

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 



Hello everyone, and welcome to the first Week Ahead of 2016.

This will be an exciting year with Asbury 200 in April. We will also be remembering John Wesley as we mark the 225th anniversary of his death in March. More on these to come.

I will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week (07881 783812).

From all the Publishing and Communication team, may I wish you every blessing for the year ahead.

Mike

On the box

Empire of the Tsars

Sunday 10 Jan, 8:00pm, BBC Four

Lucy Worsley tells the story of the Romanov dynasty that ruled Russia for three centuries.

Stargazing Live

Tuesday 12 Jan, 9:00pm, BBC Two

Professor Brian Cox and Dara O'Brian see how British Astronaut Tim Peake is settling into his new home aboard the ISS.

I'm an Alcoholic: My Name Is.....

Wednesday, 13 Jan, 10:00pm, Channel 5

Documentary following the lives of eight people struggling to cope as

New Year Miracle: Vice President's Blog

Vice President Jill Barbers's blog post for the New Year reflects on how, **with God's help**, we may all have the ability to support others during the **difficult situation** that the world finds itself in as we start 2016. You can read the blog [here](#).

Here's to Resolutions

A week into the New Year and some people are looking for support to stick to their **resolutions**. Those seeking a healthy start to 2016 and who need a bit of extra encouragement can visit the Dry January initiative from charity **Alcohol Concern**. Their [website](#) offers tools and guidance.

Conscription Centenary

This month marks the 100th anniversary of the passing of legislation for conscription to increase the supply of men for WWI. When introduced in March 1916, the law also gave legal protection for **conscientious objectors**. You can find out more about the topic [here](#).

Connexion Magazine

The **latest Connexion magazine** has been published and will be dropping on to the doormats of churches and members shortly. This edition features stories of **mission in action** from around the Connexion. You can read the online version [here](#).

This week in Parliament

You can find this week's **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

alcohol takes over their lives.

Radio

Archive on 4
Saturday, 9 Jan
8:00pm, BBC Radio 4

A look at how early BBC presenters struggled to build a relationship with their audience through the new broadcast media.

Something Understood
Sunday, 10 Jan,
6:05pm, BBC Radio 4

The wonders and terrors of sleep explored with music and words.

Inside Health
Tuesday, 12 Jan
9:00pm, BBC Radio 4

An older population means a dramatic increase in occurrences of osteoarthritis but can building muscle offer a simple cure?

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

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in Africa, the America's and the Caribbean, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **The Reign of Love** written by the **Dr Richard Vautrey**.

Video Thursday: Courage, Cost & Hope

[This week's film](#) is the first in a series of four videos that introduces aspects of the Past Case Review. An accompanying guide with questions and resources for small groups has been created and can be found [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.*