

New Places for New People

Pioneering

Pioneering is a bit like new wine (it's not better than vintage wine, it's still fermenting) it doesn't easily fit into existing structures, unless they have been adapted to enable and nurture pioneering. This is the dual transformation challenge that we talked about in a previous Update.

We want to see new Christian communities pioneered, alongside renewed and healthy existing forms of church. Over the summer we have contacted all the pioneers on the Methodist Pioneering Pathway and spoken to over 60 of them, it's been great making personal contact and finding out about all the interesting and alternative and diverse things that are going on, from repair cafes to refugee projects.

One highlight is the hugely popular walking Nativity that takes place in Haverhill in Suffolk, there were so many people taking part that they could barely fit into the village church at the end – community bursting the church wineskin! Abundance is one of the messages that comes out of pioneering, there has been an abundance of inspiring conversations. There has also been a recognition of the scarcity, of resources for individuals who do not have a pioneering budget.



To bring the very best to each other across the connexion we have a vision of churches and pioneers blending together, like the different types of tea that are blended together into the brands that we buy in the shops, creating richness and depth. We need to enable conversations and explore what churches and pioneers can offer to and support each other. Whether as connexion, district, circuit or church we really are 'all in it together' because we are all part of the rich and diverse blend of God's people.

Get Involved

Read the NPNP Practical Guide:

how to begin an NPNP project www.methodist.org.uk/npnp-guide .

Join an NPNP Hub:

www.methodist.org.uk/npnphub .

Hubs are open to everyone, those with prior experience of beginning something new and those who know nothing at all about NPNP. Hubs are particularly useful for circuit leaders exploring how to enable a new Christian community to begin in their context and those who sense a call to pioneer them.

Next Hub:

Our next NPNP Hub is on Zoom on 3rd October 10.30-12.30, you can register via this link.

Future hubs:

Wednesday 11th January 2023, 1 - 2.30pm - How to gather an NPNP team

Monday 3rd April, 7.30 - 9pm - Shaping a NPNP pioneer role in your circuit

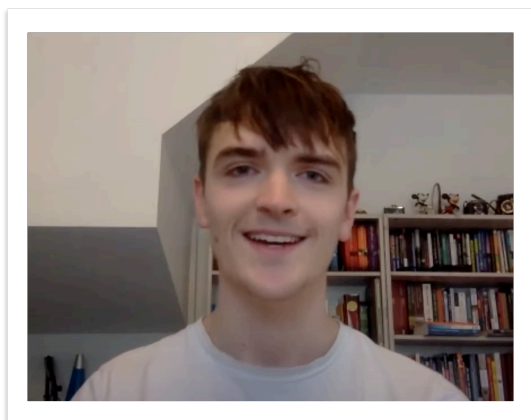
Tuesday 20th July, 10.30 - 12pm - The NPNP Story so far and how you can begin

Is God calling you to pioneer a new Christian community?

The next Church Planting Intensive (CPI) is this autumn 21 to 23 October, register your interest at pioneering@methodistchurch.org.uk. It begins with a residential at Cliff College and then we meet monthly on the 1st Thursday between 7-9pm. The CPI is a fully funded year-long hybrid course for those who are planting NPNPs, designed for those who actively shaping a vision, about to launch or in an existing project. It mixes teaching and reflection, prayer and deepening our calls. Places limited to 30, so get in quick if you are interested. The course will also be running on 17 to 19 March and 3 to 5 November, 2023.

Methodist Pioneering Pathways (MPP)

Is God calling you to pioneer or are you already pioneering an NPNP? If so the Methodist Church wants to support you in that call and ministry through the MPP. It a community of pioneers across the Connexion meeting, sharing and learning together.



Watch a pioneering video:

Jack Key www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTFCHeblGtU&t=1s



New Housing (and pioneers) webinar

21 November

Beginning early: A guide to engaging with town planners before a brick is laid or a design is finalised. We will be joined by the experienced new town planner Dr Paul Mumford who will share his advice on how to be a part of shaping new developments and asking for what you need as a Christian community to flourish. Paul has worked in the public and private sectors overseeing the beginning on new towns Alconbury Wield and Northstowe, he now works for the sector-changing master developers Urban and Civic. Book your place [here](#).



Myth-busting

Visit the FAQs page www.methodist.org.uk/npnpfaqs for answers to these questions and more:

Where will these new communities emerge?
What changes are we hoping to see?

NPNP funding

NPNP staff are working with all Tranches www.methodist.org.uk/npnptranches. Districts are currently preparing their September submissions for the October meeting of the Mission Committee. See previous funded projects here: www.methodist.org.uk/npnpdistrictprojects

Church at the Margins

Training

Community Organising:

Connecting with our communities is a vital part of beginning an NPNP, and the practices of community organising are an excellent way, to build, and nurture becoming a community. There are two courses available: 31 March - 2 April 2023 and 20 -22 October 2023, all held at Cliff College. The first course was held in September 2022 and was fully booked. The course is for people beginning an NPNP, in a team. This training is being offered first to people who will be enabling and nurturing the NPNP communities within their district/circuit. More details here www.methodist.org.uk/organising



Beginning a Church at the Margins:

A 3 session interactive online course - The course runs again in October/November, it offers space to think about connecting and becoming a new Christian community amongst and led by people experiencing poverty. This course is ideal for people who are passionate about their community. Book here www.methodist.org.uk/cam-training

Staying in touch

with E&G, including NPNP/CaM, on Methodist social media

<https://twitter.com/MethodistGB>

<https://twitter.com/EvangelismMC>

<https://www.facebook.com/EvangelismGrowth>

<https://www.instagram.com/evangelismgrowth>

If you have anything that you would like to have included in a future edition please email Julian Bond bondj@methodistchurch.org.uk.

