

Invitation to Register, for the

Domestic Abuse Seminar (Zoom)

Saturday 25th November 2023,

10.00am – 1.00pm

Domestic abuse is widespread. It continues to affect people from all walks of life, including churchgoers and those with whom we come into contact through our activities.

It can be hard to believe that domestic abuse happens within Church, but research, conducted by Restored, devastatingly shows that 1 in 4 churchgoers have experienced abuse in a current relationship.



The Methodist Church holds that domestic abuse in all its forms is unacceptable and incompatible with the Christian faith and a Christian way of living. This means ensuring that members of the Methodist Church have an awareness and understanding of domestic abuse and know how to respond appropriately and effectively. Then when victims disclose abuse, they can expect to be listened to, taken seriously, supported and referred to local professional services, as appropriate.

Speakers:

- **Bekah Legg, CEO of Restored;** A Christian charity whose mission is to speak up about the realities of violence against woman and girls, and to equip the church to stand against domestic abuse and support survivors.
Bekah will introduce the subject and provide an overview of the current situation in this country.
- **Karen Allen – Connexional Safeguarding Team** and Chair of the Methodist Church Domestic Abuse Planning Group and helped to produce the domestic abuse policy and procedures. She has worked with both adult and child survivors of domestic abuse offering practical and emotional support and providing a range of therapeutic interventions.
Karen will outline Methodist resources and Connexional Domestic Abuse policy, both devised to help and guide local churches.
- **Kerry Griffiths, training lead from IDAS:** the largest specialist charity in the North supporting people affected by domestic abuse and sexual violence. IDAS support is open to anyone irrespective of age, sex, gender, ethnicity, disability, or immigration status.
Kerry will explain who IDAS are, what they do, and talk about some of the local groups they work with.

Advanced Registration is essential.

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEIcGgpzooHtbSbVc3P9wqLdEALMwW-7Wo>

Planned and organised by members of the Sheffield District Safeguarding Group.