

## The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

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

*This Sunday we mark **Hiroshima Day**, which takes place annually on the 6 August. You will find suggested prayers and hymns for this emotive day [here](#).*

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

*Wishing you all a blessed week,*

*Mike Ivatt  
Lead Media Officer*

 On the box

[Songs of Praise](#)  
[Port Sunlight](#)

**BBC 1, 4:00pm**  
**Sunday, 6 August**

Claire McCollum is in Port Sunlight to hear how Christian entrepreneur William Hesketh Lever built this idyllic village to house his soap factory workers.

[Matron, Medicine and Me: 70 Years of the NHS](#)

**BBC 1, 11:00am**  
**Monday, 7 August**

Lucy Alexander finds out about how the NHS looks after children and treats those with disabilities. Lucy's daughter Kitty suffered from transverse myelitis when she was seven.

## A day of prayer and fasting

The 2017 Methodist Conference called upon local churches to start the **new Methodist year** with a **day of prayer and fasting** to recognise the challenges facing communities and the urgent call to share God's love in word and action. For more information please click [here](#).

## Methodism in Poldark

Discover how the current **TV adaptation** of Poldark reflects the true story of **Methodism in Cornwall** during the 1790s with this new article on the [Methodist Church website](#).

## MHA seeks new CEO

MHA is one of the UK's largest charities, providing care, accommodation and support services for **older people** throughout Britain. The charity is seeking a **new CEO** for more information, click [here](#).

## Rural leadership bursaries

A number of **bursaries** are available for those looking to take part in the Germinate Leadership Course for rural ministry. The course equips participants, both lay and ordained, to be creative, entrepreneurial and strategic leaders, and to engage effectively with **rural communities**. For more information, please click [here](#).

## East Africa Famine Appeal

The Methodist Church in Britain is urging people to continue to respond quickly and generously to the **cholera outbreak in Yemen**, one of the largest outbreaks in recent history. **All We Can** has extended its work in the area to meet the needs of people facing the risk of contracting this deadly disease as well as starvation. **To support the All We Can East Africa Famine Appeal**, [click here](#).

## Contemporary Wesleyan Perspectives

**Utopia:**  
**[In Search of the Dream](#)**  
**BBC 4, 9:00pm**  
**Tuesday, 8 August**

In this first episode, Prof Richard Clay explores how utopian visions begin as blueprints for fairer worlds and asks whether they can inspire real change.

## Radio

**[The Death of Retirement](#)**  
**BBC Radio 4, 12:00 noon**  
**Saturday, 5 August**

Paul Lewis turns his attention to the state's obligation to care for the elderly, namely via the current State Pensions system.

**[Something Understood](#)**  
**BBC Radio 4, 6:25am**  
**Sunday, 6 August**

Theologian Dr Jane Williams discusses the nature and extent of human freedom, and how many choices people really have in their lives.

**[High Rise](#)**  
**BBC Radio 4, 5:00pm**  
**Sunday, 6 August**

Following the Grenfell Tower fire, a radio meditation on the enduring dream and the potential nightmare of tower block life.

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

A certificate in contemporary Wesleyan Perspectives is available to those undertaking this **week-long course** at Cliff College. The course considers what a **Wesleyan view of the world means in the 21st century**. Led by the Revd Dr Tim Woolley, a leading Wesleyan scholar, the course takes place between 30 October and 3 November. For more information, click [here](#).

## This week in Parliament

The **Parliament of the United Kingdom**, the **Scottish Parliament** and the **National Assembly for Wales** are currently on **summer recess**.

## Reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in Africa, Latin America, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Newness of Life** written by **George Luke**.

## Video Thursday: The Secret Life of Us

The Disabled Children's Partnership, supported by **Action for Children**, has released a range of videos where young people talk openly about their **day to day challenges**. In these personal stories, children reveal their private lives and highlight the need for urgent improvements to health and social care services. To watch, click [here](#).

*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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