

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hello everyone, and welcome to The Week Ahead.

It's beginning to look a lot like Easter! To help prepare our churches and ourselves for the coming season of reflection and celebration, I've included some resources I hope that you will find

son will be staffing the out-support line this week on 020 7.

ou all a wonderful week,

Mike Ivatt
Lead Media Officer

 On the box

[Great British Buildings: Restoration of the Year](#)
Thursday, 30 March
Channel 4, 8:00pm

The Victorian category comes into focus as Kevin McCloud and Anna Keay present more building restorations in the running for the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors'

Passiontide

As we begin Passiontide this Sunday, the 5th Sunday in Lent, the Joint Public Issues Team is continuing with its series of **Lent reflections** that you can read [here](#).

World Autism Awareness Week

Sunday 2 April is the culmination of World **Autism Awareness Week**. You can find out more [here](#). In Kent, Union Street Methodist Church in **Maidstone** is holding a special [Autism-friendly service](#) to mark the day at 10am.

Wesley House Easter School for Preachers

A superb opportunity for those who **preach or lead worship** to join leading academics in Cambridge and to spend time reflecting, learning and **developing their gifts**. Taking place 10 - 12 April, click [here](#) for more details and for booking information.

Easter Offering

The Easter Offering service, organised by Methodist Women in Britain, follows the theme 'Shine like Stars', a title taken from Philippians 2:15. This year the services feature **stories from people** working in in Brazil, Ghana and Pakistan, whom the **World Mission Fund supports**. You can find out more about the theme and download leader's notes, order of service, stories, posters, prayer cards, children's activities and a PowerPoint presentation [here](#).

A Gift of Easter

It's not too late to order this popular booklet celebrating the Easter story. The 2017 edition is a great way to share the **hope of Easter** with friends, neighbours, visitors to your church or to give to those who don't yet attend. You can **order it** from [Methodist Publishing](#) at £2.99 for 25 booklets (plus postage & packing).

Easter Hope: Who Do You Say I Am?

Who Do You Say I Am? looks at **evidence and Christian experience** to help people find out about

Restoration of the Year award.

[I'm Different: Let Me Drive](#)

Sunday, 2 April
BBC 1, 11:35pm

Stories of learner drivers with physical and learning disabilities and the unusual challenges they face in passing their test.

[Child of Our Times: Changing Minds](#)

Monday, 3 April
BBC 1, 9:00pm

Professor Robert Winston and Professor Tanya Byron discover how our teenagers' changing brains means that what they choose to do at 16 can shape their lives forever.

Radio

[Thought for the Day](#)

Sunday, 2 April
BBC Radio Kent, 6:40am
Deacon Pru Cahill from the North Kent Circuit reflects on World Autism Awareness Day.

[The Reunion](#)

Sunday, 2 April
BBC Radio 4, 11:15am
Sue MacGregor reunites four Vietnamese refugees who fled their country in 1978 and one of the British sailors who came to their rescue in the South China Sea.

[Beyond Belief](#)

Monday, 3 April
BBC Radio 4, 4:30pm
Ernie Rae and guests discuss the religious understanding of truth, asking what are some of the religious understandings of truth and what role does religion have to play in a so-called post-truth world?

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

Jesus. This beautifully-produced, large format paperback, takes readers on a **journey of discovery** with interviews, testimonies and quotes from the eye-witness accounts in the Gospels. Click [here](#) to order a pack of 10 costs £11.50 (plus p&p).

Local election resource

In preparation for **local elections this May**, the Joint Public Issues Team has released a new resource to help churches **explore some of the relevant issues** within their communities. You can find out more [here](#).

Song of the Week: Day of judgement, Day of wonder

This week's [piece of music](#) is the hymn **Day of judgment! Day of wonder!** (StF 732).

This week in Parliament


Parliament is now in recess but you can find future **parliamentary business** online [here](#). If you want to find out about the Scottish Parliamentary calendar, [click here](#) and the timetable for the National Assembly for Wales [click here](#).

Reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in Southern Europe, Africa, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Songs of Salvation** written by the The Revd Diane Clutterbuck.

Video Thursday: Conversation Welcome

This week's [film](#) introduces the Conversation Welcome resource from the Joint Public Issues Team. Conversation Welcome is designed to help churches explore the important underlying questions about the **sort of society** we wish to live in and leave to future generations.



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.

