

**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR**

Welcome to the January Safeguarding News!

### Safeguarding Forum

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 7pm on Zoom

The Forum is open to anyone with a safeguarding role or interest in the church. This month the Forum, besides the usual safeguarding updates, is focussing on Elder Abuse.

This will include abuse such as

- doorstep,
- telephone and
- internet scams and fraud
- Forced and coercive marriages and relationships

Please register [here](#)

There is always a chance to ask questions and seek advice as well. It's informal and open to all!

It hardly seems possible that I am preparing a newsletter for January 2023; where did 2022 disappear?

We start this year with many exciting projects recommencing after the impact of the pandemic as people gain confidence and seek to explore mission once more in practical ways. There are also new ventures starting as churches open their doors to provide Warm Spaces for their communities in times of great hardship.

Safeguarding is embedded in all that we do, and I am grateful for the Risk Assessments and queries I receive which highlight the fact that we are very conscious of the responsibility we have to care and keep one another safe.

With best wishes to all for 2023!

*Jane*

### Recording of 'The Hidden Victims of Domestic Abuse' Webinar

The third Domestic Abuse Webinar was held on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The theme was 'The Hidden Victims of Domestic abuse' and, with this in mind, presentations included domestic abuse amongst older people, young people and within ministerial families. We had contributions from Veronica Gray from Hourglass (Formerly Action on Elder Abuse), Maggie Wilkinson from Broken Rites, and Beckie Breakwell from What's the Debate, as well as from Jess Phillips MP.

We also had contributions from the Revds Sonia Hicks and Michaela Youngson and from Carolyn Lawrence. [Watch the webinar on YouTube](#) and check out the Church's [Domestic abuse webpage](#).

The East Anglia District of the Methodist Church is looking to appoint a District Safeguarding Officer to provide leadership in good safeguarding practice.

This key role will provide leadership in good safeguarding practice in the District. Tasks include providing effective training, support and advice and undertaking risk assessments for individual cases.

We are looking for someone who is educated to degree level or equivalent in a relevant field (Education, Social Work, Psychology, Health, Probation, Police etc) or has relevant professional training. You must also have expertise / knowledge in child and/or adult safeguarding.

**Hours of work:** 24 hours a week with flexibility to work some evenings and weekends as required.

**Salary:** £24,224 per annum.

For further details, for an informal conversation about the role and an application form please contact Mike Garwood at [DLES@eangliamethodist.org.uk](mailto:DLES@eangliamethodist.org.uk)

**Closing Date:** Friday January 27, 2023

### Walking with Micah – responses by the Methodist Survivors' Advisory Group

What does it mean for the Methodist Church to be a justice-seeking church? The prophet Micah reminded people that the worship God wants is for us to act justly, to love as God loves, and to walk humbly with God. The **Walking with Micah: Methodist Principles for Social Justice (WWM)** project has been set up to help the Methodist Church in Britain to focus on its principles and priorities for justice and through that increase its ability to seek God's justice, as a Church and in individuals' own Christian lives. The Methodist Survivors' Advisory Group were asked to submit their answers to a series of questions and you can read more about their responses [here](#)