

# Methodist Centenary Church

Wesley House, Leeson Park, Dublin 6

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



## Announcements on 11<sup>th</sup> March 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 15th March

Service of worship with Rev Andrew Kingston

### Christian Aid Ireland Supporter Conference

This will take place on **Thursday 12 March from 7pm to 9pm in Dundrum Methodist Church**. It's a chance to celebrate the impact of Christian Aid Ireland's work and look ahead to **Christian Aid Week 2026**. The event will include stories from **Purity Osumba from Kenya**, sharing how communities are tackling poverty and food insecurity through urban farming.



## Circuit Executive for 2026

I introduced you to our Church Council for 2026 last week. Below is the Circuit Executive. Like the Church Council it meets four times per annum, normally on the second Monday of March, June, September and December. This is the primary decision-making level of Circuit Governance, and deals with major recommendations from the four Church Councils before passing them on to the Connexional structures of the Methodist Church in Ireland for final ratification.



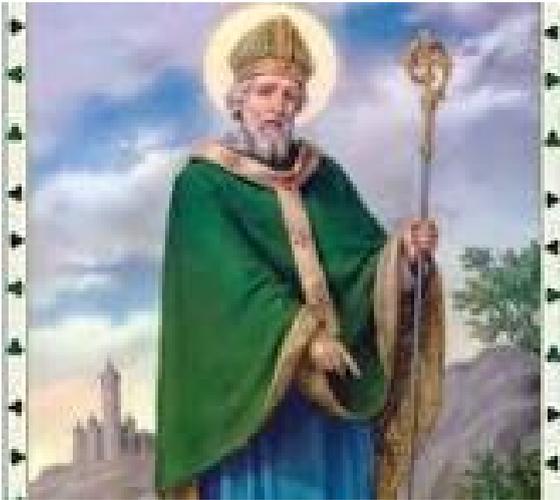
Back: From left, Anne Hagan (Rathgar), Craig Rankin (Manse steward), Toyin Abejide (Tallaght Society Steward), Alan Perry (Centenary Treasurer), Duncan Black (Centenary Society Steward), Rory O'Ferrall (Centenary Property Steward), Kevin Nam (Circuit Secretary), DongGyu (David) Kim (Circuit Treasurer).

Front: Janet Stafford (Rathgar), Lesley Rankin (Circuit Steward), Rev Andrew Kingston (Circuit Superintendent), Rev. Yongnam Park

Missing from photo: Chris Croly (Tallaght treasurer), YK Kim (Dublin Korean Church treasurer)

## Thought for the week

### St Patrick's Day



At our Connect through English conversation group last week we asked our friends who are new to Ireland what they knew about St Patrick. A lady from Afghanistan was able to comment in her much-improved English that she thanked St Patrick because, unlike Afghanistan, there are no snakes in Ireland. We had to puncture that myth and many others, but we encouraged participation by our international friends in the upcoming events when culture, heritage, and friendship are celebrated.

The real St Patrick, in his own words, as found in the manuscript the Confessio, provides a version of inclusiveness for his time. He reveals a pragmatic diplomacy, negotiating with pagans and seeking their voluntary conversion.

*"Toward the pagan people among whom I live, I have lived in good faith, and will continue to do so. God knows that I have not been devious with even one of them, nor do I think of doing so, for the sake of God and his church. I would not want to arouse persecution of them and all of us; nor would I want that the Lord's name should be blasphemed on account of me...."*

Amid the growing savagery of 130 armed conflicts worldwide, we pray that what our leaders do and say in our name throughout the world in the coming week will be guided by the spirit of the real St Patrick:

*"I arise today, through God's strength to pilot me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me...."*

*I summon today, all these powers between me and those evils, against every cruel and merciless power, that may oppose my body and soul, against incantations of false prophets...."*

*Maureen Rowan-Harvey*

## Prayer



Loving God, in a world troubled by war, fear, and uncertainty, bring your peace to every nation and comfort to all who suffer. Guide leaders toward wisdom and justice, and help us to be people of compassion and hope. In the name of the Prince of Peace, **Amen.** 🙏

## Lenten Bible studies, Wednesdays, 7.30pm, Room 1

**Just Like Jesus** Lenten Bible Studies, commenced on Ash Wednesday, 7.30pm, (18<sup>th</sup> Feb.) for six weeks. These short studies from Max Lucado's book, *Just Like Jesus* should help us draw nearer to our Saviour as we approach Holy Week. 'God loves you just way you are, but he refuses to leave you there. He wants you to be just like Jesus.' We will also spend some time praying for countries where the persecution of Christians is fiercest using the Open Doors Worldwatch list for 2026.

## St Patrick's Day Service, 6pm St Patrick's Cathedral

The primary reason for this holy day is to celebrate those who brought Christianity to Ireland. We are blessed to have writings from St Patrick. I have been asked to be the voice of Patrick at this service and will dress in period apparel for the occasion. Lesley, who is also a Methodist representative on the Dublin Council of Churches, is also taking part. This is also an opportunity to see the inside of St Patrick's Cathedral for free! He is said to have baptised new believers in a well that was in the adjoining park, and there is a stone from the original church inside the main entrance.



**ALL ARE WELCOME**

# St Patrick's Day Ecumenical Prayer

PATRICK TALKS ABOUT GOD

**A celebration in word, song and music**

*Come and join our celebration of  
Saint Patrick's life and his message  
in one of Dublin's most evocative holy places*

**March 17th 2026**  
**At 6pm**  
**In St Patrick's Cathedral**  
**Dublin D08H6X3**

The service is organised by the following Christian Churches in Dublin:

Antiochian Orthodox, Armenian Apostolic, Church of Ireland,  
Greek Orthodox, Indian (Malankara) Orthodox,  
Jacobite Syrian Orthodox, Lutheran, Methodist,  
Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Romanian Orthodox  
and by the Religious Society of Friends & the Salvation Army.

[www.dublincouncilofchurches.ie](http://www.dublincouncilofchurches.ie)

## Safeguarding training and Garda vetting for youth work

Room 1, Wesley House Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 7-9.15pm with Nicky Blair, Connexional Safeguarding Officer

We have accepted a generous offer of an Exodus Team (4 adult leaders and approximately 8 young people) who will lead a summer scheme with us from the 12<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2026. We are asking that all involved in youth work within the congregation attend the training, even if you have done the course before. It is a requirement that it is refreshed every three years. Come early to fill in your Garda vetting forms. The Exodus Week will involve the whole Circuit. Please speak to Andrew if you are willing to help with any aspect of the programme, be that involvement in activities, or the dropping off of meals to Wesley House for our guests. They will be living in our student accommodation for the week.

## World Day of Prayer

Those who led our World Day of Prayer service in St Bartholemew's Church of Ireland, Clyde Road last Saturday. The very beautiful service was compiled by the Churches in Nigeria.



## Book Club

Our book choice for March was *None of this is Serious* by Catherine Prasifka and received mixed reviews. Our choice for April is *Christine Falls* by John Banville which is the One Dublin One Book choice for 2026. 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](mailto:sylviahroddie@gmail.com)

## Church Walk

Loop walk at Ballymore Eustace, Co. Wicklow

Meeting at Wesley at 10.30am on Saturday 21st March for the drive to Ballymore Eustace. The walk of approximately 5/6km should take 1 ½ to 2 hours. We will finish at a local coffee shop but do feel free to bring your own picnic and wet gear. Good footwear is essential.

*Eric Rankin*

## Wesley Pilgrimage

# Wesley Pilgrimage

Tuesday 30 June – Sunday 5 July 2026

**Travel:** by boat (Dublin – Holyhead) and coach

**Accommodation:** Cliff College (Peak District), Travelodge (Bath, Windsor) and Premier Inn (Lichfield)

**Guide:** Dr Stephen Skuce

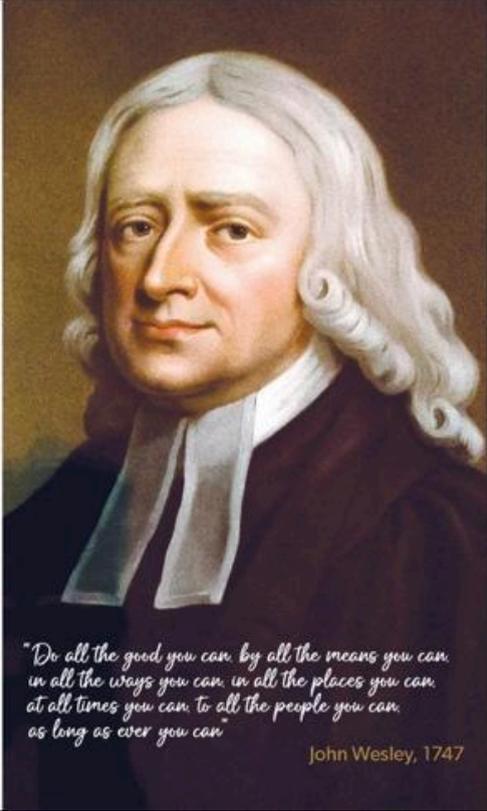
**Leaders:** Gillian Kingston (Tipperary), Rev Andrew Kingston (Dublin)

This pilgrimage will involve guided walking tours in Epworth Old Rectory, Oxford, Bristol, London, and more – exploring the places that shaped John and Charles Wesley and the Methodist movement. Along the way, you'll grow in spiritual formation, connect with the roots of our Wesleyan faith, and share in community.

**Cost:** €850 (single supplement + €115). Concessions available if required. Deposit of €100 secures.

**For a booking form and full itinerary email**  
[andrew.kingston@irishmethodist.org](mailto:andrew.kingston@irishmethodist.org)

**40 places, closing date for bookings, 15 May 2026**



*"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can"*

John Wesley, 1747

When booking, please put your name in the payee section of the bank transfer, insert 'Wesley Pilgrimage' as payee message and send the completed application form to [Andrew.kingston@irishmethodist.org](mailto:Andrew.kingston@irishmethodist.org)

### Bookings for Castlewellan Holiday Week 2026 are now open!

Check out the new booking system on our lovely updated website. You can now book and pay all in one go! If you missed out on a caravan pitch for the forest park, you can book the Carrigs Road site from our website too. And while you're on the website, you can find information on our speakers this year. Check back over the next few months for more information. Lastly – please take a look at the attached **video** taken on our 40th anniversary last year. Feel free to share it, to give people a glimpse into all that goes on at Castlewellan Holiday Week! So **click the link below, get booking and start your countdown to 1st August!** <https://www.castlewellanholidayweek.org/booking>

*Laurence Graham (Chair)*

### 'Compelled' - A Daily Devotional for Lent:

'For the love of Christ compels us.' – 2 Corinthians 5:14

Lent is a season for thought and reflection as we journey towards Easter; a time when we can examine ourselves and invite God to bring transformation afresh to our lives.

This Lent, we are inviting everyone to join us daily on a 46-day journey (Wednesday 18 February – Sunday 5 April, 2026). In the Scripture passages and reflections prepared, we want to explore the nature of Jesus and how he transformed the lives of all those he encountered; taking to heart the challenge of how we are to live well for Christ in this world.

To aid us, we've invited voices and thoughts from people across our Connexion and beyond to dwell in the Gospel stories of Jesus.

A [pdf of the booklet](#) is available – this can be printed out or used on your digital device, whichever you find more accessible.

As an alternative, but with the same content, [a daily audio podcast](#) will also be available (through our 'Living Wholeheartedly' Podcast channel) – Listen out for some familiar voices!

**For full details visit:** [irishmethodist.org/lent](http://irishmethodist.org/lent)

## 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.

## 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.

## God's Storehouse in Tallaght

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

## Connect ... through English

 **Every Thursday, 10:30am - 12:00pm**

 **Room 1, Wesley House**



Connect? Yes – the purpose of the Thursday morning gathering is to meet and connect with others who come to Ireland from all sorts of places, for all sorts of reasons. We chat, in English, over a cup of tea or coffee, with the facilitators taking it in turn to lead the conversation.

We never know who might come and, over the last ten years, people have come from countries on all the continents, except maybe Australia. It has been a privilege to meet everyone.

We gather on Thursday mornings in Room 1 between 10.30 and 12noon. If you might be interested in joining the facilitation team, please speak to one of us – Charles, Lesley, Liz, Lynne, Maureen, Roy and Sayjin.

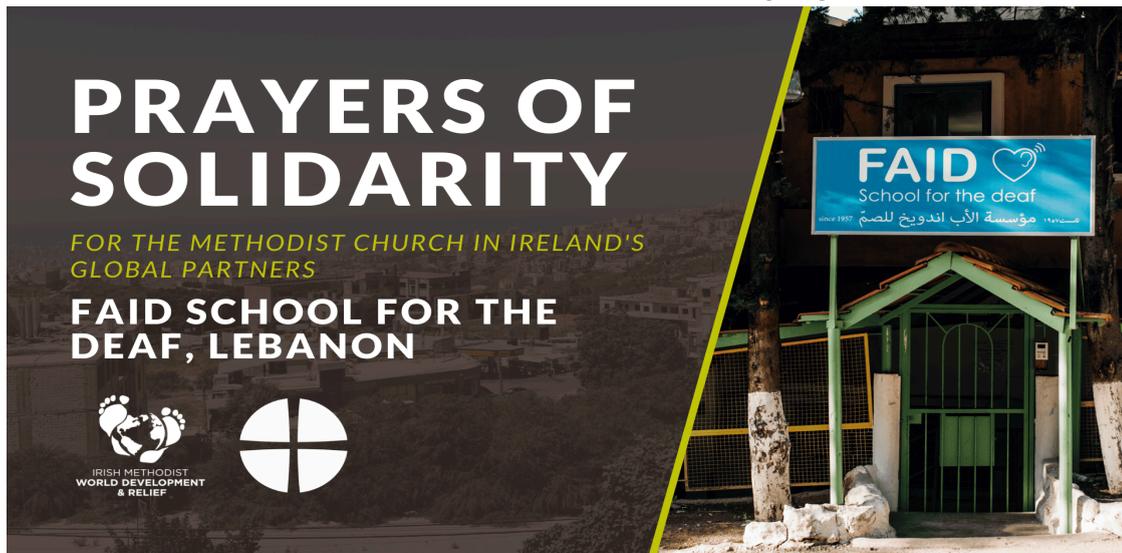
If you are a relative newcomer to Ireland please come along – you will be most welcome. We can be contacted at: [english@methodistcentenary.ie](mailto:english@methodistcentenary.ie)

## Sky's the Limit

Sky's the Limit continues on 5th May 2026 (no session on the Tuesday after Easter). Please save the date.

## PRAYERS OF SOLIDARITY, March 2026

### The Methodist Church in Ireland's prayers for the world



As part of Christ's world church, we pray for our partnerships through both World Development & Relief and World Mission Partnership, as well as issues affecting people everywhere.

#### **A Prayer for Peace in the Middle East**

Again missiles, drones and hateful words rain down on the Middle East. Across the region, people are losing their lives, their loved ones, homes, livelihoods and security. In Lebanon, over 80 towns and villages have been threatened and told to evacuate. WDR partner FAID (pron. "Fade") School for the Deaf is in Beirut, Lebanon. This haven offers education and life-skills for students who are deaf or hearing impaired, often overlooked by others. Over the years, the school has already faced and is still facing political and economic instability, and yet continues to provide hope, opportunity and belonging.

#### **Let us pray**

*Heavenly Father, in these troubled times, we lift up before you our partner FAID School for the Deaf in Beirut.*

*You see every child, staff member and family connected to this community.*

*Protect them all.*

*Prince of Peace, we ask that you calm the children's anxious hearts and troubled minds.*

*We pray that your presence would be known.*

*That those at FAID would know your comfort, reassurance and peace - a peace that surpasses understanding, even in the darkest times.*

*Holy Spirit, renew the energy of the teachers and support workers.*

*When overwhelmed and weary, give them resilience.*

*For their mental health; may they find rest and restoration.*

*For the families of every student; God, protect their homes, provide for their needs, and draw them together in unity and strength.*

*May FAID be a place of safety, and continue to be a beacon of light, dignity and growth in Beirut.*

*Father God, we pray that a miraculous peace might break out across the region.*

*In your name,*

**Amen.**

## Irish Methodist World Mission Partnership(Container Ministry)

Please find below a request from the container ministry regarding items they have been asked for across the world. Normally, they get more donations than they need, but this time they have containers sitting with nothing to go in them. Please have a look at the document and prayerfully consider if there is anything you could donate.

**Rev Andrew and Jean have very kindly offered the manse as a collection point. Please ring them on 0831520171 to arrange drop off, or bring your item/s to church over the next two Sundays and we will arrange for delivery to the manse at 7 Butterfield Court, Rathfarnham, D14 N6X3.** (Note, sometimes the eircode takes people onto a private lane. Turn right onto Butterfield Court soon after turning into Butterfield Crescent).

The closing date for donations is **27th March**, as we will be attempting to deliver to Lurgan then.

Find the document attached  [Container Ministry 2026 Appeal.pdf](#)

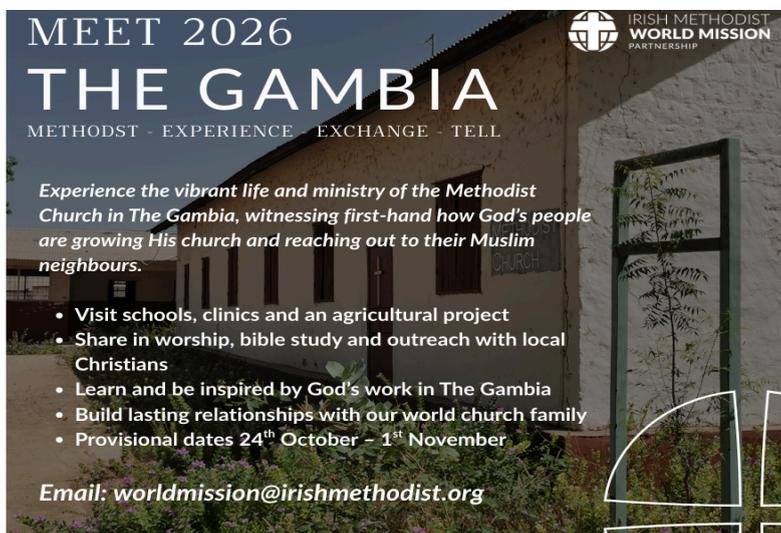


**Holy Week Oratorio Concert**  
**The Passion of Our Lord**  
**According to St Mark**  
**by Irish composer**  
**Charles Wood**

performed by  
the Sandford and  
St Philip's Choral Union  
accompanied on the organ  
by Peter Barley (St Mary's  
Cathedral, Limerick)

Wednesday 1 April at 7.30 pm  
Sandford Church, Ranelagh

Admission Free  
Donations in aid of Christian Aid  
and Parish Funds



**MEET 2026**  
**THE GAMBIA**  
METHODIST - EXPERIENCE - EXCHANGE - TELL

*Experience the vibrant life and ministry of the Methodist Church in The Gambia, witnessing first-hand how God's people are growing His church and reaching out to their Muslim neighbours.*

- Visit schools, clinics and an agricultural project
- Share in worship, bible study and outreach with local Christians
- Learn and be inspired by God's work in The Gambia
- Build lasting relationships with our world church family
- Provisional dates 24<sup>th</sup> October - 1<sup>st</sup> November

Email: [worldmission@irishmethodist.org](mailto:worldmission@irishmethodist.org)



## Forthcoming Services at 10.30am

March 22	Service of worship with Mr Rodney Goodwin, District Lay Leader
March 29	Service of worship with Rev Andrew Kingston
April 5	Service of holy Communion with Rev Andrew Kingston
April 12	Service of worship with Mr Rodney Goodwin, District Lay Leader

## Local preachers

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

March 29	10.00 Tallaght Mrs Gillie Hinds
April 5	11.30 Rathgar Rev John Parkin
April 12	10.00 Tallaght Rev Lesley Rankin
April 12	11.30 Rathgar Mrs Gillie Hinds

## 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 almost €20,000 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](mailto:billygiven115@gmail.com)

## Text for Announcements

Text for inclusion in the Announcements should be sent to [news@methodistcentenary.ie](mailto: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](#)