

## The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 



Hi everyone,  
and welcome  
to **The Week Ahead**.

With Christian Aid Week almost upon us and the General Election gathering pace there is lots to keep us all busy.

I will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week on **020 7467 5170**.

God bless,

Mike Ivatt  
Lead Media Officer



## On the box

[The Truth About Sleep](#)  
Thursday 11 May,  
BBC One, 7:00pm

We are one of the most sleep-deprived countries in the world. In The Truth About Sleep, insomniac Michael Mosley finds out what happens if we don't get enough sleep and looks at surprising solutions to help us get more.

[Walks With My Dog](#)  
Saturday 13 May,  
Channel 4, 8:00pm

Some new faces, both human and canine, take their doggy pals for some delightfully picturesque strolls around Britain. Phil Spencer returns with his dog Jessie and energetic new addition Scout to explore the Kent marshes,

## General Election resources

As well as the reflections available [here](#), the Joint Public Issues Team has designed a range of banners to encourage church members and passers-by to pray about their vote ahead of the General Election. You can order the banners [here](#).

## Christian Aid Week

Taking place 14-20 May, it is still **not too late** to take part in Christian Aid Week. To order resources for your **fundraising** event, click [here](#).

## Peer Talk - Warrington

Taking place Saturday 20 May at The Centre, Birchwood Park, Warrington, this is an opportunity to learn about **depression** and how the church can be a **good neighbour** to those living with the condition and their families. These are free and open to all who would like to attend. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Bible Month

In June 2017, the Methodist Church is encouraging churches and circuits across the Connexion to celebrate 'Bible Month'. This year, the 30 days will be focused on the **letter of James**. Bible Month supports both **preachers** and **leaders of small groups** to engage with the Bible in fresh and innovative ways. Click [here](#) to find out more.

## New forms of chaplaincy

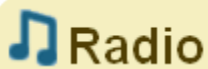
A five-day course taking place between the **19 and 23 June at Cliff College Summer School** for all those, both lay and ordained, wanting to test a calling to chaplaincy or interested in using chaplaincy techniques in

where Spencer visits Faversham, home to Britain's oldest brewer.

### [The Birth of Music](#)

**Sunday 14 May,  
BBC 4, 7:00pm**

In this programme exploring the development of British music, conductor Charles Hazlewood looks at the fascinating two-way relationship the great composer Haydn had with Britain.



### [Living in Space](#)

**Saturday 13 May,  
BBC Radio 4, 10:15am**

What would it really be like to live on other planets, and what are the implications of humans colonising space. Living in space is becoming a real prospect, as plans develop for mass space travel and discoveries are made of environments that can support life on other worlds.

### [Something Understood](#)

**Sunday 14 May,  
BBC Radio 4, 6:25am**

Dr Sarah Goldingay examines the elements and explores the spiritual significance of the idea of a 'fifth element' which appears in a wide range of faith traditions.

### [More or less](#)

**Sunday 14 May,  
BBC Radio 4, 8:00pm**

Tim Harford explains - and sometimes debunks - the numbers and statistics used in political debate, the news and everyday life.

their own mission and ministry. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Healing Conference

A healing conference is taking place at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster on Saturday 20 May. Featuring Wes Sutton, Director of **Acorn Christian Healing Foundation**, there will be **worship and a prayerful time of healing ministry** led by Dave and Pat Billbrough. Click [here](#) for booking details.

## Bible Engagement Course

What does it mean to engage with the Bible in the 21st century and how can it be creatively read and used in Christian **discipleship and mission**? The Bible engagement course taking place at Cliff College has been designed for those seeking a **contemporary perspective**. For more information on the weeklong Certificate in Bible Engagement course, click [here](#).

## Prayers and reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in Africa, the Americas, Middle East, India and Asia, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Sent to the nations**.

## Video Thursday: Are we allowing ourselves to feel?

A Methodist Youthworker in Bath, Steve Moore, encourages us to discuss mental health in this week's video, click [here](#) to watch.

See [The Radio Times](#) for further listings.

***The Week Ahead** is a regular mailing that aims to give people a heads up on upcoming events and opportunities, as well as highlighting new information and resources. We don't always remember everything, so please do [email us](#) if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.*