

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 




Hi everyone,

*This week we've got some brilliant opportunities, a great new initiative, some vital information and pure Video Thursday gold - enjoy!*

*Toby will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week (07974208360).*

*Wishing you all a wonderful week,*

*Anna*

 On the box

**Songs of Praise Sunday, 5pm, BBC1**

David Grant explores changing attitudes to mental illness and how Christians are breaking down the stigma.

**Regina: The First Woman Rabbi Sunday, 9pm, BBC4**

Featuring rare archival footage showing the rich Jewish life and culture that formed the backdrop of her times, the film traces Regina's life from her upbringing in Berlin as the daughter of an Orthodox Jewish peddler, through her studies to her ordination in 1935.

**Inside the Commons Tuesday, 9pm, BBC2 (not Scotland)**

Michael Cockerell presents a documentary filmed over the course of a year in the House of Commons, giving an insight into the day-to-day life and work of everyone from the Prime

**Ebola: A Methodist response**

This week All We Can has announced a new partnership with the Methodist Church of Sierra Leone. The charity is supporting the Church to establish a **new Ebola survivor support centre**, based at Nixon Memorial Hospital in Segbwema, Kailahun District. Donate to their appeal and find out more [here](#).

**Show Some Warmth**

The Children's Society's new report, Show Some Warmth, highlights how **energy companies are failing** to follow the rules by using damaging debt practices, leaving family homes cold and harming children's and parents' health. In the week beginning 2 February the charity is asking people to share a picture of themselves on Twitter and Facebook, on their own or with a friend, wrapped up in a scarf using the hashtag #scarfie and texting SCARFIE to donate to the campaign. More info [here](#).

**Acts 435**

Acts 435 is an initiative that enables churches to post requests for targeted support such as a washing machine, school shoes, or food **for people in need in their local community**. Donors respond online and stories of nearly 5,000 people helped illustrate how a small gift can make a big difference, especially in a crisis. A Methodist church in Oldham has received over £6,000 for people in their community – find out more and get involved [here](#).

**You are the Salt of the Earth**

On 7-8 March, the Methodist/URC Church at Carrs Lane in Birmingham is hosting with St Martin the Bullring a **Taizeweekend for young people**. It offers an opportunity to experience worship in the way of Taize but also for young adults to share in workshops with other young people to reflect on their faith and experiences. You can find out more [here](#) and register [here](#).

**The Lobbying Act: get clued up**

Minister to those who maintain the building.

## Radio

**Moral Maze**  
**Wednesday, 8pm,**  
**BBC Radio 4**

Combative, provocative and engaging debate.

**Any Questions?**  
**Friday, 8pm,**  
**BBC Radio 4**

Jonathan Dimbleby is joined by the director of the energy firm INEOS Tom Crotty, chair of the public accounts committee and Labour MP Margaret Hodge, and the Liberal Democrat backbench MP Julian Huppert for topical debate from Dereham Memorial Hall in Dereham, Norfolk.

**A Modern Magna Carta**  
**Monday, 8pm,**  
**BBC Radio 4**

Lawyer and human rights champion Helena Kennedy QC attempts to design a Magna Carta for the 21st century, as she talks to academics, experts and commentators about where power lies.

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

The Lobbying Act regulates campaigning activity in the **run-up to the General Election**. This [short briefing](#) looks at what the Act is likely to mean for local churches.

## Lend a hand for Heritage

The Methodist Heritage team is looking for **three volunteers** to help them with their work. The roles that need to be filled are Methodist Archivists' Network Coordinator, Methodist Heritage Committee Publications Coordinator and Liaison Officer for Methodist Historic Objects. If any of those sound like you, you can find out more [here](#).

## This week in Parliament

This week's **parliamentary business** can be found online [here](#).

## Reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in Central Europe, Southern Europe, West Africa, Britain and Ireland, with all creation and for the Church around the world. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Wisdom and Mystery** written by the Revd Dr Brian Beck.

## Video Thursday: Kid Bible Stories

This [video](#) made me laugh out loud when I first saw it. It's **original, funny and Bible-based** (roughly speaking). Watch out for the 'Frozen' encroachment.

*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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