



EDITORIAL

Marian Izzard

Many apologies for this delayed issue of MET Connexion. Changes within the team during the spring necessitated a slight reshuffle with the production of the magazine. This edition has been a collaborative effort between David Hull and myself. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

We are only a small team, with no central office as such, each of us working from home (myself part-time and Derek now full time) and others fitting in MET responsibilities in their spare time! The blessing of this digital age enables us to communicate frequently by email, phone and skype!

It is wonderful that Derek Balsdon our Development Worker is now working full-time with us (as of 1 September). He has been on a steep learning curve during this year of part-time work with us and has acquired many new skills with the website as well as getting his head around the wide ranging remit of the role. We are blessed to have him as part of the team.

The theme for this edition is The Glorious Church - a vision which David Hull, the Chair unpacks in his article. He speaks of a church filled with the glory and presence of God; a church where people are changed and transformed into the likeness of Jesus and a church that recovers its confidence in the gospel, its existence, and its purpose.

Our other articles reflect this theme in their different ways: Carolyn Lawrence (Vice President Designate for the Methodist Conference) speaks how God moves in mysterious ways and how opportunities come when we least expect them. Ben Juliano shares that one of the keys to revival is simply by following God's call on our lives. Ali Johnson shares how the impact of the digital world has revolutionized our lives and how it can help us as a church in sharing the good news with others. Chris Ritter from the United Methodist Church of America shares how the Glorious Church can become fractured as United Methodists face an uncertain future. Ken Robinson shares interesting insights about renewal in the Irish Methodist Church. Aimee Nott from one of MET's partner organizations All We Can explores the unique way the church is called to engage with global development. Danny Webster, from the Evangelical Alliance explores how the government can help Christians in the UK to stand with the persecuted church.

As most of you are aware, The Methodist Church in the UK is proposing to change the definition of marriage at the 2020 Conference. MET has provided the Remaining Faithful resources to facilitate and enable discussion on these issues that will be taking place in local churches, circuits and synods. Please do look at the centrefold of this magazine which gives the full range of resources, regional gatherings and a national event: Liverpool 200 next May.

We are most grateful for your prayerful support at this challenging time.

The Editor welcomes articles and Good News stories for future issues. The theme for the Spring edition will be The Challenge of Culture for Mission and Ministry. The deadline for submission is 1 March, but please do let the editor know well in advance if you would like to submit an article for a specific issue, to ensure space is reserved, as the Editor commissions articles at the beginning of the process. To submit or to ask permission to reproduce anything, please email: editor@methodistevangelicals.org.uk

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