

# Safeguarding Newsletter

January 2022

## Welcome to the January 2022 Regional Safeguarding Newsletter



### Updated Safeguarding policies

The following policies have been updated and can be found on the Safeguarding Policies and Guidance page of the Methodist Church website:

The Safer Recruitment Policy

The Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Guidance

The Domestic Abuse policy

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/safeguarding/policies-procedure-and-information/policies-and-guidance/>

### Yorkshire and North East Online Safeguarding Conference

The theme this year is based on the **Theology of Safeguarding** report that was presented to Conference 2021 and can be found at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/media/21753/conf-2021-27-the-theology-of-safeguarding.pdf>

There are three sessions and you can book for one, two or all three. Please book in advance at [LN Yorkshire Plus Events | Eventbrite](#) [LN Yorkshire Plus Events | Eventbrite](#)

### This issue contains:

- Updated Safeguarding Policies
- Online Conference booking details
- Training update
- IICSA report
- Webinar details
- Useful Contacts

### Training

Face to face Foundation Module training is starting to take place across the circuits. We are in the process of arranging face to face sessions for the Advanced Module and online sessions for the Foundation Module. Further details will be circulated shortly.

From the team who brought you **GIFTS OUTSIDE THE BOX**  
**SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE**

How does safeguarding influence who we are as God's people?  
Three sessions reflecting on the theology of safeguarding:

ALL ARE WELCOME	POWER IN THE CHURCH	FORGIVENESS
Tues 1st Feb 2022   10-11.30am	Wed 2nd Feb 2022   7-8.30pm	Thurs 3rd Feb 2022   1.30-3pm

Book online: [bit.ly/safeguardingconf2022](https://bit.ly/safeguardingconf2022)

**Thank you** to those who helped to complete our Regional Data Return and who are working to ensure that all our volunteers are safely recruited, those who need to do the training and have a DBS check have done so and that all safeguarding concerns are recognised, responded to, recorded and referred as necessary.

## **Methodist Church Website**

### [Covid-19 Guidance](#)

This page is updated regularly with new resources and advice.

## **Useful Contacts**

### **Regional Safeguarding Officer:**

Carolyn Godfrey  
07534 346374  
newcastle.darlington  
@dso.methodist.org.uk

### **Chair of Regional Safeguarding Group:**

Mark Braithwaite  
07771 771360  
markbraithwaite  
@btinternet.com

### **Regional Safeguarding Administrator:**

Whilst Ruth is on maternity leave her role will be covered by:  
Jenny Prior  
07903 710759  
neregSAFE.office  
@gmail.com



Congratulations to Ruth on the birth of Ethan.

## **Independent Inquiry Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA)**

The publication of the IICSA report into Child Protection in Religious Organisations and Settings on the 2nd September is a key marker in the way we as a denomination need to be moving forward in our safeguarding. This report needs to also be viewed alongside the reports into the C of E and the Catholic Church, and also the final report of IICSA when it is produced later in 2022. The response statement made by the Methodist Church can be found at <https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/news/latest-news/all-news/the-methodist-church-response-to-the-iicsa-investigation-into-child-protection-in-religions-organisations-and-settings/>

The full implications of this Inquiry on us as a denomination will become apparent over time, but there feels no doubt that our good practice can be built on and that our failings need to be addressed. The level of scrutiny that we are under in regard to safeguarding will only increase because of this, a range of changes are anticipated in response to the reports.

## **“Speaking Truth: Voices of Survivors” - Webinar series**

Two informative and thought-provoking webinars are being planned by the Methodist Survivors' Advisory Group.

Webinar 1:

### **‘Hearing Reality: Voices Crying in The Wilderness’**

Wednesday 19 January 2022 | 11:00 – 12:30 |  
via Zoom | [Register in advance for this webinar](#)

Webinar 2:

### **‘The Church’s Response to Survivors:**

### **From Stumbling Block to Stepping Stone’**

Wednesday 23 February 2022 | 11:00 – 12:30 |  
via Zoom | [Register in advance for this webinar](#)

Previous webinars have discussed Domestic Abuse and Dementia Friendly Churches. Recordings can still be viewed on the Methodist Church website:

[Domestic Abuse Webinar: Thursday 25 November 2021 \(methodist.org.uk\)](#)

[Making Our Churches More Dementia-Friendly Webinar: Tuesday 30 November 2021 \(methodist.org.uk\)](#)