NPNP) Hubs help you to explore with other ministers and lay leaders how you might start a NPNP. Accessed online or physically gathered, NPNP Hubs provide you with simple guides, resources and stories to inspire you to shape a vision for your project. We believe beginning a NPNP is something that can happen in every Methodist context – why not in yours?

WHO IS IT FOR?

Lay and ordained Methodist leaders who want to start a NPNP.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/npnhubs



Contact us at pioneering@methodistchurch.org.uk





PIONEERING DIGITAL COMMUNITY COURSE

Pioneering Digital Community is a six-week course that equips you for the mission opportunities to be found online. The course offers valuable insights into the digital landscape, shares good practices, and gives you tools for engaging with people and for beginning online Christian communities.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Lay and ordained Methodists who are sensing a call to build a Christian community online, whether as part of a new digital plant or a digital expression of an established church community.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/evangelismwebinars



Contact us at pioneering@methodistchurch.org.uk

NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE/ CHURCH AT THE MARGINS

Starting new Christian communities with unaffiliated people



WHO IS IT FOR?

Methodist leaders willing to enable others through coaching.

COACHING FOR CHRISTIAN LEADERS COURSE

This course teaches you the skills and techniques to help others to thrive in pioneer ministry. We are seeking to develop a community of trained Methodist coaches so that we might meet our commitment to providing a coach for every pioneer on the Methodist Pioneering Pathways.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/coaching



Contact us at coaching@methodistchurch.org.uk

YOUNG LEADERS, EVANGELISTS AND PIONEERS

Supporting leadership development in young people

LEADERSHIP YEAR

The Leadership Year is a programme for young adults delivered in a mixture of weekend events and online sessions across the academic year. If you are aged 18–30, this programme will encourage you to develop the Christ-like character essential for life-long, transformational leadership. The hope is to create a sustainable reflective community of young adults across the Methodist Connexion.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Christian leaders
aged 18–30.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Contact Tom Donoghue at
t.donoghue@cliffcollege.ac.uk



YOUNG LEADERS, EVANGELISTS AND PIONEERS

Supporting leadership development in young people

YOUNG EVANGELIST COMMUNITY

This is a community of young people who are gifted as evangelists, built around an ongoing programme of online content, mentoring and support. We will provide your young evangelists with the resources and knowledge to share their faith in a relevant way and to help others do the same. Involvement in the community will help young evangelists discern their calling and understand what their ministry of evangelism looks like.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Young people 11–25 years old who are spiritually gifted as evangelists or testing such a call.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/youngevangelists



Contact Tom Donoghue at t.donoghue@cliffcollege.ac.uk



EXPLORE EVANGELISM YOUTH GROUP RESOURCE

Explore Evangelism is a series of six sessions designed for you to deliver locally in your youth group over a flexible period of time. The material aims to grow theological understanding, spiritual confidence and practical skills in your young people so they might share their faith sensitively and effectively.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Youth workers and anyone working with young people in local churches and Christian groups.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/youngevangelists



Contact Tom Donoghue at t.donoghue@cliffcollege.ac.uk

DIGITAL EVANGELISM

Exploring and expanding faith online

DIGITAL EVANGELISM CAMPAIGNS

Our digital evangelism campaigns are carefully planned series of high-quality digital content scheduled to appear over a defined period of time. We plan to run campaigns twice a year that will speak to the wider world about faith and spirituality. When your church, circuit or district engages in connexion-wide campaigns, we pool resources so that our digital evangelism together can reach more people than we could manage alone.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Methodist churches, circuits and districts wanting to increase the reach and effectiveness of their digital evangelism.

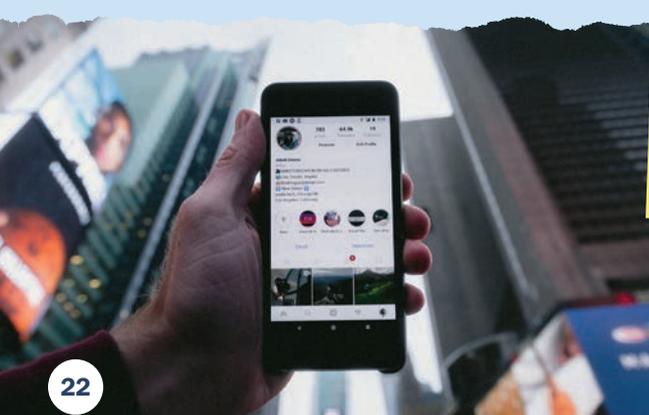
HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/digitalevangalism



Contact Ali Johnson at a.johnson@cliffcollege.ac.uk





DIGITAL EVANGELISM RESOURCES

These resources outline various methods and social media platforms you can use for digital evangelism. You will also find good news stories about Methodists doing digital evangelism in engaging ways.



WHO IS IT FOR?

Individuals and churches interested in exploring digital evangelism.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/digitalevangelism



Contact Ali Johnson at a.johnson@cliffcollege.ac.uk

DIGITAL EVANGELISM

Exploring and expanding faith online

SOCIAL MEDIA AND DIGITAL TRAINING

This training course will equip churches and communities, now that social media and an online presence have become vital forms of communication. Through a series of modules, we will explore topics such as the foundations of social media, developing content and a digital identity, copyright, digital strategies and online evangelism. The training will be offered as pre-course work, videos and live online sessions.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Anyone with an interest in evangelism through digital communications.

HOW DO I ACCESS IT?



Find further information at methodist.org.uk/digitalevangelism



DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?

Are you asking one of these questions?

“Social distancing has been very difficult, but it’s brought lots of mission opportunities. How do we make the most of them?”

If you have been energised by your experiments in digital church, consider attending the next **Pioneering Digital Community** course to build on what you have been learning. Your mission plan will probably need some attention, so consider using the **eight-step mission planning process** to help you.

“I feel that God is doing something new. How do I figure out what that might be?”

If you sense that God may be calling you personally into pioneering, consider applying to join the **Methodist Pioneering Pathways** to help you with your discernment. Or perhaps you feel that your church or circuit is called to start something new to reach unaffiliated people, so find out about your nearest **NPNP Hub** and join with others who are also exploring new possibilities.

“How do I develop confidence in evangelism?”

If you are a Methodist leader looking to help your church or circuit grow in evangelism, sign up for the **Evangelism for Leaders course** to build your skills and confidence so you can lead the way. To encourage your whole church in its evangelism, use the **Everyone an Evangelist process** to build people’s confidence. **The Story Project** offers lots of resources for building a culture of storytelling in your church.

“I want to see my church grow. Can you help?”

The first step is to write a mission plan, or to review the one you already have so it is fit for purpose. The **eight-step mission planning process** will help you with this. Churches who are willing to go deeper should consider signing up for the **Leading your Church into Growth training**. If you are in a rural context, sign up for the **Rural Ministry course**.



“How can I encourage my church to go deeper with God?”

The 12 commitments of **A Methodist Way of Life** are designed to help Methodists commit to living out their faith every day – explore them with your church. To help people deepen their biblical understanding and engagement, the **Bible Month** materials will help you to explore a book of the Bible together over 30 days. You could explore the **Everyone an Evangelist** process to build people’s confidence and stretch their faith muscles.



“How do we make change happen?”

Follow the **eight-step mission planning process** to produce a mission plan that identifies the changes needed. To build your skills as leaders, consider signing up as a church or circuit team to the **Transformational Leadership Learning Community**. If you sense that God is calling you to start something completely new, explore this with others at one of the **NPNP Hubs**.



“How can we integrate and involve young people?”

If there are young people in your church with leadership potential, why not encourage them to explore the **Leadership Year**? Or perhaps you have young people who are passionate about sharing their faith – why not suggest they connect with the **Young Evangelist Community**?



“We have an under-used, dilapidated building. What should we do with it?”

Could God be calling you to use your building to create a New Place for New People? Or perhaps God is calling you to release it so others can use it in this way? Explore possibilities at your nearest **NPNP Hub**. The **eight-step mission planning process** will help you to understand the needs of your local area and to choose one or two priorities on which to focus. When you know what God is calling you to focus on, you will better understand what kind of building you might need.

OTHER ONLINE RESOURCES

Webinars

We hold regular webinars to equip Methodist people in evangelism and to inspire them to believe that growth is possible. Find out about upcoming webinars, register in advance and access our webinar archive at methodist.org.uk/evangelismwebinars

Sermons

A set of pre-recorded sermons has been put together by members of the Evangelism and Growth Team and is offered as a gift to local churches and circuits. The sermons are 10–20 minutes long and cover topics such as missional boldness, ministry at the margins, New Places for New People and testimony. Use them as part of your online services to inspire your congregations into action. You can find the sermons at methodist.org.uk/evangelism

Contact us

For general enquiries, contact the Evangelism and Growth Team

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The **Methodist** Church

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