

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 



Hi everyone,
and welcome
to this special
Week Ahead
from the
Methodist
Conference in
Birmingham.

Today, Thursday 29 June, was **the final day of the Conference** until it convenes again next year. So here are **just a few** of our highlights from the past week that you may have missed.

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

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Mike & Toby

On the box

[24 hour Church](#)

Photos of the Methodist Church in action 24 hours a day across the Connexion.

[Budget – it's not about the money](#)

A look at how the money from the Connexional Central Funds is spent.

[An interview with Gary Williams](#)

Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, Jill Baker, interviews Gary Williams about his work for the Methodist Church in Glasgow.

For more videos from the Conference and others,

Presidential Addresses

The inaugural address of the new President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Loraine N Mellor, "**How are we disturbing the present in the Church today?**" can be **read/watched/listened** to [here](#). Jill Baker, the new Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, reflected on **the need for laughter and lament** in the Church's life in her address that is also available to **read/watch/listen** [here](#).

Election of the Designates

The Methodist Conference has elected **the Revd Michaela Youngson to serve as President**, and **Mr Bala Gnanapragasam to serve as Vice-President**, starting their year of office when the Representative Session of the Methodist Conference meets in Nottingham next year. You can read more about the Designates [here](#).

Appointment of the Assistant Secretary

The Methodist Conference has appointed **the Revd Dr Jonathan R Hustler** as the Assistant Secretary of the Conference. He will take office for a period of six years from 1 September 2017. You can read more [here](#).

The Gift of Connexionalism

The Methodist Conference reaffirmed the importance of being an **"interdependent"** and **"diverse"** Church with a report entitled 'The Gift of Connexionalism in the 21st Century'. The Conference discussed the **fundamental importance of 'connexionalism'** for how Methodists understand their own identity. You can read about the report [here](#).

3Generate

The Methodist Youth President, Tim Annan, told the Methodist Conference about the **continued growth** of the Church's annual gathering for young people and

visit our [YouTube](#) or [Vimeo](#) page.

Radio

[The state of the work of God](#)

The Revd Canon Gareth J Powell, Secretary of the Conference, reflects on statistics and mission in the Church.

[The Beckley Lecture](#)

His Grace Bishop Angaelos, General Bishop of the Coptic Orthodox Church in the United Kingdom, discusses religious freedom and justice.

For more podcasts from the Conference [click here](#).

adults aged 8–23, including a **move to a new venue** to meet increasing numbers. [Read more here](#).

Photos

For photos from the Conference, **including pictures from behind the scenes**, please visit our [Flickr](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) pages.

#MethodistConf

Throughout the Conference people were joining in conversations online using the hashtag **#MethodistConf**. [Click here](#) to read **what people were saying** and **join in**.

Conference News

For more **news stories** from the Conference [see here](#).

Conference Catch Up TV

If you weren't able to attend the Conference this year, or wanted to catch up on a particular item of business, you can **watch sessions from the Conference online** [here](#). These will be available to stream through the website for **one month only**.