

The Week Ahead

Hi everyone,

For some people summertime is a quieter time to recover from the Conference, for others it's a busy time of packing and moving, or welcoming newcomers to the circuit. Whatever you face this summer, I hope you find chance to rest, reflect and be refreshed.

I will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week (07881783812).

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Anna

Hunted: Gay and Afraid Tonight, 11:05pm, Channel 4

Dispatches looks into claims that US-based group the World Congress of Families has used its pro-family message to support anti-gay legislation in Russia - and even lobby the Slovakian government to pass new laws curtailing

Remembering Hiroshima & Nagasaki

The Revd Steve Wild, President of the Methodist Conference has issued a statement in advance of the **70th anniversary of the bombings of Nagasaki and Hiroshima** (6 & 9 August) which you can read [here](#). Click [here](#) for resources for churches to use on Sunday 9 August and [here](#) to sign up to support the UK multi-faith statement on nuclear weapons 2015. There will also be a special service of commemoration on 6 August at Friends House in London - details [here](#).

Seeing red

Inspired by the #RethinkSanctions campaign and by the situations she's encountering at her local foodbank, Deacon Tracey Hulme has created the **Red Fridays campaign**. The idea is that people pledge to wear red and skip a meal on a Friday in solidarity with those who will struggle to eat because that have had their benefits sanctioned. You can order your organic, ethically and fairly traded T-shirts [here](#) and don't forget to write to your MP about sanctions - [guidance here](#).

Get nominating!

This year, the Methodist Church is one of the sponsors of the **Christian Youthwork Awards**. The Awards celebrate the incredible work done with young people in churches and through Christian organisations up and down the UK. If you know someone who deserves recognition for their fantastic work in this area, nominate them [here](#).

the rights of the gay community.

Children of the Gaza War

Saturday, 1:10am, BBC2

(also on iPlayer)

Lyse Doucet follows the lives of children growing up on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which has resulted in three wars in the last six years and the death of more than 500 youngsters during a 51-day war in 2014, all but one of them Palestinian.

Songs of Praise **Sunday, 5:10am, BBC1**

The wedding season is upon us. Josie d'Arby joins a couple on their big day to find out how they prepared for a lifetime together, and we meet the wedding angels helping couples realise their dreams.

The Report

Tonight, 8pm,

BBC Radio 4

Following a landmark decision by the High Court, Caroline Wyatt asks whether faith groups' safeguarding policies adequately protect youngsters from sexual abuse.

Germinate Enterprise

A new Project by the **Arthur Rank Centre** aims to bring jobs and hope to the British Countryside. Germinate Enterprise is practical business start-up course designed to be run by any rural community group or place of worship. Through a series of six pre-prepared sessions the programme aims to help participants decide whether to start a business or become self-employed, what the right business is for them, and whether their idea is viable; whilst creating a short business plan. Find out more [here](#).

Reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in West Africa, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Disciples and Apostles** written by the Revd Alison Tomlin.

Video Thursday:

Jesus feeds the 5,000

Methodist minister the Revd Mark Stennett is responsible for creating this week's [fantastic video](#) - a **Lego re-telling** of the feeding of the 5,000 (this week's lectionary)

Sunday

Sunday, 7:10am, BBC Radio 4

A special edition of the religious news and current affairs programme broadcast live from East London Mosque.

Daily Service

Wednesday, 9:45am, BBC Radio 4 LW

A space for spiritual reflection with a bible reading, prayer and a range of Christian music. Led by the Revd Peter Whittaker.

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

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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