

# Report of the Mission Committee

MC/24/34

Date of meeting	13-15 April 2024
Contact name and details	Joanne Cox-Darling, Chair of the Mission Committee, <a href="mailto:joanne.coxdarling@gmail.com">joanne.coxdarling@gmail.com</a> Jude Levermore, Head of Mission, <a href="mailto:levermorej@methodistchurch.org.uk">levermorej@methodistchurch.org.uk</a>
Action required	For approval.
Resolutions	<p>34/1. The Council receives the report of the Mission Committee.</p> <p>34/2. The Council directs that the global partners listed in appendix 1 be invited to send representatives to the 2025 Conference.</p> <p>34/3. The Council approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the Methodist Church in Britain and Christian Aid as set out in appendix 2.</p> <p>34/4. The Council agrees the requirement for all Districts to have a District Mission Plan and directs the Law and Polity Committee to draft amendments to SO 962 for recommendation to the 2024 Conference for approval.</p> <p>34/5. The Council appoints the members to the Methodist Heritage Committee and site representatives for the connexionally-funded museums listed in appendix 3.</p> <p>34/6. The Council approves the revised policy regarding the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly and directs the Law and Polity Committee to scrutinise the draft revisions to SO 250 for presentation to the Conference.</p> <p>34/7. The Council appoints the members to the Methodist Modern Art Collection Management Committee listed in appendix 5.</p> <p>34/8. The Council accepts the gift of <i>Preaching</i> by George Walsh on behalf of the Methodist Church in Britain, to be used for mission as a permanent part of the Methodist Modern Art Collection.</p> <p>34/9. The Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agrees to lift the moratorium on acquisitions to the touring works in the Methodist Modern Art Collection and its archive.</li><li>• Approves the proposals for acquisition criteria.</li><li>• Approves the process of acquiring, recommending and approving the acquisition of archive records and artworks, and the financial thresholds for approvals and reporting, where necessary, as summarised in appendix 6 and previously endorsed by the Mission Committee.</li></ul> <p>34/10. The Council appoints Mr Tim Baker and the Revd Ian Rutherford as deputy chairs of the Mission Committee, and expresses thanks to the Revd Dr Calvin Samuel for his work and service as deputy chair of the Mission Committee.</p>

## Summary of content

Subject of aims	To bring the Council up to date with the work of the Mission Committee since March 2023, including the <i>God For All</i> – Strategic Update and Renewal (2025-2032) report (MC/24/35), taken separately by the Council.
Main points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed global partner representatives to the 2025 Conference</li> <li>• Presentation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Methodist Church in Britain and Christian Aid</li> <li>• Recommendation for the amendment of Standing Orders and a requirement for all Districts to have a District Mission Plan</li> <li>• Revised policy regarding the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly and proposed draft revisions to SO 250</li> <li>• Proposals for processes for acquisitions to the Methodist Modern Art Collection</li> </ul>
Background context and relevant documents (with function)	<p>MC/20/38 <i>God For All</i>: The Connexional Strategy for Evangelism and Growth:  <a href="https://www.methodist.org.uk/counc_mc20-38-evangelism-and-growth_mar_2020.pdf">counc_mc20-38-evangelism-and-growth_mar_2020.pdf</a>  <a href="https://www.methodist.org.uk">methodist.org.uk</a></p> <p>The <i>Oversight and Trusteeship</i> report to the 2021 Conference  <a href="https://www.methodist.org.uk/conference-2021-agenda-volume-2">Conference 2021 Agenda Volume 2</a> (<a href="https://www.methodist.org.uk">methodist.org.uk</a>)</p> <p>Reports to the Mission Committee in 2023 are available to members of the Council on request from Susan Kirika, Executive Administrator, via <a href="mailto:KirikaS@methodistchurch.org.uk">KirikaS@methodistchurch.org.uk</a></p>

## Summary of impact

Standing Orders	<p>Changes to SO 250 – Methodist Children and Youth Assembly</p> <p>Changes to SO 962 – Development Plan</p>
Financial	Any financial implications in this report are contained within the Central Services budget.
External, including ecumenical	<p>Impact on relationships with global partners due to representatives invited to the Conference.</p> <p>Impact on relationship with the Methodist Church in Britain and Christian Aid due to the Memorandum of Understanding.</p>

# Report of the Mission Committee

MC/24/34

- 1 The Mission Committee is appointed by the Methodist Conference and is accountable to the Conference through the Methodist Council.
- 2 This report outlines the ways in which the Mission Committee has sought to enable the Church to develop and maintain a strategic vision for mission, in accordance with Standing Order 1000A1. The Mission Committee, in all the work and relationships reported here, is seeking to discern what God asks of British Methodism in the twenty-first century. The Committee does this through its model of mission, in its ways of relating to global partners, through commitments to and relationships with external bodies, and through ensuring the work of the Connexional Team can support churches, circuits and districts to fulfil their calling to join in with the mission of God. The Mission Committee is committed to being a learning community, working generously, iteratively and reflectively as policy and strategy are both discerned and held accountable. The Committee resists the narrative of decline and rejoices that God has called us to be growing, evangelistic, justice seeking and inclusive. Both online and in-person meetings have been places of challenge and wisdom-seeking, laced with joy and laughter, along with appropriate moments of shared lament. The largest piece of work it has undertaken this year has been the development of the *God For All – Strategic Update and Renewal (2025-2032)* report. The Committee has taken intentional decisions to embed the JSC work alongside this significant missional strategy. This enables the Committee to offer the report to the Methodist Council for recommendation to the Conference in confidence that; the strategy for evangelism and growth adopted by the Conference in 2020 is having a positive impact in terms of a culture shift and the foundational principles are bearing fruit in many places across the Connexion. This development report found in the separate item MC/24/35 sets out the next steps to be taken especially in the areas of evangelism, pioneering and planting, discipleship, and missional growth and leadership, and clearly points to ways in which the direction for the Church sits under Our Calling, affirming the Church as one that aspires to be growing, evangelistic, justice-seeking and inclusive.
- 3 The Committee welcomed the OTTG work and considered how the future of the committee's work will fit into the new processes and structure when the new Connexional Council is formed. It spent time reflecting on its place as vision-setters and co-creators, and committed itself to noticing connections through all the mission work of the church, enabling the whole church to notice and respond to opportunities to join with the Spirit in Her work of transformation. It has made requests of all the sub-committees that currently report to it to review their terms of reference, membership and ways of working and will be considering these over the next connexional year.
- 4 The Mission Committee has oversight of the missional work of the Church, including the work of the Heritage Committee, the Fellowships Sub-Committee, the Global Relationships Committee, the Methodist Modern Art Collection Management Committee and the New Places for New People Guiding Team. Since the last report to the Council, the Mission Committee has received reports from all these groups, as well as others including the Joint Public Issues Team, Justice-seeking Church, Children, Youth and Families and from lead staff of the Mission Team. This report presents selected items to provide an overview of the work and to seek the Council's engagement with key areas.

## \*\*\*RESOLUTION

**34/1. The Council receives the report of the Mission Committee.**

## Global Relationships Committee

- 5 The Committee received a report from the Global Relationships Committee (GRC) on the breadth of ongoing Global Relationships work and how it was taking forward the missional work of the Church, particularly engaging through A Methodist Way of Life, whilst being particularly conscious of inter-cultural relationships.

- 6 The Committee noted the GRC had reflected and acted on the recommendations in the Notice of Motion 2023/104: Mission Partner Programme adopted by the Conference. The proposal to consider remunerating ordained mission partners at local rates has been abandoned as the GRC considered the complexities were too numerous and the differences in contexts too extreme to produce a fair system.
- 7 The Committee noted that the Framework of Commitment with All We Can needs reviewing and updating. Allowing for the fact that the SRC recommended to the Council and the Council agreed to un-consolidate the accounts of All We Can, the Committee has deferred this work until the legal and governance arrangements between the parties are clear and looks forward to working with a new CEO early in the next year.
- 8 The Committee received verbal updates at each of its meetings regarding the situation in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories (IOPT). It heard of the Methodist Liaison Officer evacuation following 7 October, and offered reflections on the ongoing work of support and advocacy undertaken in partnership with General Board of Global Ministries and World Methodist Council. The Committee were particularly keen to support the latest fundraising partnership to support those in IOPT. [Gaza Appeal \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://www.methodist.org.uk/gaza-appeal)
- 9 The Committee recommends that the Council offers invitations to global partner representatives to the 2025 Conference as set out in appendix 1.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**34/2. The Council directs that the global partners listed in appendix 1 be invited to send representatives to the 2025 Conference.**

- 10 The Committee received the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Methodist Church in Britain (MCB) and Christian Aid. The MCB was a founding member church of the British Council of Churches (1942) and the creation of the Council's Inter-Church Aid and Refugee Service (1949), renamed Christian Aid (1956). Over the past decades, MCB has played a significant role in shaping, supporting and strengthening Christian Aid through its support at local, district and connexional levels. From the beginning of Methodism, the Church has worked for social justice and been involved in social action in many ways, including in the international arena. Christian Aid, along with All We Can, is one of the two primary agencies through which MCB expresses its commitment to International Relief and Development. The MoU sets out to reaffirm our longstanding relationship with Christian Aid and formally agrees the principles and priorities of our work together as we seek to meet the challenges that face us today. The Committee was thankful to the careful and thoughtful way in which the MoU was developed with staff and committees from both organisations.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**34/3. The Council approves the Memorandum of Understanding between the Methodist Church in Britain and Christian Aid as set out in appendix 2.**

## New Places for New People (NPNP)

- 11 The Committee approved two circuit funding models, which have been developed by the Connexional NPNP team with input from District NPNP colleagues. These models are a response to the Committee's request for streamlining of the submission and funding process for circuit NPNP projects. For more information on NPNP, please visit [New Places for New People \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://www.methodist.org.uk/new-places-for-new-people)
- 12 The Committee received district and circuit NPNP funding submissions, which it approved. To date, the Committee has approved 27 submissions from 18 districts, as follows:
  - 18 District NPNP submissions
  - 5 Circuit-based NPNP submissions
  - 4 District oversight processes for funding circuit-based NPNPs
- 13 The table below shows the total amounts awarded in each connexional year since NPNP funding began subsequent to the Conference approving the initial *God For All* report.

Connexional Year	Funding awarded
2021-22	1,447,389
2022-23	499,009
2023-24	378,948
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,325,346</b>

The total budget is c£9m. This planned uneven distribution is due to the necessity for districts to complete their design process and build NPNP/CaM priorities into their mission policy before circuits can access additional funding. With 18 Districts having now submitted and 8 others in active preparation, the rate of circuits applying for funding allocation is beginning to increase. It is forecast that by the end of 2025/26, £8m or more of the entire budgeted amount will have been distributed.

- 14 There is a ring-fenced amount of £200,000 (included in the overall NPNP budget) for the Culture and Language Diverse Fellowships. The Fellowships Sub-Committee has formed a scrutiny group to provide oversight and sign-off for individual fellowships to make submissions for exploratory funding. To date, three submissions (for £10,000 each) have been approved. Authority to approve exploratory funding submissions has been given to the Project Funding Officer.
- 15 The Committee received a report from the Director of Evangelism and Growth, with detailed proposals on the purpose and priorities for District Mission Plans and suggested structural considerations. This was in response to the Council's recommendation that the Standing Order be amended so that the Development Masterplan, required by the current SO 962, forms a part of the District Mission Plan, and is updated annually and that the District Mission Plan is included in the information that Synod Secretaries submit annually to the Conference Office<sup>1</sup>. Following discussion, the Committee welcomed these proposals and recommends to the Council that SO 962 (and any other relevant SOs) be amended to include a requirement for all Districts to have a District Mission Plan. In addition, the District Mission Plan will be updated annually, incorporate the District's Development Masterplan, and give explicit attention to the particular requirements and guidance.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

- 34/4. The Council agrees the requirement for all Districts to have a District Mission Plan and directs the Law and Polity Committee to draft amendments to SO 962 for recommendation to the 2024 Conference for approval.**

## Justice-seeking Church and Let's End Poverty

- 16 The committee has engaged with embedding the Justice-seeking Church strategy over the course of the year. Since the Council approved the strategy in January, steps are underway to embed it within the Connexional Team and to resource and engage with the wider Connexion. The new book, *We Have Voices: praying together for peace, justice and change*, has been produced as a way of supporting and resourcing preachers and leaders of worship in their prayers for justice. An integrated Methodist engagement and communications strategy has been developed around the General Election, co-created with Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) and Let's End Poverty. The Church continues to learn with Citizens UK in the development of faith based and broad based community organising, so that both 'traditions' might be honoured and utilised in mission.
- 17 The committee received a report from the officer leading on the Let's End Poverty Movement, which is intentionally working to create a social movement of people in the UK united behind a vision of a UK free from poverty. The committee supported the need for a cultural and social shift by creating a social movement, using the approach of movement building and community organising, where politicians recognise and respond to public pressure to tackle poverty in the UK strategically and holistically, with the ultimate view to eradicating UK poverty for good. It was also in agreement with the shared aims of participants in the Let's End Poverty movement. It was encouraged by the support and engagement so far, in particular the role of the Methodist Church in Britain, as a founding leader, in shaping the movement and upcoming milestones for the work.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/21756/conf-2021-30-oversight-and-trusteeship.pdf>

- 18 The committee received a report from the newly appointed JPIT Team Leader on the work achieved over the last year, their current work plan and priorities for the future. They were pleased to note the synergy between JPIT and the Justice-seeking Church report. The committee commended the work of JPIT, alongside other partners, to support churches in their engagement in the election through an integrated strategy whilst continuing to equip, support and resource our churches and members to think and act on issues of justice and peace, as an integral part of Christian discipleship. The committee noted, and highlights to the Council that the Church will not be engaging in any regulated campaigning activity in the regulated period before the election so will not be registering with the Electoral Commission. Legal advice had been sought on this, and guidance is being provided to manage the dynamic risks and ensure compliance.
- 19 The committee received a report on the Methodist for Ukraine project and noted the decision to wind down the project. All cases in the system have been supported through the moving-in process and the scheme is now closed to new applications to host. As the Church develops its work with Global Communities, several lessons were learnt from this short-term post. For example: the need for deep consultation with Chairs in programme development in response to emergency provision; the need for ecumenical working where possible; the need for data sharing agreements and the importance and blessing of a post holder with deep knowledge of the workings of the civil service.

### Global Communities (formerly known as Fellowship Groups)

- 20 The committee received a discussion paper from the Fellowships and Cultural and Language Diverse Sub-Committee in regards to current and future mission within the many diverse and vibrant language and culturally distinct groupings to be found around our Connexion. The Committee noted the need for clarity of language about these groups, commended the research that has been commissioned, and engaged in deep listening and dialogue as the joyful challenges and complexities of this work were described. The committee noted that this work would return to its workplan next year in preparation for some recommendations to be made to the Council in 2025. As part of its OTTG reflections, the committee asked the current members of the sub-committee to return to a future meeting with proposals for how a future sub-committee to oversee and encourage this work might be constituted and what its Terms of Reference might be.

### Methodist Heritage Committee

- 21 The Committee received a report from the Methodist Heritage Committee outlining its work, in particular the work achieved since October 2022, towards delivering the strategic priorities agreed by the Council in April 2019, and work planned for 2024/2025. In line with its OTTG reflections, the committee approved the proposed change in the Methodist Heritage Committee's ways of working to include setting up working groups and occasionally co-opting additional volunteers to them for fixed periods as the work demands.
- 22 The committee gave its support to the nomination of new members to the Methodist Heritage Committee and new site representatives for the connexionally-funded museums, and recommends them to the Council for appointment.

#### \*\*\*RESOLUTION

- 34/5. The Council appoints the members to the Methodist Heritage Committee and site representatives for the connexionally-funded museums listed in appendix 3.**

### Children Youth and Families

- 23 The committee received a report from the Youth President appraising the 2023 3Generate event against the purposes it agreed last year. They were pleased to see how the objectives agreed last year were embedded into an ever-evolving programme, in particular, the Committee noted the prominence of a Methodist Way of Life across the event. Feedback from group leaders on the impact of 3Generate was presented and the Committee heard how this feedback would be used to improve the event for 2024. The pilot of the 4-7s event was commended and will continue for 2024.



The 3Generate video from 2023 can be found here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jsiYMhXqlo8>

- 24 The committee approved the CYF plan for 2022-2027, which highlighted some substantial changes to the purpose and operation of 3Generate, this was later reaffirmed by the Council and then the 2023 Conference. Notice of Motion 2019/201 also highlighted a review into the Youth President role, and the findings of the task group were brought to the January 2022 Council<sup>2</sup> and subsequently presented to the 2022 Conference. Consequently, SO 250 needed reviewing due to resolutions that had been passed through the Conference. The committee recommends to the Council the proposed changes to SO 250 as set out in appendix 4. These provide enough security but also enough fluidity to allow for movement reflective strategy changes.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

- 34/6. The Council approves the revised policy regarding the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly and directs the Law and Polity Committee to scrutinise the draft revisions to SO 250 for presentation to the Conference.**

- 25 The committee carefully interrogated a plan regarding Young Adult Ministry. This report outlined current and potential work building upon the Young Adult Ministry section in the Children, Youth and Family Ministry plan agreed in 2023. The committee affirmed the 3 areas of work:

- Growing faith and deepening discipleship
- Supporting life stage transitions
- Vocational exploration

It noted that young adults develop and grow in faith through experiences and debated the need for a variety of these opportunities - long and short term, overseas and local. It rejoiced that the Youth Rep programme has been a key transitional piece of work for over 10 years, and has successfully engaged and retained young people within the life of the Methodist Church. Whilst this programme needs to continue to develop in line with other changes to 3Generate, it will be important to retain the transitional element for those in their early 20s.

The committee approved the need to re-shape the One Programme and gave feedback to the officer on ways in which the essence of the One Programme can continue in new, creative ways, whilst supporting additional work designed to grow the breadth and depth of Young Adult ministry. Links with the *God For All* report and provisions for work in this area in the budget were noted and affirmed. The committee has requested an update on the thinking behind this work and asked to see proposals that are more concrete at its spring 2025 meeting.

## Methodist Modern Art Collection Management Committee

- 26 The committee received a report from the Methodist Modern Art Collection (MMAC) Management Committee and approved proposed priorities for 2023/2024. The committee commended the work of the Management Committee, in particular the considerable successes achieved in terms of exhibitions, with one to more than 20 works from MMAC being shown across the Connexion, and the exciting immersive digital art experience at 3Generate 2023 based on Eularia Clarke's painting, *The Five Thousand*.
- 27 The committee gave its support to the nomination of new members to the MMAC Management Committee, and recommends them to the Council for appointment.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

- 34/7. The Council appoints the members to the Methodist Modern Art Collection Management Committee listed in appendix 5.**

- 28 The committee noted that following a MMAC exhibition in Dublin in 2018, the exhibition organising committee subsequently proposed that a new work for the MMAC by an Irish artist should be purchased from the surplus from fundraising for that exhibition. After much discussion, a very beautiful stained-glass panel, *Preaching*, by George Walsh, has been offered as a gift to the Methodist Church in Britain for the Collection. The committee welcomed this gift, and recommends that the Council accepts it on behalf of the Methodist Church in Britain, and that it becomes a

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<sup>2</sup> MC/22/18: [counc\\_jan\\_22-mc22-18-youth-president-role-review-jb\\_jrh.pdf \(methodist.org.uk\)](https://www.methodist.org.uk/counc_jan_22-mc22-18-youth-president-role-review-jb_jrh.pdf)

permanent part of the Methodist Modern Art Collection to be used for mission.

### \*\*\*RESOLUTION

**34/8. The Council accepts the gift of *Preaching* by George Walsh on behalf of the Methodist Church in Britain, to be used for mission as a permanent part of the Methodist Modern Art Collection.**

29 As a result of our experience with the acquisition of the Walsh piece, the committee has been impressed with the work that the MMAC has put into proposing an acquisitions policy. In 2018, a moratorium was called on adding artworks to the MMAC or records to its archive, while reviews of the governance and operation of the Collection were undertaken and the recommendations implemented. Prior to the review, the MMAC Management Committee made unilateral decisions about acquisitions. There were no collection development criteria and no formal agreement of the process by which to acquire or decline new artworks or archive items or how to use financial donations to purchase artworks.

Given the increased professionalism in the management of the collection and its use for mission as a result of the reviews, and in response to a number of recent offers of artworks or funds to develop the MMAC (each <£2k), the MMAC Management Committee has proposed lifting the moratorium and presented a proposal for the process of acquisition to the Mission Committee. Criteria for acquisition were included in the Collection Development Policy<sup>3</sup> reviewed by the SRC and approved by the Methodist Council in 2021. However, in determining the missional potential of a new artwork, the MMAC Management Committee is proposing to commit to considering the other strategies recently adopted by the Methodist Conference alongside that policy, until it is reviewed in 2025 and the implications of those strategies can be incorporated into the policy.

The Council should be clear that this is not a proposal to begin active collecting nor for significant investment in new artworks. The MMAC Management Committee has expressed an interest in seeking to add a relatively low cost 'born digital' artwork to the Collection, but otherwise this is a proposal aimed at providing a process to deal with recent offers of donations such as the glass panel by George Walsh or two works by John Reilly. Reilly is an artist already represented by two works in the Collection. In this case, the Church has been offered the works following the death of a supporter of the collection and, with the agreement of their family, the MMAC Management Committee wish to add one to the collection (an abstract) and sell the other (a figurative painting of St Joan facing her accusers). The sale of the latter should cover the acquisition costs and allow the MMAC to tour the former as a new work in the collection. If the Council were to approve this new process, an acquisition such as these Reillys would fall within the proposed financial threshold for the MMAC Management Committee to make a decision and simply report the addition of the work to the Mission Committee. The committee recommends the proposals and processes for acquisitions to the MMAC to the Council for approval.

### \*\*\*RESOLUTIONS

**34/9. The Council:**

- **Agrees to lift the moratorium on acquisitions to the touring works in the Methodist Modern Art Collection and its archive.**
- **Approves the proposals for acquisition criteria.**
- **Approves the process of acquiring, recommending and approving the acquisition of archive records and artworks, and the financial thresholds for approvals and reporting, where necessary, as summarised in appendix 6 and previously endorsed by the Mission Committee.**

## Membership of the Mission Committee

30 Following the resignation of the Revd Dr Calvin Samuel with effect from June 2024, a nominations

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<sup>3</sup> MMAC Collection Development Policy: [mmac-collection-development-policy-vmarch2021.pdf](https://methodist.org.uk/mmac-collection-development-policy-vmarch2021.pdf) ([methodist.org.uk](https://methodist.org.uk))



process was conducted resulting in the Committee agreeing to nominate Mr Tim Baker and the Revd Ian Rutherford, for appointment as deputy chairs to the Committee. Both Tim and Ian are existing members of the committee, recruited through the connexional nominations process, who bring relevant leadership experience within the Church and charity settings and valuable governance and oversight skills. Having served on various connexional committees, they share a passion for the mission of the Church, with a commitment to seeing the Church continue being the justice-seeking, evangelistic, growing and inclusive church that it seeks to be.

**\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**34/10. The Council appoints Mr Tim Baker and the Revd Ian Rutherford as deputy chairs to the Mission Committee, and expresses thanks to the Revd Dr Calvin Samuel for his work and service as deputy chair to the Mission Committee.**

## Other Matters

31 Over the course of its meetings this year, the committee has undertaken a process of noticing and reflection in order to discern what God might be asking of us that is broader than the individual reports it receives. This year the committee wishes to draw to the Council's attention a need it has perceived in the area of economic justice across the life of the Church. Two significant pieces of its current work – The Justice-seeking Church Strategy, and God For All: The Connexional Strategy for Evangelism and Growth - Strategic Update and Renewal (2025-2032) - alongside work regarding the Let's End Poverty movement and JPIT, in addition to consideration of work with young adults and attendance at 3Generate, have all indicated a need for the Church to attend to issues of economic justice across the Church. The committee noted our nature as a Connexional Church and our calling to privilege contexts marked by economic marginalisation – but also acknowledged the reality that our structures do not fully facilitate economic justice within the Church.

Therefore, and noticing the timely resonance between reports from the Mission and Ministries Committee, together with the Conference Office, the Mission Committee requests that the Council adopt a resolution in the Ministries Committee report asking the 2024 Conference to set up a Connexional Economic Justice Working Group (CEJWG) to enable the Conference to confer deliberately on a way forward. [See Resolution 43/6 in MC/24/43.]

## Appendix 1 – recommended global partner representatives to the 2025 Conference

The recommendation is that the following Partner Churches be invited to send representatives to the 2025 MCB Conference:

### **Africa**

Iglesia Metodista de Guinea Ecuatorial  
Methodist Church Kenya  
Methodist Church Sierra Leone  
Eglise Methodiste du Togo

### **Asia and the Pacific**

The Methodist Church in Sri Lanka  
The Methodist Church in Malaysia  
Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga

### **Europe**

Iglesia Evangelica Española  
Igreja Evangelica Metodista Portuguesa  
UMC Central and Southern Europe  
UMC Germany

### **The Americas**

The Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas  
Iglesia Evangelica Metodista de Nicaragua  
Iglesia Metodista de Chile

## Appendix 2 – Memorandum of Understanding between Methodist Church in Britain and Christian Aid

### **Shared values and aims**

Building on the Methodist Church in Britain's [A Justice-seeking Church](#) report and Christian Aid's [Standing Together](#) the following shared values and aims are evident:

- Love. Our motivation to love and care for others and Creation by standing alongside those who struggle against poverty, powerlessness and injustice
- Equality. Our conviction that all individuals and groups have the right to equality of voice, opportunity and outcomes
- Dignity. Our belief that every human being is of equal worth and should be given the opportunity to realise their potential
- Justice. Our determination to empower communities and to challenge the structures and systems that create poverty and prevent people from rising out of it

### **Responsibilities and commitments**

This MoU will be approved by The Methodist Council of the Methodist Church in Britain and the Board of Christian Aid.

Together we will seek opportunities to maximise the impact of the prophetic voice and action of to overcome global injustice and poverty calling.

There will be at minimum an annual meeting between the Head of Mission at The Methodist Church in Britain and the Fundraising and Supporter Engagement Director at Christian Aid, to assess the on-going effectiveness and validity of this MoU.

The Methodist Church in Britain will receive an annual report from Christian Aid. This will be made to the Methodist Council via the Mission Committee and will outline its work and its relationship with the Methodist Church in Britain.

The Methodist Church in Britain will participate as a voting member at the annual general meeting and other formal meetings of the members of Christian Aid.

Christian Aid and the Methodist Church in Britain will seek to use their global networks and relationships to deliver maximum impact on shared concerns of international justice. Both organisations will strive to bring leadership and a prophetic voice.

The Methodist Church in Britain, in consultation with its global partners and Christian Aid, will give consideration to appropriate ways of cooperating where there is a partner church in a particular country in which Christian Aid is working.

The Methodist Church in Britain will be vigilant and reflect before endorsing in public advertisements or literature the work of other organisations engaged in the same work as Christian Aid.

The Methodist Church in Britain will promote its relationship with Christian Aid wherever possible and support its appeals, campaigns and initiatives. In particular, this relates to Christian Aid Week and emergencies.

The Methodist Church in Britain and Christian Aid will seek an atmosphere of cooperation and complementarity and pursue ways in which work in mission and development can be undertaken in partnership where appropriate.

Christian Aid will seek to advise the Methodist Church in Britain on work that has specific relevance for the Methodist community. It will provide opportunities for the Methodist Church in Britain to give, act and pray with other denominations to fulfil the gospel mandate to the poor.

Christian Aid will provide briefings, reports, resources and information as appropriate to support the advocacy and action of the Methodist Church in Britain in seeking global justice.

It is explicit in the membership relationship that Christian Aid and the Methodist Church in Britain have significant responsibilities to each other, expectations of each other, and mutual accountability.

### **Agreement**

The parties confirm that the relationship and arrangements set out in this MoU are established in order to contribute to the implementation of the values and the fulfilment of the aims and objectives of our partnership together. It is recognised that this joint model is not simply a transactional arrangement, and contributions may be made in staff time and other in-kind support, at varied levels recognising availability and other limitations of participating organisations.

Subject to the above, the parties agree as follows:

- a) they will act reasonably and in good faith in performing their responsibilities under this MoU.
- b) they will maintain good and open communications between themselves, with scheduled meetings twice per year between executive offices and key programme staff/managers or advisers.
- c) they will inform each other in a timely manner as to any change or development or other issue relevant to their relationship under this MoU.
- d) this MoU is binding in honour only.

## Appendix 3 – recommended appointments to the Methodist Heritage Committee and site representatives for the connexionally-funded museums

1. Ms Mary Ellis – Nominated to be Liaison Officer for Methodist Archives, in line with her professional experience as Head of Archives and Libraries Development at the Welsh Government's Culture Division and her personal account as a member of the Methodist church. Mary shared enthusiasm and ideas on how we can improve guidance for church members on managing their records, providing advice and support to district archivists around the connexion – particularly in the event of church closures.
2. Ms Samantha Parfitt – Nominated to be the Liaison Officer for Methodist Collections, Samantha is a Lay Pioneer Minister at Walsingham Methodist Church – where she has used Methodist heritage and collections to engage young people. Samantha is affective at utilising collections for evangelism and mission, and recognises the importance of preserving objects that tell our story – past, present and future. Samantha has demonstrable knowledge about Methodism, its collections and (though not from a museums background) is happy to attending training courses and conferences to develop her collections care & skills.
3. Prof Charles Forsdick – Nominated to be Chair of ARAG and a member of the Methodist Heritage Committee. Prof Forsdick has practical and professional experience of archives use and is currently working at the University of Liverpool in the French department. His particular engagement with colonial history and the afterlives of slavery (particularly in Haiti) would be a valuable contribution to the work of the Methodist Heritage Committee and its commitment to our global heritage and story.
4. The Revd Dr Lesley Hardy – Nominated to be a Member of the Methodist Heritage Committee, Dr Hardy has significant academic and professional experience of engaging with heritage as a tool for mission in an Anglican context. Her input to policy and guidance for members around the connexion looking to preserve and celebrate their heritage would be of great benefit to the heritage committee.
5. The Revd Julie Coates – Nominated to be a Member of the Methodist Heritage Committee, Deputy Chair, the Revd Julie Coates has a clear passion and commitment to our heritage story, recently completing her sabbatical on the topic of heritage in the Methodist Church. Ms Coates has everyday experience of mission in church, circuit and district; this perspective would be of great benefit to the work of the Methodist Heritage Committee.
6. The Revd Helen Kirk – Nominated to the Methodist Heritage Committee to represent Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum. Ms Kirk is District Chair of Chester and Stoke-on-Trent district and Chair of Trustees at Englesea Brook.
7. Ms Judith Lampard - Nominated to the Methodist Heritage Committee to represent The Museum of Methodism & John Wesley's House. Ms Lampard is a local preacher and has been a Heritage steward at the museum for 10 years – she is also on the museum's management committee.
8. Ms Jane Allin – Nominated to the Methodist Heritage Committee to represent John Wesley's New Room. Ms Allin is a Trustee at JWNR and is currently the Synod Secretary of the Plymouth and Exeter Methodist District.



## **Section 25 Methodist Children and Youth Assembly**

### **250 Methodist Children and Youth Assembly.**

(1) There shall be an annual Assembly of children and young Methodists known as the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly which shall constitute the Methodist Youth Assembly for the purposes of clause 14(2)(xA) of the Deed of Union, and to fulfil purposes set out by the Mission Committee while in dialogue with children and young people.

(2) Any child or young person involved in the life of the Methodist Church within the relevant age range is eligible to be a attend the Assembly.

(3) Each District shall take appropriate steps, including financial help where possible, to ensure that children and young people connected with the life of the Methodist Church within that District attend the Assembly, and in so doing shall have regard for justice and inclusivity.

(4) The Connexional Team is responsible for assisting in the arrangements for the meetings of the Assembly.

(5) The Assembly shall elect a Youth President, who will become the Youth President from the start of the next Connexional year. To be eligible to be elected a person shall: (i) be a member of the Assembly; (ii) if not already a member of the Methodist Church, have signified the intention of seeking to become a member; and (iii) be aged 18 years or over but under 24 at the date of taking office as Youth President.

(5a) The Youth President elected in accordance with clause (5), has two core purposes of advocacy and involvement in decision-making on behalf of all children and young people in the life of the Church. By doing this, the Youth President shall be a member of the Conference, and the Connexional Leaders' Forum and an advocate to the Connexional Council and Mission and/or Ministries Committees. The Youth President shall meet regularly with those on the youth representative programmes to enable greater participation. The Youth President may send a report and related resolutions to the Conference, on any Connexional matter that they deem appropriate in the representation of children and young people. The wider strategic role of the Youth President shall be determined by the Mission Committee.

See cl. 14(2)(xA) of the Deed of Union (Book II, Part 1) and S.O. 102(5).

As to the Methodist Council see S.O. 210(1)(viii) and 210(7).

The Conference of 2023 agreed that the Connexional Leaders Forum in its current form (under S.O. 230) be paused during the connexional year 2023-24 to enable other models to be explored.

(6) The Assembly shall elect one representative to the next Conference required under Standing Order 102(5). To be eligible to be elected, a person shall (i) be a member of the Assembly at which the election takes place; and (ii) if not already a member of the Methodist Church, have signified the intention of seeking to become a member. In a case of no majority, or office holder doesn't meet the requirements of post by the start of the Conference, the Youth President shall determine procedure in dialogue with the Conference Office.

## Appendix 5 – recommended appointments to the Methodist Modern Art Collection Management Committee

1. Ms Emily Fuggle – A professional curator, currently working at London South Bank University curating the David Bomberg Collection, formerly Collections Programme Manager at the Science Museum Group, Exhibitions Manager at the Jewish Museum in New York and Director of the Huguenot Museum in Rochester. She is undertaking a Visual Studies PhD commencing in Sept 2023. Nominated to the MMACC to develop exhibitions practice and loan management as the convenor of the Exhibitions and Planning Working Group.
2. Mr David Maddock – a retired teacher who was Head of the Art Department at Leicester Grammar School for 27 years, dealing with all aspects of teaching, management and budgeting and who is now developing his professional practice more widely <https://www.davidmaddockartist.com/>. David is a member at Christchurch in the Leicester Trinity Circuit and has had a long interest in the Collection. He is also involved in the potential upcoming exhibition at Leicester, and has led Christchurch's expression of interest in borrowing from the Collection. His book, *Roger Fry, Clive Bell and American Modernism*, was published by David Lang in 2020 <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Roger-Clive-Bell-American-Modernism/dp/1788749278>. He is nominated as the new Secretary of the Friends, engaging with supporters across the Connexion and building on the work of the outgoing Secretary. He will also have a keen interest in engaging young people with the Collection.
3. Mr Peter Shears – A part-time teacher and lay reader with a 'Christianity & the Arts' MA from King's University. Nominated to the MMACC to develop relationships with schools and work with young people.

Appendix 6 – Different levels of approval and involvement by the governance bodies of the Methodist Church required to acquire archival records or artwork

	Value (up to £x)	Management Committee		Mission Committee			Methodist Council	
		Approve	Recommend	Approve	Recommend	Receive report	Approve	Receive report
<b>Archival records,</b> acquired with advice of Liaison Officer for Methodist Archives and JRRIL collections curators	Offered as gift	✓				From the MMAC Mgt Comm		
	Purchase up to or at £1,5k per item, to a max. of £5k in one Connx1 year	✓				From the MMAC Mgt Comm		From Mission Committee
<b>Artwork by gift, or donation of restricted funds to purchase an artwork for the MMAC</b>	Up to or at £10k per item, to a max. of £50k in one Connx1 year	✓				From the MMAC Mgt Comm		From Mission Committee
	Any individual item valued at more than £10k or items making the total in any one Connx1 year more than £50k		✓		On the basis of justification from the MMAC Mgt Comm		On the basis of a justification from the MMAC Mgt Comm, endorsed by the Mission Committee	
<b>Artwork by purchase by the MMAC Mgt Comm</b>	Any individual item valued up to £5k or items making the total in any one Connx1 year up to £15k	✓				From the MMAC Mgt Comm		From Mission Committee
	Any individual item valued at more than £5k up to £50k		✓	On the basis of a justification from the MMAC Mgt Comm				From Mission Committee
	Any individual item valued at more than £50k		✓		On the basis of a justification from the MMAC Mgt Comm		On the basis of a justification from the MMAC Mgt Comm, endorsed by the Mission Committee	