

Winter 2016/2017

RAINBOW

Free
for all
children!

JMA secretaries'
news inside!



The Methodist Church





Welcome to the winter issue of *Rainbow!*

In this issue we will be using the word 'refuge' a lot. Do you know what it means?

The dictionary tells us that refuge means a place of safety.



Walls... Doors... Fences...



Some say they are there to protect us. Others say they keep us apart.

What do you think?

In America, there is a tall fence that was built to stop people moving without permission from Central America to the USA.

Many people want to move from the countries in Central America to the USA. Why? There is poverty and violence in this region. People hurt each other. It is frightening, and parents do not want their children to grow up like this. They want to move to the USA, but often they are not allowed to. And so they cross the fence in secret.

Because they do not have permission to live in the USA, they can be forced to go back at any time. This is awful for the children especially, who may have no memories of their own country. The USA is their home and they may not even speak the language of the other country. Sometimes parents may be sent home and older children allowed to stay in the USA. Their family is divided by the fence. They cannot spend time together doing ordinary things like eating, hugging, saying goodnight and reading stories.





On the USA side (above), the metal looks cold and there are many guards. Only 25 people at a time can come near the fence, and only at a special short time during the week.

On the Mexican side (see page opposite), the fence is painted and decorated and people can freely come as close to it for as long as they want, when they want.

Methodist Churches in the USA and Mexico work together to help divided families spend time together at the fence. The El Farro Church is run by Methodists on both sides of the fence. They hold joint church services and share communion. This is a small refuge, once a week, where families can do something together ("El Farro" means "Lighthouse" in Spanish).

The Lighthouse Church also works with the US Government, asking them to help families stay together.

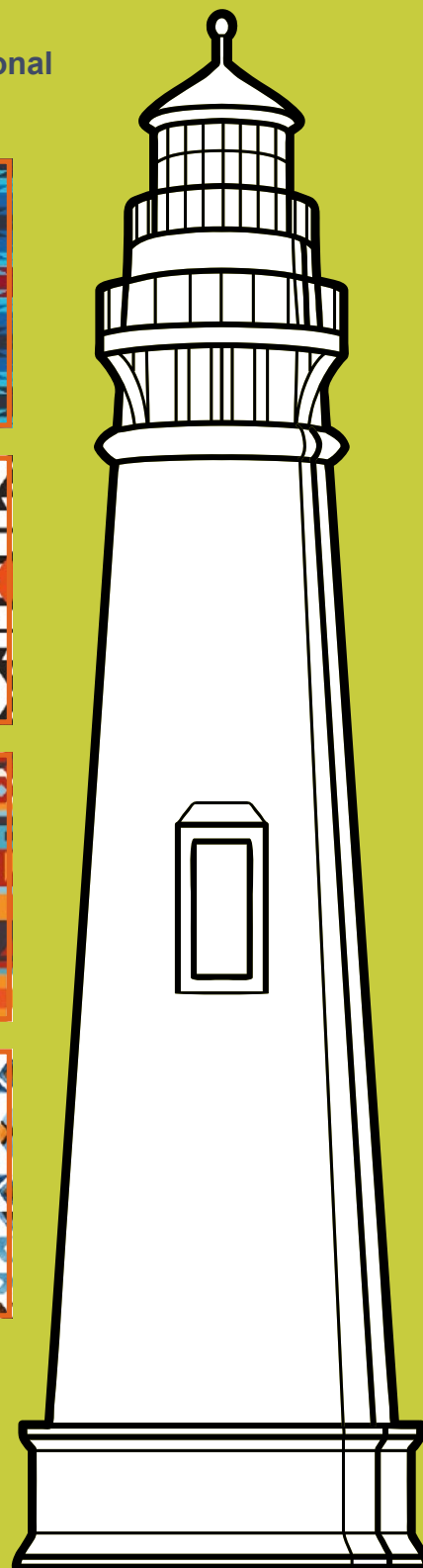


Please pray for all the families who are kept apart by the fence.

Here are some traditional Mexican patterns.



You can decorate this lighthouse, as you pray for the families separated by the fence.



Cyclone Winston



Cyclone Winston destroyed many, many buildings on the island of Fiji in February 2016. The winds blew at over 190 miles an hour. It was the fiercest cyclone the people of Fiji have ever experienced.

Thousands of trees were uprooted, homes were destroyed and furniture, clothes and other belongings were washed away. More than 100 Methodist churches were completely destroyed.

The Methodist Church in Britain was the first Partner Church to send money and assurance of prayers when the cyclone hit. When the former Youth President, Craig Gaffney, visited Fiji in July, he heard how important this was for the people. It was a comfort to them to feel connected to the Methodist Church around the world and know that people cared and were praying for them every day. In the Methodist Church this is what we call the **Connexion**.

Prayer focus



Sera Lagilagi told us of hiding in the bathroom with two of her children. Their bathroom was the only room with some concrete walls and so was the strongest place in their house. They hid for hours while the storm raged until neighbours came to take them to a safer place. Almost all of the rest of the house had been blown away.



Sera and her husband, a Methodist minister, are still sleeping in a tent, like many other families. Their children are staying with relatives until a new house can be built. Please pray for these families living in tents, and living apart. Pray that they will soon be together again. Pray for their new homes to be built strong enough to survive future storms.

Haiti appeal

Thousands of people lost their homes when Hurricane Matthew hit Haiti in October 2016. People found refuge in temporary shelters, but it will take years for them to recover from one of the most powerful hurricanes to hit the Caribbean.

To find out how the Church is helping to rebuild homes in Haiti and to support the Haiti appeal, visit: www.methodist.org.uk/haitiappeal





Advent Offering 2016 Mission in Britain Fund



What is your favourite thing about Christmas?

I enjoy wrapping presents, the Christingle service at church, yummy food, games, and films!

One special event at your local church this year might be the Advent Offering to raise money for the Mission in Britain Fund.

This map shows some of the projects supported by the money that you help the Church raise for the Mission in Britain Fund.

Englesea Brook – People who use wheelchairs will now be able to visit Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum.

Cardiff – Thanks to the Mission in Britain Fund, the Revd Delyth Liddell can continue working as Chaplain to the students at Cardiff University for four more years.

Hurst Green – Last year, St John's Church in Hurst Green won an Eco-Church award for trying to take better care of the environment.

Scotland – A team of Methodists from across the Scotland District are helping people who are Christians, but don't belong to a church, to grow in their faith.

The Blackpool Food Partnership collects surplus food from supermarkets and gives it to children's centres and other places where people need it.

Leeds – Trinity Mission in Castleford provides night time accommodation for rough sleepers during the winter months.

London – The Applecart drama company is working with young people in London to make a series of short films about poverty in Britain today.

Advent Offering 2016

Mission in Britain Fund

Stephen used to be a fundraiser in the Connexional Team. Here he writes about a project in Swansea that the Mission in Britain Fund helps.



JMA - The Fundraising Team
The Methodist Church
25 Marylebone Road
London NW1 5JR

Place
correct
postage
here

I have just arrived home from Ogof Adullam. "Where?" you might ask!

Ogof Adullam means "the cave of Adullam". The Bible says that this is the cave where David hid from King Saul, in chapter 22 of the book of 1 Samuel.

Ogof Adullam was a place of refuge for David and his men, and all people who were in trouble. Refuge means "safe place". In Swansea the new Ogof Adullam is a safe place for people who are homeless or in other kinds of trouble.

Stephen



So David left Gath and escaped to the cave of Adullam. Soon his brothers and all his other relatives joined him there. Then others began coming – men who were in trouble, or in debt, or who were just discontented – until David was the captain of about 400 men.

1 SAMUEL 22:1-2



Ronan's story

Ronan was in the Royal Air Force. Fighting in wars can make people have nightmares and bad memories, and these can continue long after they stop fighting. When Ronan left this job, he felt sad and scared. He had nightmares and couldn't sleep.



To try to forget his bad memories, Ronan started drinking too much alcohol. He wanted to drink more and more, even though it didn't really help. He spent all his money on drink and then he lost his home.

Ronan came to Ogof Adullam. He found a warm place, food and a hot drink. He found people who listened to him, and who helped him get better.

Now Ronan helps other people who come to Ogof Adullam.

How you can help the Advent Offering?

Money from the Advent Offering will help pay for more people to receive help at Ogof Adullam.



How could you be part of the Advent Offering service? Ask the stewards in your church.

Maybe you could:

- ◆ welcome people to the service?
- ◆ bake cakes to sell?
- ◆ sell Christmas cards?
- ◆ save some of your pocket money to give?

A prayer for Ogof Adullam

Lord, we thank you for the place of refuge that you provided for David in Adullam's cave. Thank you for this story that has inspired Ogof Adullam in Swansea. We pray for your blessing on all those who work here to help homeless people. We ask that your peace would fill the guests; that your strength would give them faith in a new future, and that you would protect them from all harm this Christmas and for evermore.

In Jesus name, amen.



What makes a home?



Do you think David's cave would have felt like home to the people who ran there to hide from trouble?

Read about the refuge in Swansea again, and look at the photos.

What makes it feel like home?



Which of the homes in these pictures would you most like to be part of?



Draw or paint a design for your own cosy home below.



Dear JMA secretaries,

Welcome to the Winter 2016/2017 issue of *Rainbow*. We hope you have enjoyed your first term back after the summer break, and wish you a wonderful Advent and Christmas filled with joy and wonder.

Over the summer, JMA has moved to the Connexional Fundraising Team. We hope this will mean more joined-up thinking and resources for all age groups to understand and join in our key campaigns. Please consider supporting your children and young people to take part in the Advent Offering. You can read more about the Advent Offering in the centre pages.

Please send in details of how you get involved in the Advent Offering. If you include photographs, please make sure that you have the consent of the parents and guardians and confirm this when you send them in. Then we will be able to publish them in *Rainbow*. You can email us at fundraising@methodistchurch.org.uk or write to us at the address below:

JMA
The Fundraising Team
The Methodist Church
25 Marylebone Road
London
NW1 5JR



In June, members of Tuesday Friends Club at Wesley Road Methodist Church in Trowbridge cycled, scooted and roller bladed around the outside of church in a continuous relay for an hour. They raised £147 for JMA.



Here are three of the twelve collectors at Kirkham Methodist Church in the S Fylde Circuit, after receiving their JMA certificates and badges at the Harvest Festival service in October. An amazing total of £488.54 was collected by these children and young people.

Daniel and Matthew set up a stall at the Kings Way Church, West Yorkshire. The stall was their own idea, something which they'd been keen to do for a while. They sold handmade bookmarks, cards, fudge and chocolate truffles! They raised £65.20 for JMA and had great fun in the process.



To keep up to date with JMA news, please visit our website:
[www.methodist.org.uk/mission/junior-mission-for-all-\(jma\)](http://www.methodist.org.uk/mission/junior-mission-for-all-(jma))



One Mission Matters

Have you received the latest edition of *One Mission Matters* yet?

This Autumn issue highlights the Church's role in embracing our neighbours in the fight against discrimination and injustice, whatever form that takes. We learn about the work of young Methodist volunteers working with migrant children in Italy. We also look at the recently funded work at the Ogof Adullam



drop-in centre, Swansea, as well as stories from volunteers and beneficiaries at the Blackpool Food Partnership.

Product code: DL532-MM-16

Navigate – Exploring the Bible DVD



Why bother with the Bible? Can we trust it? What difference does it even make to life today? *Navigate* will help teenagers explore and engage with the Bible.

The resource is primarily aimed at 11-15 year olds, but the material can be adapted for use with younger (9-10 years) or older (16+ years) groups. It is

most suited to those with limited knowledge of the Bible, as it serves as a basic introduction.

The five interactive sessions, with easy-to-use session plans, contain discussions, quizzes, creative and reflective activities as well as five short animations following the journey of Bob as he asks questions about the Bible.

Produced in partnership between the Methodist Church and the Bible Society, the material is also available to download for free from www.methodist.org.uk/navigate

Product code: GE801-CY-13

SALE: was £2.50 **NOW** £1.25

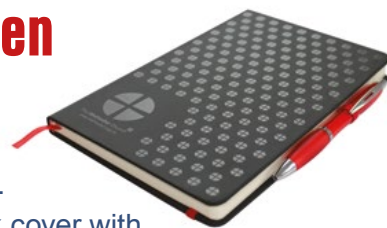
Methodist Notebook and Pen

A stylish black A5 notebook.

Hardback cover with Methodist logo and cream lined paper. Red ribbon page marker, elasticated closure and pen loop containing matching red curvy pen with Methodist logo. The pen is black ink.

Product code: MN001-CT-16

210 x 148mm • 96pp • £4.99



My Bible Stories

A series of four Bible stories for children from Tick Tock publishing re-told by Sasha Morton. Delightfully presented and gorgeously illustrated by Alfredo Belli.

The Nativity Story

ISBN 9781848988156

David and Goliath

ISBN 9781848988187

Daniel in the Lions' Den

ISBN 9781848988170

Noah's Ark

ISBN 9781848988163

226 x 198mm

- Hardback
- £3.99 each



To order, please visit www.methodistpublishing.org.uk or telephone 0845 017 8220.

A psalm to pray for Ogof Adullam

DAVID WROTE THIS PSALM ABOUT THE TIME HE WAS HIDING FROM KING SAUL. PSALM 34:4-10

I sought the Lord, and he answered me,
and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to him, and be radiant;
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord,
and was saved from every trouble.

The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

O taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who take refuge in him.

O fear the Lord, you his holy ones,
for those who fear him have no want.

The young lions suffer want and hunger,
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

