



North West England District Weekly News

16th December 2025

Welcome to the latest edition of our weekly newsletter!

In this week's edition:

- District News
- Events
- Good News Stories
- Resources
- Job Opportunities

A PDF downloadable copy of this newsletter is available at the bottom of this email.

District News

District Christmas Card Competition – Winner!

Thank you to the hundreds of children that entered our District Christmas Card competition.

We are delighted to announce that the design submitted by William Brennan, Colne Methodist Church, has been chosen as this years winner (see design below).

The design will feature on the front of the District Christmas Card, alongside a number of runners-up. To read more about the competition and view all of our runners-up designs, please [click here](#).



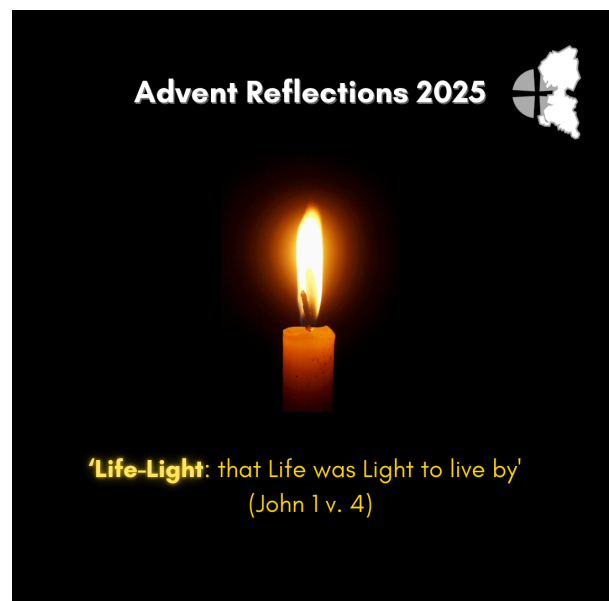
Design by, William Brennan, St John's Methodist, Colne

District Advent Reflections

We are posting daily Advent reflections on the District Facebook [page](#).

The reflections and our Advent resources are also available on the District website [here](#).

We hope that these daily reflections are a source of spiritual nourishment for you in the run up to Christmas.



District Online Worship

Thank you to everyone that attended our Online Worship on Sunday 14th December.

If you were unable to attend, the recording of the sermon is now available to view on our YouTube channel. [Click here](#) to view.

A Prayer in Response to the Bondi Attack in Australia

God of love and God of light,
 We are shocked, saddened, and deeply distressed
 by the brutal attack in Bondi, Australia,
 where people were targeted as they gathered
 to celebrate the Jewish festival of Chanukkah.
 We hold in our hearts all those who have been killed,
 those who have been injured, and all who have been traumatised.
 We seek strength, comfort, and peace for them and for their loved ones.
 In the face of despair, may hope arise.
 In moments of fear, may courage be found.
 In times of hatred, may love prevail.
 In the midst of violence, may peace flourish.
 In situations of hostility, may understanding and friendship emerge.
 In times of conflict, may reconciliation take root.
 May we work together to confront and eliminate all forms of antisemitism
 and stand in true solidarity with Jewish communities worldwide,
 upholding dignity, justice, and the sanctity of every human life.
 Guide us to choose compassion and to live in harmony with one another,
 breaking down walls of prejudice and building bridges of peace.
 May this be our shared commitment. Amen.

@RajPatta, Stockport Multifaith Network, 15 December 2025

Events

Greater Manchester Plus

Save the Date - Peake Trust Lecture 2026

Saturday 21st March 2026 at Nazarene Theological College, Dene Rd, Manchester, M20 2GU. 9.30am to 4pm (exact time tbc).

'From Miriam to the Magdalene: Women Witnesses in the Bible and Beyond'

Lecture by Dr Siobhán Jolley and Dr Samual Hildebrandt. For further details, [click here](#).

Chapel in the Fields – Carols at the Chapel



Good News Stories

Greater Manchester Plus

Songs of Praise

The Songs of Praise, Christmas Special episode will be broadcast on Sunday 21st December at 13:15 on BBC One. The episode was recorded at Victoria Hall, Bolton.

'Life-Light of JOY' at Macclesfield Methodist Church

At Macclesfield Methodist Church on Sunday 14th December, the Circuit gathered for the third Sunday of Advent, the 'Life-Light of JOY', and included in the service, a long-service certificate for 60 years of preaching for John Morrell and Anne Fielding, both of Broken Cross Methodist Church. Read more [here](#).



Afternoon Tea at Ainsworth Methodist Church

Ainsworth Methodist Church, Bolton, hosted a festive Afternoon Tea for the community, inviting villagers, members of the local Anglican Church and reaching out to those further afield in the Methodist Circuit. [Read more.](#)

Coffee and Carols - Triangle Church, Bolton

The now annual, and ever popular, Coffee and Carols was held on Friday 12 December. Attended by just under 60 people, women and men alike, Carols were selected on the day by the audience members and interspersed by Christmas associated readings .

Leading the event, hosted at the Triangle Church , Bolton, Rev Anne Cash invited everyone to make the connections between the well known Bible stories that would be read at Carol Services, and the contemporary and thoughtful readings given that morning. [Read more.](#)

Bury Christmas Toy Appeal

Last week, Seedfield Methodist Church, Bury, turned into Santa's grotto as Churches Together in Bury prepared Christmas presents for over 270 children who would not otherwise receive a gift.

Seedfield are very pleased to be working ecumenically with Churches Together in Bury to provide this service

to the local community and wish to thank all of the churches, individuals and businesses in the town that supported the appeal.



Support for Christian Aid

Trinity Methodist Church, Bolton recently held a service and retiring collection for Christian Aid, to raise funds and awareness for the charities Christmas Appeal, focusing support for those fleeing conflict.

The church's activities have gained media attention and helped bring the work of Christian Aid to a wider audience, with an article in the Bolton News. [Read more.](#)

Liverpool Plus

Liverpool South Circuit - Thank you!

We are delighted to share that after all the hard work Next Level Youth Club (Halewood & Huyton) put into their 'Christmas Coffee Afternoon' fundraiser last weekend, they raised a total of £307! They raised this in just 2 hours. We are incredibly proud of all their hard work.

The money will go towards our Spring Harvest Trip next year, and £50 will be donated to Nugent Care.

Resources

Connexional Newsletters

Property Matters - a monthly newsletter focused on giving updates on property related guidance and legal updates.

The Well - news regarding ministry with and for children, youth, families and young adults for December and into the new year.

Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Newsletter

The *Local Preachers and Worship Leaders newsletter* is merging with the *Singing the Faith newsletter* to create something new: **Called to Worship**.

Why are we doing this? Because worship is central to our calling, and we want to bring inspiration and practical content together in one place for all who lead and love worship. The new newsletter will share stories, ideas and resources to support worship that is vibrant, inclusive and rooted in the *God for All* vision. Watch for the first issue coming out next week – we hope it will be a valuable companion in your ministry.

[Sign Up for Newsletters - The Methodist Church](#)

Vacancies

Internal

Vacancies can be viewed on the District website [here](#).

External

Vacancies can be viewed on the District website [here](#).

Please click the link below to access the PDF version of this newsletter.

PDF Link

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

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