

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hi everyone,


This week is a strange mix of sad news, great resources and opportunities for reflection.

Don't forget that next week is the [World Week for Peace in Palestine Israel](#) (20-26 September). And keep an eye on the [Refugee Crisis webpage](#), which we're keeping updated with the latest statements and resources - most recently, a [pastoral letter](#) from the European Methodist Council.

Toby Fairclough will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week (07969985376).

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Anna

 On the box**Who Do You Think You Are?**

Tonight, 9pm, BBC1 (BBC2 in Wales)
Actress Anne Reid is keen to find out about her father's family, but only has a couple of clues to go on - the name of a house in Scotland and an old story that his ancestors were ministers in the church.

Songs of Praise: Tribute to a Queen Sunday, 4:20pm, BBC1

A musical tribute from the Royal Albert Hall to Her Majesty the Queen as she becomes Britain's longest-reigning monarch

The death of the Revd David Gamble

It was with great sadness that we announced on Saturday the **death of the Revd David Gamble**, former President of the Conference and a much-loved colleague and friend to many. Please keep his family in your prayers. You can read some tributes to David's life and ministry [here](#).

Translators needed

The World Church Relationships team is urgently seeking a number of **Spanish-to-English translators** who would be able to help translate grant applications from our Spanish-speaking partner churches. If you would be able to help, please [email David Friswell](#).

Our great Scot

In our **latest podcast**, Toby Fairclough speaks with Helen Cunningham, who swam one mile across Loch Lomond in the Great Scottish Swim to raise money for the World Mission Fund. You can listen to Helen talk about the experience [here](#) and donate via her [fundraising page](#).

Party time

It's **party conference season** and the Methodist President and Vice-President will be attending the party conferences alongside their Baptist and URC counterparts. This begins on 21-22 September with the Liberal Democrats conference in Bournemouth, which the Revd Steve Wild will attend. Dr Jill Barber will visit the Labour conference (28-29 Sept) in Brighton and the Conservative conference (5-6 Oct) in Manchester.

Junior Mission for All

Junior Mission for All (JMA) has a long tradition of enabling young people to learn about the mission of the Church. This month saw the publication of a **major new resource pack** for JMA leaders. It includes everything you need to inspire and teach young people about the role of mission within our faith. Inside the pack you will find an annual planner, six small group session guides, a board game, Rainbow magazine sample, and a set of the

Millennium Children
Tuesday, 10:35pm,
BBC1

(11:35pm in Scotland)
This unique documentary takes viewers into the lives of children in every corner of the world. We hear their hopes, their dreams and their ideas on what would make their world a better place.

 **Radio**

Any Questions?
Friday, 8pm,
BBC Radio 4

Jonathan Dimbleby presents political debate and discussion from Impington in Cambridgeshire, with Therese Coffey MP, Seema Malhotra MP, John McTernan and Allison Pearson.

From the Self to the Selfie

Saturday, 8pm,
BBC Radio 4

Lauren Laverne looks at the current obsession with selfies, including their origins and effects, and asks whether they are creative expressions of identity or dangerous narcissism.

Sunday Worship:
A Living Sacrifice
Sunday, 8:10am,
BBC Radio 4

Sunday Worship comes from the Archbishop's Chapel at Lambeth Palace, London, where the Most Revd Justin Welby leads a Service of Commitment for the newly established Community of St. Anselm.

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

regular JMA resources. The pack is priced £10 (which includes a £2 donation to JMA), plus postage & packing and you can order yours [here](#).

Keeping mission on the agenda

With circuit and church councils meeting across Britain, the Revd Steven Wild, President of the Methodist Conference, has reiterated his Presidential address and is asking councils to "once again put mission on the agenda and to win one person for Christ this year". To read or listen to his address, [click here](#).

This week in Parliament

This week's **parliamentary business** can be found [online here](#). If you want to find out about the Scottish Parliamentary calendar for the coming week, [click here](#) and details of the timetable for the National Assembly for Wales are [here](#).

Reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in West Africa, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Heirs of the Promises**, written by the Revd Dr Mark Wakelin.

Video Thursday: Captive

Next week will see the UK release of Captive: a film that tells the **story of Ashley Smith**, who made headlines around the globe when she talked her way out of the hands of Brian Nichols, after he took her captive in her home. Ethos Media has produced a free Viewer's Guide that tells some of the true story behind the film, alongside four downloadable videos of interviews with cast and Ashley herself, alongside footage from the film - [click here](#) to check them out.

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.

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