

## The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hello everyone, and welcome to The Week Ahead.

As we near Christmas, we present the annual Christmas message from the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, a statement about Jerusalem and take a look at the new statue of Jesus in Glasgow.

The out-of-hours media support line can be contacted by calling 020 7467 5170 or via email [here](#).

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Mike Ivatt  
Lead Media Officer

 On the box[The Sweet Makers](#)

**BBC Two, 9:00pm**

**Friday, 15 December**

Four modern confectioners uncover the mystery behind festive sweets from years past.

[All Aboard! The Sleigh Ride](#)

**BBC Four, 7:00pm**

**Saturday, 16 December**

A two-hour "slow TV" sleigh ride through the Arctic Circle - filmed from the point of view of a reindeer herder travelling across the frozen wilderness.

[Fern Britton meets The Revd Rose Hudson-Wilkin](#)

**BBC One, 10:00am**

**Sunday, 17 December**

## Presidential Christmas message

The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Loraine N Mellor and Jill Baker, have released their 2017 Christmas message on the subject of visitation. You can read and watch their message [here](#).

## Call for nuclear ban sign up

Following last Sunday's presentation of the Nobel Peace Prize to ICAN, the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear weapons, leaders from all faiths across the UK, including the Methodist Church, have called on the British Government to affirm the new UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. Click [here](#) to read more.

## Statement on Jerusalem

The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference have released a statement following the announcement by the USA regarding the status of the city of Jerusalem. Click [here](#) to read it.

## Homeless Jesus in Glasgow

The Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, Jill Baker, has written a new blog post regarding the installation of a sculpture depicting Jesus as a homeless man sleeping on a bench in Glasgow city centre. You can read the blog [here](#).

## St Ethelburga seeks young Methodists

The St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace in London is seeking young Methodists to join them for a range of training and interactive programmes covering peacemaking, leadership and the support of refugees. Click [here](#) to visit the St Ethelburga's website.

## Methodist Publishing

Midday on Wednesday 20 December is the deadline to order your gifts from Methodist Publishing for delivery in time for Christmas. Click [here](#) to see the gifts available and you can use the discount code **WEEKAHEAD** to receive a 10% discount off [Methodist diaries](#) for 2018.

The Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons discusses being responsible for the spiritual welfare of MPs and her struggles against racism and sexism.

## Radio

### [Christmas Around Europe](#)

**BBC Radio 3, 1:00pm  
Sunday, 17 December**

Ian Skelly presents Radio 3's annual journey around Europe for a sequence of live and specially recorded concerts.

### [Grenfell:](#)

#### [Dust On Our Lips](#)

**BBC Radio 4, 5:00pm  
Sunday, 17 December**

Faisal Metalsi talks to residents of North Kensington, west London, who describe living in the shadow of Grenfell Tower and reveal what they think should be done to the tower block.

### [Beyond Belief](#)

**BBC Radio 4, 4:30pm  
Monday, 18 December**

Ernie Rea looks at the symbolism and use of light in Judaism and other religions.

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

## Wesley Cottage Study Day

Wesley Cottage at Trewint near Launceston in Cornwall is offering a study day on Tuesday 19 December on the topic "Encountering God through the genealogy of Jesus". If you would like to find out more, click [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

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in North and Central America, the Middle East, India, Asia, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **the Lord is Near** written by The Revd David Deeks.

## Video Thursday: Housing Justice

Housing Justice establish church and community night shelters across the country, training and supporting volunteers and sharing best practice. Click [here](#) to watch their latest video featuring the story of Lofti - one of the users of the night shelter.

***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.*