

New Places for New People (NPNP) Update

April 2024

**The stone was not rolled away so Jesus could get out.
It was rolled away so we could see in.**

The more Mary looked into the empty tomb the more Jesus was not there (John 20). And so, a new journey began for Mary, and the disciples, a quest which continues for us today, to seek, search and discover the Risen Christ. This is not some kind of complicated, impossible maze, Jesus gave us lots of clues about how and where he could be discovered.

'For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in.' Matthew 25.

The key part of this text, for me, is that 'the righteous' were unaware of doing anything 'special.' It was natural to them, an everyday part of normal living, not a special activity of the interested.

Church at the Margins is an invitation to discover the Risen Christ, to nurture new Christian communities amongst people experiencing poverty.

<https://jpit.uk/sharpest-increase-in-uk-poverty-for-30-years>

Reflection:

- Are you still standing, looking into an empty tomb?
- How and where are you searching for the Risen Christ?

Eunice Attwood, Church at the Margins Officer



Events and Training

CAM Practitioners Network

The **Church at the Margins Practitioners Network** provides an online space to encourage people who are supporting or nurturing new Christian communities amongst economically marginalised people. It takes place monthly on Tuesdays from 4 to 5pm. Details on this page methodist.org.uk/camnetwork, book for the next session on **9 Apr 2024**, you can book other dates on the main page.



Faith-Rooted Community Organising

April 5-7 2024, at Cliff College. For people beginning an NPNP. Bookings: www.methodist.org.uk/organising. Faith-rooted organising offers a way to resource and enable people to find out where God is at work in their communities, and join in.

Come and pray with us

A monthly online prayer gathering for the NPNP/Church at the Margins movement. Running from 18.30 to 18.50 (a fixed 20-minute duration) on the second Monday of each month. Next month's session is on **8 April** (led by David Newlove), come and join us in connecting, supporting, and growing the NPNP movement. Sign up [here](#).

NPNP Activists Gathering

21 May at Cliff College, starting at 11.00 and finishing at 15.30. Do get in touch for details and an invite if you have not already received one and are involved in a Connexionally-funded NPNP.



Church Planting Intensive (online)

11 to 13 October, fully funded course for those planting NPNPs (30 places), bookings: <https://forms.office.com/r/5HDCB5fqwg>.

Sunshine and Showers, the retreat

3 June. Do you eagerly desire a revitalised sense of prayer in your church, but you're not sure where to start? Designed for those who play a role in encouraging prayer in their church or circuit (such as a worship leader, circuit steward, local preacher or youth leader), this refreshing, prayerful event at The Hayes Conference Centre in Swanwick is built around the [Sunshine and Showers course](#), helping you to decide how you might use the course in your own community. Book now: eventbrite.co.uk/e/sunshine-and-showers-the-retreat-tickets-851528614007?aff=enews.



Multiply

We have arranged free places for Methodists at these Multiply events, on **11, 12 and 13 June** at Leeds, Birmingham and London. These events will equip you to grow, plant and lead a Younger Church that reaches new people, in new and renewed ways. Book your free ticket here: <https://ccx.org.uk/multiply>, use the code **MC24** when you book.

Methodist Pioneering Pathways

MPP continues to grow as a community. The online Third Thursday gatherings have become a place of honest sharing and building deeper relationships across the NPNP movement. The monthly webinars, led by guest contributors, have become an important place to enable theological reflection and explore key insight together. Details here: methodist.org.uk/mpp.

Book grants are available for those on the MPP for up to a maximum total of **£100** per pioneer for all of their time on the MPP. Send claims for book grants to pioneering@methodistchurch.org.uk. Grants are available each Connexional year until funds are exhausted on a first come, first served basis. Those who haven't received a grant in previous years will be privileged before those who have. A list of recommended books and more details are on this page methodist.org.uk/mpp.



We offer learning support via the **Pioneer Ministry Short Course (March 2025)**, at Cliff College, details and booking here cliffcollege.ac.uk/courses/onsite-short/pioneer-ministry. This is a general introduction to pioneering in all its forms. Book a free place, using the code **PioneerPathwaysX**. You will still go through the payment process but you will not have to pay. If you're interested in the Short Course but haven't yet joined the MPP please use the link above.

Funding news

The Mission Committee meets next as shown below. The Circuit NPNP Guide, is available here methodist.org.uk/circuitnnpnfunding, together with forms and process outline (get in touch if you would like a hard copy of the Guide). See funded NPNPs here: methodist.org.uk/nnpndistricts.

Future Mission Committee meetings and funding submission dates:

- Submission deadline: 12 April for 21 May 2024 Committee meeting.
- Committee meeting, 24 October 2024. Deadline mid-September.
- Committee meeting, 14-15 February 2025. Deadline mid-January
- Committee meeting, 12 May 2025. Deadline early April

User response survey <https://forms.office.com/e/hUfvQRsxx3>