

New Places for New People (NPNP)/ Church at the Margins Update

July/August 2024

The Methodist Conference joyously recommitted to God For All, the Church’s focus on Gospel growth, inclusion, evangelism, and justice. So we asked Dave Walker to draw an image to celebrate these ongoing commitments, and he made something fabulous. Check it out below. One of the many things I love about his cartoon is how many dimensions of mission are part of one big picture. For Methodist-shaped Christians, speaking truth to power and speaking the good news of Jesus are in the same picture. Growing existing churches and starting Christian communities in new places. Caring about personal discipleship, missional growth, and social transformation. Older people and younger people. We’re all in the same big missional picture.

THE METHODIST CHURCH

A PLAN TO HELP US CHANGE AND WELCOME NEW PEOPLE

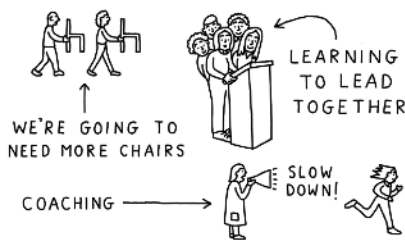
1 A CHURCH FOR EVERYONE



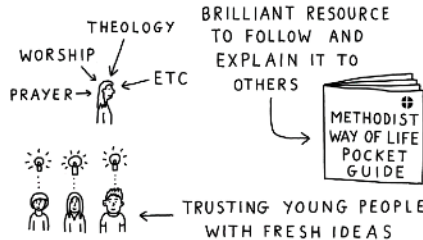
2 TELLING OUR STORY



3 PUTTING MISSION FIRST



4 LIVING AS CHRISTIANS



There’s a temptation in me, perhaps in many of us, to focus only on one section of the whole. And that’s okay for a season or two. But as we grow, as churches and disciples, God shows us the bigger picture. Call it what you want: the mixed ecology, dual transformation, an ancient-future paradigm, or (my fave) the living Body of Christ. That’s somehow both our current reality and our challenge from God – a bigger picture, indeed.

Trey Hall, Director of Evangelism and Growth

NPNP CAM Update: July August 24

Wholehearted

Friday 28th February to Sunday 2nd March 2025 – Yarnfield

This event aims to help us all 'see the wood for the trees', opening us (we pray) to the bigger picture of the Missio Dei. The weekend will include worship, storytelling, great speakers, workshops and lots of chat. We'd love you to come! There are different ticket options – one of which being – the Early-bird 2-1 ticket – so you can bring along a friend!



Click eventbrite.co.uk/e/wholehearted-2025-registration-902204246187?aff=pioneering to register on the Eventbrite page. Any questions? Please email Evangelism@methodistchurch.org.uk.

Events, Training and Learning

CAM Practitioners Network



Church at the Margins (CAM) Practitioners Network is an online space to encourage people who are supporting or nurturing new Christian communities amongst economically marginalised people. Monthly from 4 to 5pm on Tuesdays. Details on this page methodist.org.uk/camnetwork, book for the next session on **13 August 2024**, you can book other dates on the main page.

Church Planting Intensive

Church Planting Intensive (residential), 11 to 13 October

A fully funded course for those planting NPNPs (30 places), book your place here [Church Planting Intensive](#) (you can also use this link to book for the 15 March 2025, online only course).

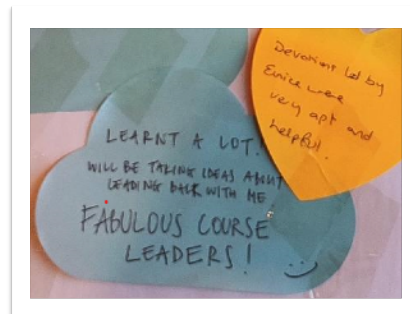


We're really pleased to have this quote from one of the course participants: *'Our story so far is so exciting in how we have moved from unchurched community on the margins to a community of faith - on our annual community seaside trip in August we are baptising 4 people in the sea !!! Hallelujah and praise God for this - ps your prayers will be appreciated as the North Sea even in August is blooming cold without a wetsuit lol. Terminus Community, Sheffield*

Faith-Rooted Community Organising

8 to 10 November (Cliff College)

Bookings for this year and 2025 (January, April, October): methodist.org.uk/organising. Faith-rooted organising offers a way to resource and enable people to find out where God is at work in their communities, and join in (see the feedback photo).



Come and pray with us



A Monthly online prayer gathering for the NPNP/Church at the Margins movement. Running from 18.30 to 18.50 (a fixed 20-minute duration) on the second Monday of each month. Next month's session is on **12 August** (led by David Newlove), come and join us in connecting, supporting, and growing the NPNP movement. Sign up [here](#).

Methodist Pioneering Pathways

MPP continues to grow as a community. The online Third Thursday gatherings are a place of honest sharing and building deeper relationships across the NPNP movement. The monthly webinars, led by guest contributors, are an important place to enable theological reflection and explore key insight together. Details here: methodist.org.uk/mpp. You can also read about Matt Finch's blog from the [European Pioneer Gathering](#).

A poster for a webinar. It features a photo of Paul Morrison, a man with glasses, smiling. The text reads: "The New Places for New People team welcome you to a webinar NPNPs and New MPs A conversation with Paul Morrison: How to connect with your new local political leaders. Tuesday 24th September 1.30pm-3pm Register for your place for the online webinar [here](#)". The Methodist Church logo is at the bottom.

NPNPs and New MPs

Register here: [Meeting Registration](#).

New Research Study

A Critical exploration of the theological foundations of disability inclusion within Pioneer ministry and Fresh Expressions of Church

You are being invited to take part in a research study as part of a student project. Before you decide it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part. Thank you for reading this.

Who will conduct the research? Jonathan Miller, Jonathan.Miller21@cliffcollege.ac.uk

Title of the Research: A Critical exploration of the theological foundations of disability inclusion within Pioneer ministry and Fresh Expressions of Church.

What is the aim of the research?: The aim of the research is to determine to what extent Theology, or Theologies, of Disability is being integrated into the foundational theology of Fresh Expressions and pioneer ministry with a view to better inclusion in such ministries. It is also hoped that the research will uncover what scope there is for improvement in this area. (Further information available by email.)

Funding news

The Mission Committee met in May and approved funding for NPNPs from Bristol and Wales Synod Cymru districts (read about them here: [Funded NPNPs](#)). Future Mission Committee meetings and funding submission dates:

- Committee meeting, 24 October 2024. Deadline mid-September.
- Committee meeting, 14-15 February 2025. Deadline mid-January.
- Committee meeting, 12 May 2025. Deadline early April.

Bonus offer! – the last few hundred hard copies of [Circuit NPNP](#), [Beginning a Church at the Margins](#) are remaining at Church House Westminster. We would be very happy to send to anyone during the summer so that we don't have to take them to Tavistock Place when we move!