



# Woven

God's Story. Your Story. Every Story.



Activity guide for local churches on the  
London District theme for 2019 - 2021

#WovenIntoGod #WovenWithOthers

# MEET THE PLANNING GROUP

Working with the London District Chairs



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(Volunteer member)



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## WHAT'S INSIDE?

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT**  
[methodistlondon.org.uk/woven](http://methodistlondon.org.uk/woven)

# A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT CHAIRS

Welcome to Woven, the London District Theme for 2019-2021. The theme centres on the power of storytelling to transform and renew us in our life long discipleship as followers of Christ. Many of you will know that this year's Presidential theme "So what's the Story...?" encourages us to learn from other people's stories and to reflect on our own story. We are inherently storytellers. Sharing of our stories is how we live, laugh and cry. It also allows us to connect authentically with the communities around us and it's how we see depth in our relationships.

Over the next two years of the project we will remind ourselves that there is a narrative which God is writing and through His grace we're being woven mercifully into His story. We are also inspired by

Jesus' call to live out and confidently share this story with others; and interweave our lives with communities around us, so that they too may hear, experience and become part of God's story. In locating ourselves in God's story, we also realise there is enough room for others to be part of it and we extend an invitation to them.

We hope and pray that you will join with us by being involved in the project which allows us to hear God's Story, your story and other people's stories.



Nigel



Micky



Jongi

## OUR AIMS

The vision of Woven is:

- To see increased confidence and ownership of the beautiful weaving of our stories into God's story
- For God's story and our faith journeys to be shared confidently within and beyond our church walls regularly and more widely

#WovenIntoGod  
#WovenWithOthers

**Woven**  
God's Story. Your Story. Every Story.

## SHARE YOUR STORY

'Whether or not the stories have happy endings, just by telling the story of how God works in our lives, we bear witness to what God has done and is doing, for us personally.'

**Clive Marsh, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference 2019/20**

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We invite you to share your experience of God with others at church, at work, at home, at school and in the community. Opportunities to share your story may present themselves in the following ways:

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### AT YOUR SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICE

Share your testimony with others when asked to



### AT ACTIVITIES WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Talk about what God has done for you in your conversations



### ON SOCIAL MEDIA

(#WovenIntoGod #WovenWithOthers)

Record a short clip of yourself telling a story of an experience of God

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW TO SHARE YOUR STORY WITH OTHERS, PLEASE VISIT [methodistlondon.org.uk/yourstory](http://methodistlondon.org.uk/yourstory)**

## ZOE'S STORY

Pharmacist at Royal Free Hospital & member of Kilburn Methodist Church

Zoe Oppong Anorson, a member of the Woven Planning Group, attends Kilburn Methodist Church and is a pharmacist at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead. She was born into the Christian tradition but only began to surrender her life to Christ around the age of 18.

**What do you enjoy most about your current occupation?** Interacting with my patients - making them feel human, valued, respected and causing them to smile or laugh.

**What gifts and abilities do you bring to your job and what impact have these had on others?** This will sound really cheesy or cliché but essentially I am a people-person. I was created to bring life to those around me and on the surface it comes off in my energy and easy smile.

**Why did you choose your current profession and how did your faith inform your current career choice?** I had decided what I wanted to be long before I thought God cared what that was. Around the time of going to university, I was intentionally walking with Jesus and facing some difficult personal circumstances so I prayed to God saying I don't know what I'm doing but I know I can be a stubborn goat so He should close all other doors and only leave the one opened that He wants me to go through. This was that door.



**What have been some of the challenges you've faced in your job and how has your relationship with God and the Christian community around you helped you?** I work in a high-pressured environment and sometimes it can feel overwhelming, especially because I have this standard I expect of myself and when I think I have failed, it can feel devastating. During the toughest periods, I found myself going to the chapel daily to pray for peace and strength before work or during lunch breaks. I also have a group of friends who support me spiritually through prayer and encouragement in the Word.

**What do you think people know you for at work?** They would probably say I'm loud, talkative, outgoing, you get the gist.

**Where do you think God is leading you in your profession?** Can I be honest and say I don't know. I am convinced I came down this path for a purpose, to acquire knowledge and or skills that will probably be key for whatever I end up dedicating my life to. I will probably serve in this way for some time but I will probably not be doing it all the time in this exact way in the future. I just don't know what that may look like. I'm still praying the stubborn goat prayer. LOL





# LONDON DISTRICT WEEKEND AWAY

Friday 10th – Sunday 12th July 2020

High Leigh Conference Centre, Hertfordshire EN11 8SG

A residential weekend to discover God's story, locate ourselves and others in God's story and develop the confidence to share these stories everywhere.

## WHAT'S ON?

- Engaging keynote sessions, topical workshops and Bible study
- Space for reflection, relaxation and fellowship
- A dedicated stream of activities for children and young people
- Late night entertainment and games show

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Professor Anthony Reddie**

Professor of Theological Ethics, Editor of 'Black Theology: An International Journal', Fellow of Wesley House (Cambridge) and a Methodist Lay Preacher



**Revd Dr. Elaine A. Heath**

Professor of Missional & Pastoral Theology, President of Neighborhood Seminary and the former Dean of Duke Divinity School

## WHAT'S INCLUDED IN THE COST?

Access to all sessions and activities | Tranquil Hertfordshire countryside location | Full board and en suite facilities | Complimentary tea & coffee and towels in all rooms | Fitness trail, lawns and gardens | Free lawn games | Games room

## TICKETS:

Adults (ages 17+): £60 | Children (ages 6 - 16): £30 | Under 5s: FREE

**REGISTRATION CLOSES ON WEDNESDAY 10TH JUNE 2020.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, VISIT**

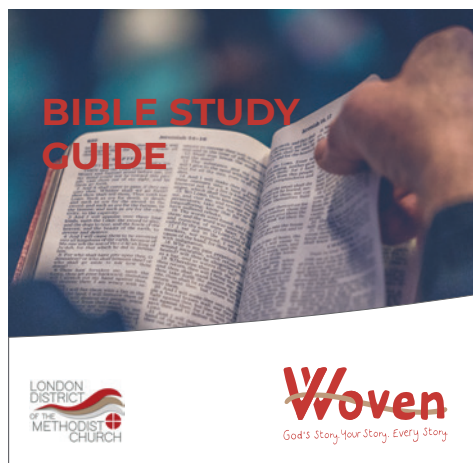
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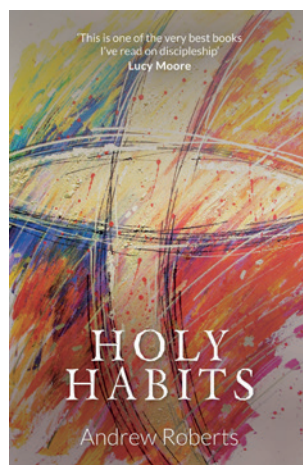
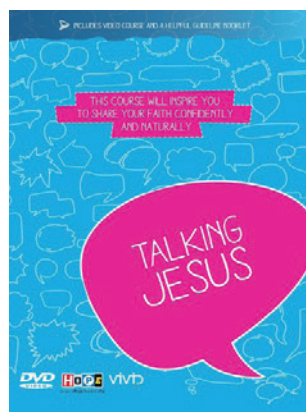
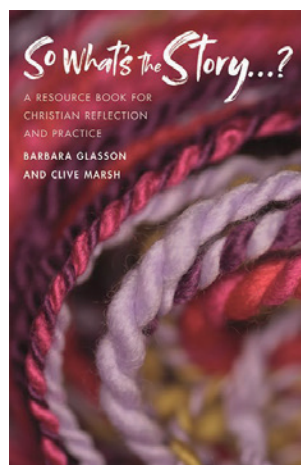
# RESOURCES FOR YOU AND YOUR CHURCH

Connect with God and interact with others

Launching in autumn 2020:



We also recommend these:



## A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

With the Chairs of the London District of the Methodist Church

Tuesday 16th – Tuesday 23rd March 2021 | Eight days based in Jerusalem & Galilee | 4\* Accommodation | Price: £1,795 (shared) | £2,220 (single). Price includes return flights from London Luton Airport and full board and en suite facilities. Insurance to be purchased separately.

ONLY 50 SPACES AVAILABLE

It is always very moving to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, there is so much to see and experience and learn together. St Jerome said: 'Five gospels record the life of Jesus. Four you will find in books and one you will find in the land they call Holy. Read the fifth gospel and the world of the four will open to you.'

understanding of the gospels will never be the same again and by visiting the Holy Land we are standing in solidarity and weave ourselves into the lives of our sisters and brothers there too. Whether you are new to the Holy Land or have been many times before, there are always new sights and sounds to reflect upon.

We invite you to join us and discover for yourselves the setting of some of the most important events in the life and ministry of our Lord, Jesus Christ: in Jerusalem, the surrounding area and further north in Galilee. Others that have visited the Holy Land describe it as a trip of a lifetime. Your

This eight-day trip will transform your interaction with Scripture into a lively experience that fills all the senses. Join others to experience the story of our faith, interact with the local Palestinians and Israeli Christians and see the sites mentioned in the Scriptures.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO MAKE A RESERVATION, VISIT [methodistlondon.org.uk/pilgrimage](http://methodistlondon.org.uk/pilgrimage) OR CONTACT FOLA OYELEYE ON 020 7654 3845 AND BY EMAIL [fola@methodistlondon.org.uk](mailto:fola@methodistlondon.org.uk)

# HOW ELSE CAN YOU BE INVOLVED?

## FAITH AT WORK MEDIA SERIES

Short video and radio series profiling the faith stories of London Methodists at home, in their workplace and in their local community in partnership with Premier Christian Radio

Got a story to share? We'd love to hear it. Contact Fola at [folam@methodistlondon.org.uk](mailto:folam@methodistlondon.org.uk) or call 0207 654 3845



Launching in Spring 2020

## THE STORY PROJECT TOUR – LONDON DISTRICT

We all love a good story don't we? The Story Project is a Methodist Church Project centred around stories. The tour will include talks, seminars and an opportunity to record your very own story.



To register: [thestoriesprojectldn.eventbrite.co.uk](https://thestoriesprojectldn.eventbrite.co.uk)

10.00am – 3.00pm  
Saturday 16th May 2020

Methodist Central Hall Westminster, Storey's Gate,  
Westminster, London, SW1N 9NH

## WOVEN SUNDAY

Special all age Sunday service to discover and connect with God's story and others' experience of God.

Spring 2021



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## WOVEN CELEBRATION DAY

A day of celebration to share stories, fellowship with others, music, worship and inspiring talks.

Summer 2021



## OTHER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

Guided tours to learn the history of Methodism, poetry night for young people and inspired talks on Christian faith.





## 1 Thessalonians 2:8

So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. **(NRSV)**



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