

Methodist Centenary Church

Wesley House, Leeson Park, Dublin 6

Superintendent Minister: Rev Andrew Kingston, Tel. 01-668 0833; 083-152 0171



Announcements on 7th January 2026

Our Mission Statement

Our Mission is to receive God's love and to share it with others through our Welcome, our Worship, our Community and our Service.

Sunday 11th January

Service of worship with Mrs Lesley Rankin

Message from Ruth Mathews, Methodist Board of Education

I am writing to you in the context of the Board of Education (Methodist Church in Ireland). There is a grant available to students who meet the criteria of £300 (day pupil) and £600 (boarding pupil). The criteria for each student is:

1. Attend a Fee Paying Protestant Secondary School in the Republic of Ireland, AND
2. Have been approved to receive a SEC grant for the school year 2026/2027, AND
3. Attend a Methodist Church

Yours in His Service,
Rev Ruth Mathews
087 415 1435

World Development and Relief - A Message From Lynne Pasley

Within the past couple of weeks, an additional sum of €3804 has been sent to World Development and Relief in respect of the income tax refund received from the Revenue for the 1% Appeal donations and Gifts for Life purchases made in 2024 by congregation members participating in the tax refund scheme.

Tomorrow 7.30pm: Wesley House Summer Camp brainstorming meeting.



You may be aware that we are hosting an Exodus Team in Wesley House from the 12th-19th July 2026. It would be super if you are free to assist. We are still in the initial stages of planning and would be very pleased if you could join us by Zoom on Thursday in considering what should be included in the week. There is a possibility of some extra funding, so we can dream dreams.

Topic: Summer Club planning meeting

Time: Thursday Jan 8, 2026 07:30 PM Dublin

Join Zoom Meeting

[Https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81870856183?pwd=68abwnIa0vzbUiOQ2eZD2bhiPNPJWK.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81870856183?pwd=68abwnIa0vzbUiOQ2eZD2bhiPNPJWK.1)

Meeting ID: 818 7085 6183

Passcode: Exodus

Friday, 9th January: 7-8pm,

Active Prayer, Room 1

Dorothy Strong (née Clarke)

Sadly we have to report the death of Dorothy Strong in California in November. She was in good spirits and in her 97th year.

About 40 years ago Dorothy, then a member of our congregation, went for a holiday to California, met Alan Strong, and was engaged to be married before she returned to Ireland a few weeks later. The wedding took place in Christ Church Leeson Park, which we were using at the time. Julian Hinds was a chorister in St Patrick's Cathedral then and sang a solo at the wedding. Alan Strong died some years ago and subsequently his daughters looked after their step-mother very well. Dorothy was a very independent person who lived by herself beside the beach so that she could walk her allotted few miles every day! The memorial service is on **10th January 2026** at North Coast Church, Carlsbad.

Volunteer Rota

It is now the time of year when we start asking for volunteers to Read the Bible Lesson, Lead Prayers of Intercession and talk to the young children, before they leave for Sunday Club.

Thanks to those who volunteer regularly and we always welcome new offers to join the Rotas.

Please email me at dorothyoferrall@gmail.com with your details, the date you would like to offer and whether it is to read, pray or talk to the children. Alternatively, you can talk to me after the Service.

Dorothy O'Ferrall

Let Justice Flow Like Rivers": All-Island Creation Care Conference Hosted by the Irish Council of Churches, the Inter-Church Meeting, and the Church leaders

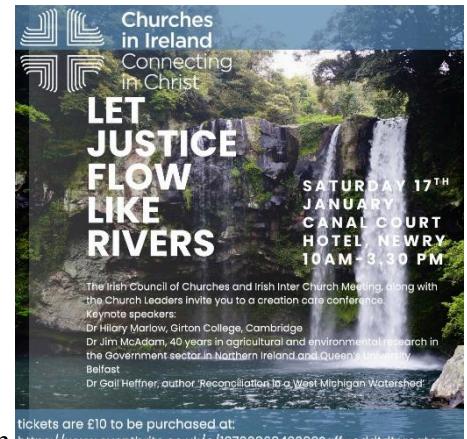
Date: Saturday 17th January 2026

Location: Canal Court Hotel, Newry, Co Down

Time: 10.00am to 3.30pm (Lunch 13.00 – 13.45)

Booking: Tickets cost £10 and can be purchased at
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1870086843089?aff=oddtotcreator>

Overview: By bringing theology, science, government and lived church practice into conversation, organisers aim that the conference will address the issues of Lough Neagh and the wider biodiversity crisis, strengthen cooperation across denominations in creation care, and encourage measurable, hope-filled action rooted in faith.



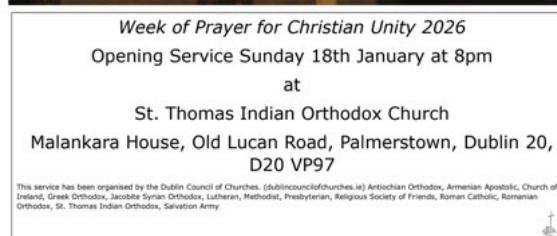
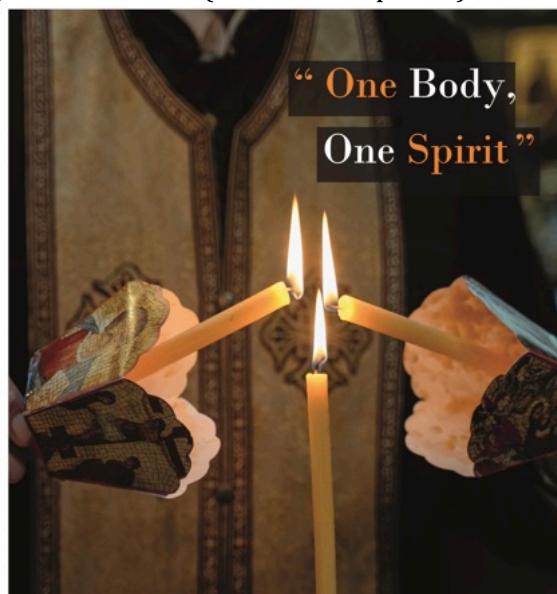
If you have friends near Newry who may be interested in attending, please pass on the information.

Please find the detailed schedule at the end of this newsletter.

Sunday 18th January

10.30am: Morning worship, led by Jean Kingston.

8pm: Opening Service of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at St. Thomas Indian Orthodox Church Malankara House, Old Lucan Road, Palmerstown, Dublin 20, D20 VP97. We are delighted that the community of the Indian Orthodox Church under the leadership of Fr. Stanly David James are hosting us in their brand-new and beautiful church in Palmerstown. The liturgy has been prepared by the Armenian Apostolic Church and we welcome Bishop Hovakim Manukian, the Primate of the Armenian Diocese of Great Britain and Ireland to give the address. (see attached poster).



Tuesday 20th January, 1pm

Lunchtime Prayer Special for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in St. Finnian's Lutheran Church, Adelaide Road. You are invited to bring from your personal "treasure chest of faith" spiritual gifts (a prayer, a Scripture passage, a meditative text, a chant, a song, a silence, etc.) which we will share during the prayer in order to give witness to the manifold gifts of the Holy Spirit poured out in the Body of Christ for the healing and the building up of our broken community in Christ.

Sunday 25th January 10.30am

Armenian Christian Dr Paul Manook will be our guest preacher in Methodist Centenary in our closing service for the week of Christian Unity

Thought for the week



The love of power – and the power of love

Small nations all over the world fear that the world is being thrust backwards into a colonial era when those with a love of power feel entitled to swallow up weaker nations. Yesterday was Epiphany, a day when we recall the power of love that drew people to bow in worship and offer gifts that were easily carried and would sustain a refugee family during their time of exile.

Irish tradition gave this feast a practical twist by calling the twelfth day of Christmas '*Nollaig na mban*', Women's Christmas, making it a day to honour those who worked so hard to gather families and friends over the season of festivities. This is the glue that keeps families together. The Magi demonstrated the power of love, whereas king Herod illustrates the ugly outcomes that result from a love of power.

– Rev Andrew Kingston

Prayer



God of glory, we thank you for the Christmas season just past and for the power of love that we have experienced. We pray for those who are justifiably fearful of an untethered love of power that seeks to dominate others. Grant you the power to love today and always. Amen.

G.I.G.G.L.E.S

 Saturday 14th February, 9.30am - 1.15pm

Thomas Street Methodist Church, Portadown



Connect ... through English [resuming on 8th January 2026]

Connect ... through English meets weekly in Room 1 of Wesley House on Thursday mornings. (10.30 am - noon) It is open to people who have come to Ireland with hopes of making it their home for the short or long term. A team of South City Circuit members, working 4 at a time, take it in turns to host the gathering. We chat over cups of tea or coffee and join in an activity that gives further opportunity for practising oral English. No two weeks are the same.

People come to Ireland for all sorts of reasons – e.g. education, work, in search of asylum or sometimes with Refugee status which has already been granted.

All are welcome. If you are interested, whether to join the team of facilitators, or as a participant, please just come along or email us at english@methodistcentenary.ie

Sky's the Limit

We will resume on Tuesday **3rd February 2026, 7.30 pm**

Room 1, Methodist Centenary Church, Leeson Park, D6

Ross Hinds will launch our 2026 discussions with the challenging question: ***The Universe – What do we know?***

Sky's the Limit continues on 3rd March 2026, and 5th May 2026 (no session on the Tuesday after Easter). Please save the dates.

Friendly Room

The Friendly Room meets on Wednesdays in Room 1, Wesley House. If you are free, do drop in for a cuppa and a chat between 10.30 and 12 noon. All are welcome—it's a great spot to catch up, enjoy good company, and share a bit of banter.

Monthly Morning Holy Communion

There is a monthly morning Holy Communion Service on the second Wednesday of each month from 10.00–10.30am in Room 1 followed by the Friendly Room.

Methodist Newsletter for 2026

The newsletter is published 10 times during the year and costs only 28 euro from Margaret Horner. Speak to Margaret if you would like to be a subscriber.

Book Club

Our book choice for December was *The Names* by Florence Knapp which received very high reviews. In January everyone is invited to talk about a book read over Christmas.

We meet on the second Tuesday of the month from 12.30-2.00pm in Room 1, Wesley House. Each month we choose a book from a wide range of genres including biography, crime fiction, historical novels, humour and children's novels. We always have a lively discussion, with very varied opinions. We currently have 14 members and would be delighted to increase our numbers. If you would be interested in joining us, please contact Sylvia on sylviahroddie@gmail.com

God's Storehouse in Tallaght

 Please put donations of non-perishable food in the basket in the Coffee Bar at Wesley House

Forthcoming Services at 10.30am

January 18	Service of worship with Mrs Jean Kingston
January 25	Service of worship with Rev Andrew Kingston
February 1	Service of Holy Communion with Rev Andrew Kingston
February 8	Service of worship with Mrs Gillie Hinds

Local preachers

Our local preachers take services regularly on the circuit and sometimes outside it. The current preaching plan includes:

January 11	11.30 Rathgar Mrs Gillie Hinds
January 25	10.00 Tallaght Mrs Soyoung Min
February 1	10.00 Mrs Jean Kingston

Giving to the church

Standing Order or Bank Transfer:

Bank: AIB Bank plc, 7/12 Dame Street, Dublin 2

Account Name: Methodist Centenary Church Council No. 3 Account

BIC: AIBKIE2D

IBAN: IE89AIBK93122526909346

 Questions? Please contact Alan Perry.

Tax Back Tax Relief Scheme

A taxpayer who contributes €250 to the church in a year enables the church to recover €112.82 from the Revenue Commissioners thereby increasing the donation to €362.82, and pro rata for donations of over €250. This scheme brought in over €17,000 last year. To register, you need a CHY3 form from Lynne Pasley. This latter is valid for 5 years and doesn't commit you to make any future donations.

Debit or credit card

A card reader is placed in the Coffee Bar each Sunday through which donations can be made using a debit or credit card.

Cheque

If you can not come to church and you contribute by cheque we ask you to post your cheque to Billy Given. You can contact him at billygiven115@gmail.com

Text for Announcements

Text for inclusion in the Announcements should be sent to news@methodistcentenary.ie. The deadline is 10.00am on Wednesday morning.

Stay Connected

 [Email: news@methodistcentenary.ie](mailto:news@methodistcentenary.ie)

 [Website: www.methodistcentenary.ie](http://www.methodistcentenary.ie)

 [Whatsapp: Centenary Updates](#)

Let Justice Flow Like Rivers": All-Island Creation Care Conference
Hosted by the Irish Council of Churches, the Inter-Church Meeting, and the Church leaders

Date: Saturday 17th January 2026

Location: Canal Court Hotel, Newry, Co Down

Time: 10.00am to 3.30pm (Lunch 13.00 – 13.45)

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<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1870086843089?aff=oddtdtcreator>



Morning Session - Keynote speakers:

Dr Hillary Marlow, researcher, writer and tutor on theology and the environment, Girton College, Cambridge

Dr Jim McAdam, environmental and agricultural researcher in the government sector in Northern Ireland and Queens University, Belfast

Dr Gail Heffner, author of *Reconciliation in a West Michigan Watershed* and co-founder of Plaster Creek Stewards

Andrew Muir MLA, Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, will attend, alongside a government representative from the Republic of Ireland.

Throughout the day, there will be discussion, prayer, reflection and music.

Further info from: info@irishchurches.org

Afternoon Session: "What contributions can and do churches make to Creation Care?"

An opportunity to hear about, and discuss, how the practical work of creation care is being done in local churches

Topics and Speakers:

Eco Congregation Ireland (ECI) – How Members are Contributing to Creation Care - Jim Farrell, Chair, ECI

Creation Care in a Minority Church – Roy Douglas, Moravian Church and Queen's University Belfast Emeritus Professor, School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and CSO of Catagen Ltd, a Net-Zero Technology Company

Measuring Impact of Creation Care in the Archdiocese of Dublin – Róisín Nic Cóil, Technical Project Manager

Volunteering for Creation Care - Experiences from Methodist Centenary Church (MCC), Dublin 6 - Maureen Rowan, Eco Congregation Coordinator at MCC

There will be a short Q&A after each presentation