

Useful Methodist Church Resources:

Dialogue and Evangelism among people of other faiths:

A Methodist reflection on the Inter Faith Network for the UK Code of Conduct: 'Building good relations with people of different faiths and beliefs'. (Small booklet)

Cost: £1.00

May I call you friend?

Case studies of sharing the Christian faith in multi faith situations, together with Bible studies and discussion questions. (Booklet)

Cost: £3.50



Faith meeting Faith:

A resource focusing on 30 questions frequently asked about inter faith relations, which acknowledges the diversity of views among Christians. (A4 bound resource)

Cost: £8.99

The Life we Share:

An innovative study pack containing interviews with fifteen people from five different faiths talking about the faith. (Study pack including audio CD of the interviews, group reflection material, Bible studies and worship material.)

Cost: £10.00

Called to Love and Praise:

Volume 1, pages 158-223, Methodist Conference 1999 Agenda.

Useful contacts:

Dr Joy Barrow, Inter Faith Relations Officer

Methodist Church House,
25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR

Direct line: 020 7467 5176

Help desk: 020 7486 5502

Email: barrowj@methodistchurch.org.uk

The following three centres organise conferences and inter faith events and are in relationship with the Methodist Church:

St Philips Centre: 2a Stoughton Drive North,
Leicester LE5 5UB **Tel:** 0116 273 3459
www.stphilipscentre.co.uk

Touchstone: 32 Merton Road, Bradford BD7 1RE
Tel: 01274 721 626
www.touchstone-bradford.org.uk

St Mungo Museum: 25 Trongate, Glasgow G1 5ES
Tel: 0141 287 4350
www.glasgowmuseums.com

Since 2009 the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church have had a joint Inter Faith Relations Committee. For the United Reformed Church contact:

The Revd David Tatem, 86 Tavistock Place,
London WC1H 9RT **Tel:** 020 7916 202
Email: david.tatem@urc.org.uk

The **Methodist Church** 

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Methodist Church in Britain

Inter Faith Relations in the 21st century



The Continuing Journey:

21st century Britain has a growing richness and diversity of faiths and cultures. Many of us live near and work with people of different faiths but often we don't know or understand much about their beliefs and practices.

This leaflet introduces you to different ways in which you can find opportunities to develop friendships with people of other faiths, and some of the resources that will help you on this exciting journey of discovery and enrichment.

Our Calling

The calling of the Methodist Church is:

- To increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.
- To help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care.
- To be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.
- To make more followers of Jesus Christ.

In what ways does Inter Faith Relations answer this calling?

As we begin to engage in relations with people of other faiths, we find that our awareness of God at work in others' lives is sharpened. We also grow as Christians ourselves as we share our Christian faith. The Report 'Called to Love and Praise', adopted by the 1999 Methodist Conference, says of inter faith dialogue: 'Christians may enter such dialogues in the faith that God will give them deeper insight into the truth of Christ'. Getting to know people of other

faiths is also the first step to being good neighbours to them. And sometimes the Church can join other faith communities in serving the local neighbourhood or challenging injustice.



Where do I begin?

With all new journeys, you start with the easy route.

This may be by:

- Finding opportunities to have conversations with people of other faiths who are your neighbours or whom you meet at work or when shopping.
- Finding the opportunity to help at a local community event.
- Contacting the Inter Faith Relations Office. We can help you find a local inter faith group, advise you about courses and events in your area and advise you about resources that are available.
- Inviting the Inter Faith Relations Officer to organise a day conference or evening meeting in your circuit.

To contact the Inter Faith Relations Office
telephone: 020 7467 5176 or

email: barrowj@methodistchurch.org.uk

web: www.methodist.org.uk/interfaith



How will I know what to say?

The World Council of Churches developed Four Principles of Interfaith Dialogue. These are:

- Dialogue begins when people meet each other.
- Dialogue is about building up trust in the other person and learning to tell the truth about another religious tradition.
- Dialogue helps us to work together for the goal of a developing a better human community.
- Dialogue becomes a way of authentic mutual witness.

In other words, by making time to meet people, and being open to conversation with people of different faiths, a relationship of trust will develop.

Because of this respectful and trusting relationship, each person will be able to explain their beliefs and practices to others.

Remember: Through explaining our beliefs to others and being open to the responses of those from other faiths, we gain a greater insight into the truth of the God we worship through Jesus Christ.

