

# Methodist Centenary Church

Wesley House, Leeson Park, Dublin 6

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



## Announcements on 25<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.

### **Lenten Bible Study Tonight**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm, Room 1

### **Sunday 29th March**

Palm Sunday Holy Communion and World Mission Partnership Sunday: Rev Andrew Kingston

### **Annual Seder Meal, Wednesday 1st April**

We will have our annual Seder meal in Tallaght Methodist Church on Wednesday, 1st April at 6.30pm. This will include supper.

## Thought for the week

### Be South facing

*Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: "Love your neighbour as yourself." All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.'*

*Matthew 22:37-40*



Eric led a lovely walk in Russborough House on Saturday (the Ballymore Eustace loop was closed). The symmetrical mansion looks south across Poulaphouca Reservoir and the Wicklow Mountains and the avenue was awash with yellow daffodils and blue anemones. What impressed me most was the walled garden built in the mid 1700s. The north wall has a large restored greenhouse where all sorts of exotic plants are being propagated. It was sweltering on that sunny March day. I was able to purchase a few flowers for the Manse Garden.

Our Lord Jesus often got into debate with religious people who questioned him about the minutia of Old Testament teaching. The Pharisees listed 613 commandments - 365 positive, and 248 negative. Jesus kept coming back to two - love God with all our hearts, and love others with the same care in which we treat ourselves. In other words – orientate towards the warmth of God’s love, and as he warms us up, we grow spiritually and reflect his love to others.

We are living in deeply distressing times when various groups of religious people look at the world through the prisms of their own national interests to the detriment ultimately of the whole world. The Israeli government shows no good intentions towards their neighbours or minorities. Hezbollah sends rockets and drones in the full knowledge that it will lead to the far more severe collective punishment of Lebanon. The religious regime in Iran reserves its most vicious reactions for its own people who simply want to progress in peace. The Americans use their overwhelming wealth and power to destroy, while at the same time they cut aid to the most vulnerable. The gloating words of their self serving leaders jar and shock as they betray an utter disregard for any human life other than their own little bubble. The Russian Federation relishes a distraction from their meat grinder war of attrition in Ukraine. Other religious

people kill, rape and pillage in Sudan, Northern Nigeria and Myanmar. And shame on all of us when we care more about a few cents on the price of fuel than the lives of millions.

Archbishop William Temple once said, 'There is nothing so bad as bad religion'. May God deliver us from religion and turn our hearts instead to a living relationship with God through Jesus.

## Prayer



Thank you God for the warmth of your love made known to us in Jesus. Forgive us when our convictions become ugly. Deliver us from evil and help us to remain fruitful as we await your return, an event that looks to be more and more imminent with each passing day. Grant us O Lord the inner sunshine of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

**Just Like Jesus** Lenten Bible Studies, commenced on Ash Wednesday, 7.30pm, (18<sup>h</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 the 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.

## Good Friday

- **12md:** Ecumenical Way of the Cross
- **3pm:** Good Friday Service. (It has been some years since we have gathered in the Litton Hall for a Good Friday service. It seems imperative to gather in worship and prayer this year as the world witnesses the cruelty of war and our hearts seek the peace of God that surpasses all understanding).
- **7-8pm:** Active Prayer, an opportunity to strive in prayer with Monday, Erick, Agbolade and others.



## Easter Sunday

- **7am: Sunrise Service**, Ticknock Forest (beside the masts) at 7:00 am followed by sausages, cereal and toast in the church kitchen. Car access available.
- **11am: Three days that changed the world.** Our United Circuit Praise Service in the Centenary Hall

## 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.

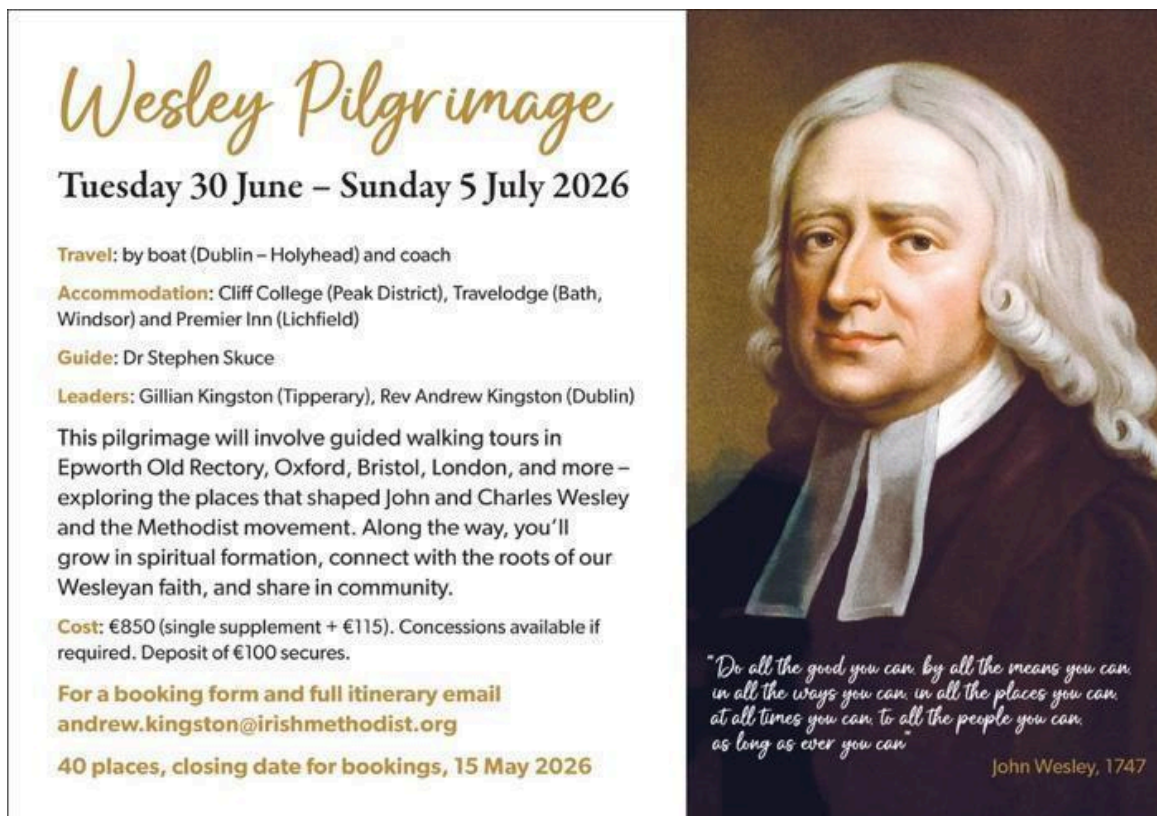
Find the document attached [Container Ministry 2026 Appeal.pdf](#)

## 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  
Garda vetting from 6.30pm. Please bring photo ID (eg Passport/drivers licence)

Accepted Proof of Address (Within 3 months): Utility Bill: Gas, electricity, television, broadband, or waste bill. Financial Statement: Bank, Building Society, or Credit Union statement. Government Document: Letter from a government department, social services, or local council. Insurance policy (home/car) or TV licence. For Students: Letter from college accommodation office.

## 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)

## Sky's the Limit

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


## 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

 **17** 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)

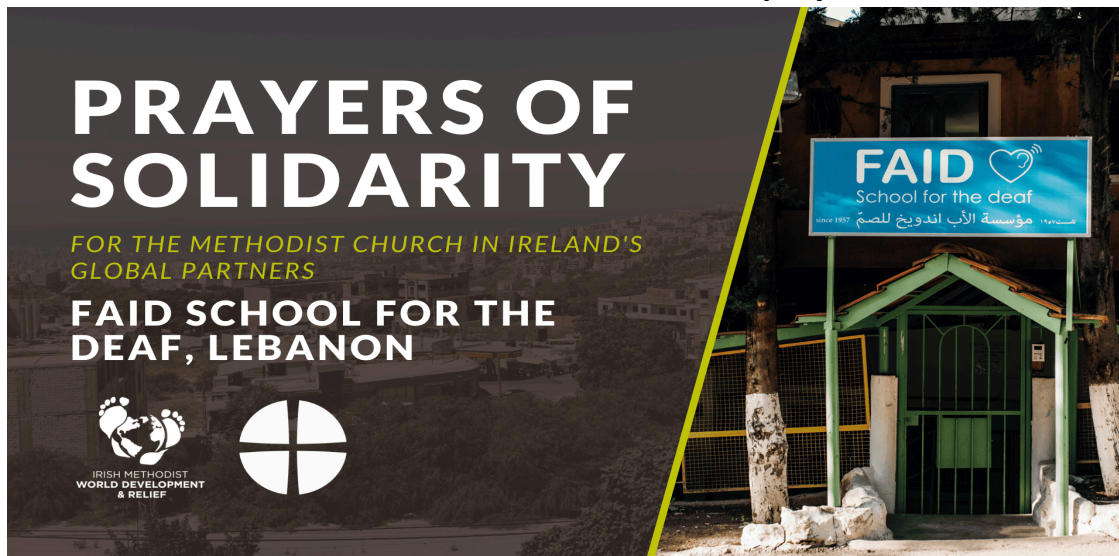
## Book Club

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)

## 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.**

## Holy Week Oratorio Concert

 Wednesday, 1st April, 7.30pm

 Sandford Parish Church, Ranelagh



**The Passion According to St Mark**  
by Irish composer Charles Wood (1866–1926)

**7.30pm, Wednesday 1st April 2026**  
**Sandford Parish Church, Ranelagh**

Stuart Kinsella (Evangelist)  
Donncha McDonagh (Jesus)  
Sandford & St Philip's Choral Union & Scholars  
Peter Barley (Organ)

*Admission free, with retiring collection*

## International Workshop on Contemporary Church Music

 1st to 3rd May, 2026

 St. Finian's Lutheran Church,  
24 Adelaide Road, D02XP21



 An Eaglais Liútarach in Éirinn  
Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Irland  
The Lutheran Church in Ireland

### SINGING GOD IN HARD TIMES

## International Workshop on Contemporary Church Music

**1st to 3rd MAY 2026**  
**ST. FINIAN'S CHURCH**  
**24 ADELAIDE ROAD**  
**DUBLIN 2, D02 XP21**

**In our troubling times, music is a powerful source of spiritual expression and nourishment. Today's church music scene is relevant, vibrant and creative.**

**Led by renowned international hymnodists and choir directors, this workshop is open to all.**

**FACILITATORS INCLUDE**  
Jochen Arnold – Germany  
Fritz Baltruweit – Germany  
John Bell – Scotland  
Andy Bouman – USA  
Kerry Houston – Ireland  
Blánaid Murphy – Ireland  
Kiran Young Wimberly – N. Ireland

Scan the QR code for programme details 



## 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

April 5	Service of holy Communion with Rev Andrew Kingston
April 12	Service of worship with Mr Rodney Goodwin, District Lay Leader
April 19	Service of worship with Rev Andrew Kingston
April 26	Service of worship with Rev Lesley Rankin

## Local preachers

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

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](#)