



THE METHODIST CHURCH
IN IRELAND

Inter- Church Relations



WE ARE STRONGER TOGETHER

Inter-Church Relations Committee 2021

Inter-Church Relations Committee

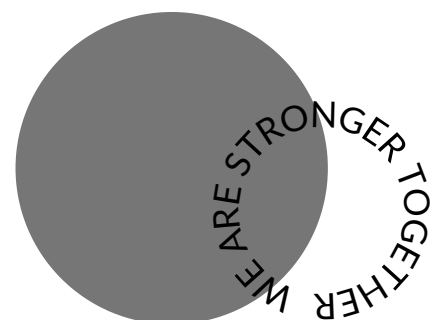
The remit of the Inter-Church Relations Committee is to address 'those issues which concern relationships with other churches within Ireland and keep the church informed concerning ecumenical issues at a national (Britain and Ireland), European and world level.' (**Manual of Laws 42.2**).

This is a complex remit with multiple forms of relationship:

Bi-lateral Relationships

Covenant Council: the Methodist Church and the Church of Ireland entered into a Covenant relationship in 2002. The two churches enjoy full interchangeability of ministries.

Mission Partnership Forum: the Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church share in the oversight of three alternating ministries schemes, at Galway, Limerick and Sandymount, Dublin. They also share in chaplaincy arrangements.



Irish Churches

Irish Council of Churches (ICC): the Methodist Church is among the founding churches of the Irish Council of Churches. ICC has 14 member churches, including members from the Orthodox tradition and from African-instituted churches.

Irish Inter-Church Meeting (IICM): the Roman Catholic Church joins with the Irish Council of Churches to form IICM.

Intra Methodist

European Methodist Council (EMC) includes four conferences of the United Methodist Church – Germany, Nordic and Baltic, Russia, and Southern/Central Europe and North Africa, along with the Methodist Churches of Ireland, Britain, Italy, Spain and Portugal. It is a consultative council that brings together Methodist leaders from across Europe to discuss common issues facing the church, to learn and grow in understanding, to support each other and to share in fellowship and encouragement.

World Methodist Council (WMC) has a membership of 80 Methodist, Wesleyan and related Uniting and United Churches and represents over 80 million people from 138 countries. It seeks to engage with, empower and serve the member Churches by encouraging Methodist unity in witness, facilitating mission in the world, and fostering ecumenical and interreligious activities.

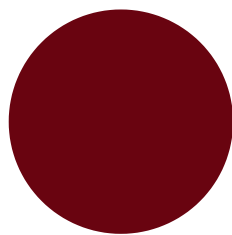
Wider Ecumenical

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) is an umbrella organization which provides a forum for churches of many traditions on these islands, including Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Anglican, Free churches and African-instituted churches. The Methodist Church and the Church of Ireland are members of CTBI, with other churches associated through their membership of ICC. The Presbyterian Church discontinued membership in the late 1980s.

Conference of European Churches (CEC) is ‘a fellowship bringing together 114 churches from Orthodox, Protestant, and Anglican traditions from all over Europe for dialogue, advocacy, and joint action.’

Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPEC) is ‘a fellowship of over 100 Protestant churches which have signed the Leuenberg Agreement. Together they strive for realizing church communion, especially by cooperation in witness and service to the world.’

World Council of Churches (WCC) The Methodist Church and the Church of Ireland are members of WCC. The Presbyterian Church discontinued membership in the mid 1970s. WCC is ‘a fellowship of 350 churches from more than 110 countries, representing over 500 million Christians worldwide.’



The Covenant *with the Church of Ireland*

Covenant between the Methodist Church in Ireland and the Church of Ireland

[Read here](#)

'Where We Are Now' 2014 Article [Read here](#)

*Prepared by Archbishop Richard Clarke and the
Revd Winston Graham, Co-Chairs of the Covenant Council*

Inter-Church Relations Committee

The remit of the Inter-Church Relations Committee is to address 'those issues which concern relationships with other churches within Ireland and keep the church informed concerning ecumenical issues at a national (Britain and Ireland), European and world level.' (Manual of Laws 42.2).

This is a complex remit with multiple forms of relationship:

- **Bi-Lateral relationships**
- **Irish churches**
- **Intra Methodist**
- **Wider Ecumenical**



Helpful Reading



Article by Katherine McKnight

*European Methodist Council, September 7th – 11th 2018,
Haslev, Denmark*

Article by Tom McKnight

The 2018 World Methodist Council Meeting in South Korea

From the **Assembly of the Conference of European Churches** to the churches and peoples of Europe, 2018

Article by David Turtle

Report on the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE) 8th General Assembly, 13th-18th Sept. 2018 in Basel

