



Safeguarding News  
December 2024

The **Methodist Church**  
East Anglia

Can I just start by wishing you all a good Advent, Christmas and New Year. I would just like to draw your attention to the most recent Safeguarding Forum which some of you attended on 25<sup>th</sup> November. This came on the first day of 16 days of action through the campaign "Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls, and centred on Domestic Abuse and how we can respond well in both an actionable way but also how we can provide best support to individuals. I was joined by Kate Little and Sarah Simpkin from the Methodist Survivors Advisory group, and can safely say it was a hugely beneficial and challenging input, and something that I will be looking to roll out further.

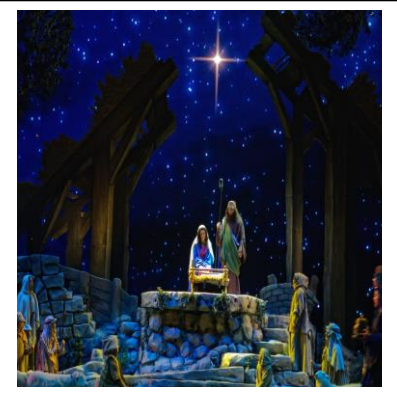
Sarah's story can be found on the Connexional website as she shares her testimony as a survivor of domestic abuse.

[Don't Turn Away - The Methodist Church](#)

With best wishes,

*Neil*

We have started to roll out some training dates for 2025 and there will be more to come. If you have need in the New Year please check the Safeguarding pages of the website and book on via EventBrite. We already have Advanced Module courses diarised in Ipswich and Ely.  
<https://eangliamethodist.org.uk/safeguarding>



### District Safeguarding Policy

The updated and approved District safeguarding Policy is now available.

[District Safeguarding Policy \(2024\)](#)

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## Spiritual Abuse Awareness Training dates for 2025

We are pleased to advertise 3 Spiritual Abuse Awareness training sessions for 2025; Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May and Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September. All the sessions will take place online and run from 10.30am to 3.30pm with a break for lunch.

**BOOK HERE:** [Book for Methodist Spiritual Abuse Training on Eventbrite](#)

Each session will be open to 30 participants, so please share these details with others, particularly ordained leaders within the church, asking them to book on via the Eventbrite link.

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***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*** is one of Methodism's earliest carols. Originally written by Charles Wesley, it felt fitting for us to produce a new version of this wonderful song in time for Christmas. *Hark!* is out now and can be streamed or downloaded from wherever you usually get your music. There is a lyric performance video [which can be viewed on our Youtube channel](#) and can be downloaded for use in your upcoming church services via our [Vimeo channel](#).

*Hark!* features vocals from two Methodist singers, Thomas Simm, District Safeguarding Officer in Chester & Stoke-on-Trent and Iona Cameron, from the Solihull Methodist District.