

## The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 


Happy Connexional New Year!

This week's issue highlights a **number of special weeks and days** and today marks the **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation**. As well as [the prayer](#) from the Revd Dr Roger Walton the President of the Methodist Conference, there is also a [new reflection](#) you can use from the Joint Public Issues Team.

**Andy Jackson** will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week on **020 7467 5111**.

God bless,

Toby Fairclough  
Media Officer

 On the box

[A Very British Deterrent](#)  
Sunday 4 September  
BBC 2, 8:00pm

## Happy New Year!

Today (1 September) marks the beginning of **the new Connexional year**. Our prayers are with everyone starting their new stations today and hope that everyone is made to feel really welcome in their new community. Today also marks the first day of **the new Methodist Prayer Handbook**. If you've not had a chance to order your copy yet, you can do so from the [Methodist Publishing website](#).

## Organ Donation Week

**Next week** (5-11 September) is the NHS's Organ Donation Week, highlighting the **importance** of organ donation and **celebrating** those who have saved lives through it. For more information, [click here](#).

## The Welcome Summit

This one-day event in Birmingham on **Saturday 10 September** is a gathering for the people to come together and take stock of the British response to refugees to date, and to **plan, train and act together** to build a more welcoming Britain. [Click here](#) for more information and to register your interest.

## Racial Justice Sunday

On **Sunday 11 September**, many churches across the country will be marking Racial Justice Sunday. Some helpful **hymns, sermons, Bible reflections, children's activities and more** are available from Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) [here](#). Please note, CTBI have decided to move Racial Justice Sunday to the 12 February from next year to avoid the clash with...

## Education Sunday

Sunday 11 September **also marks** Education Sunday, with many children going back to school after a busy summer holiday. Church members are encouraged to **invite people involved in education** to make them

Drama-documentary exploring the history of Britain's nuclear deterrent.

#### [Poldark](#)

**Sunday 4 September  
BBC 1, 9:00pm**

The first episode of the new series of this period drama. Guest starring the New Room, Bristol.

#### [Paralympics 2016](#)

**Wednesday 7 September  
Channel 4, 9:00pm**

The opening ceremony of the Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

### Radio

#### [Daily Service](#)

**Friday 2 September  
Radio 4 LW, 9:45am**

The final in a special week of programmes from the Greenbelt Festival.

#### [Sunday](#)

**Sunday 4 September  
BBC Radio 4, 7:10am**

A round-up of this week's religious and ethical headlines.

#### [Heart and Soul](#)

**Sunday 4 September  
BBC World 7:32pm**

A look back at the life and legacy of Mother Teresa, who is being canonised this weekend.

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

the special focus of **prayer, affirmation and commissioning**. Resources from CTBI can be [found here](#), including a contribution from the Assistant Secretary of the Conference, the Revd Helen Cameron.

## Digging for Treasure

Methodist Evangelicals Together (MET) are hosting an **Expository Preaching Conference** next month, on **Saturday 1 October** at Methodist Central Hall, Westminster. The event is specifically designed for **Methodist preachers, both ordained and lay**. Tickets, a flyer and more information is available on their [website here](#).

## This week in Parliament

Parliament comes **back for business** this week, which you can find out about 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 Africa, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Wisdom and Knowledge**.

## Video Thursday: 21st Methodist Conference

Featuring our very own **Revd Dr Jo Cox-Darling**, [this week's film](#) highlights some of the main speakers at this year's **World Methodist Conference**. Taking place in Houston, Texas, from **31 August to 3 September**, this year many British Methodists are attending, including the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference. For updates from the event, be sure to [visit its website](#).

Hopefully, there will be no problems in Houston... (Sorry, I couldn't resist!)

***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.*