



Hello everyone, and welcome to The Week Ahead from the Methodist Church Media Office.

Ahead from the Methodist Church Media Office.

This week, we continue our ten days of prayer with [Thy Kingdom Come](#); we mark Pentecost and [Christian Aid Week](#) and [Mental Health Awareness Week](#).

Rosie will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week on 020 7467 5170.

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

[Michael Ivatt and Rosie Winn](#)
The Media Office

On the box

[The Royal Wedding](#)

Saturday 19 May
BBC One, 9.00am

Kirsty Young, Huw Edwards and Dermot O'Leary present live coverage of the build up and the ceremony.

[Feel the Spirit](#) [A Celebration for Pentecost](#)

Sunday 20 May
BBC One, 10.00am

An international service live from St Martin-in-the-Fields, London. The Revd Dr Sam Wells leads the service and the preacher is the new Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Sarah Mullally.

[Chelsea Flower Show](#)

Sunday 20 May
BBC Two, 6.00pm

Sophie Raworth and Joe Swift present a preview of the Royal Horticultural Society's event for 2018 and a guide to some of the gardens on display.

Gaza – praying for peace

Rachel Lampard, Ex-Vice-President of the Methodist Conference and Leader of the Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) was in Israel and Palestine a few days ago. Read her [reflection](#) following the recent deaths of Palestinians in Gaza. A previous statement from our President and Vice-President on the shooting of protesters on the Gaza border in April can be found [here](#). You can find prayers for Israel and Palestine in the [Methodist Prayer Handbook](#).

Gambling review

Churches, including the Methodist Church, have welcomed the government's response to the review of fixed odds betting terminals. You can read the ecumenical statement [here](#). The Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) have also welcomed the review, you can read their response [here](#).

Thy Kingdom Come Beacon events

As part of Thy Kingdom Come, [Beacon events](#) have been organised around the UK on Sunday 20 May to celebrate this global prayer movement for more people to come to know Jesus. The Church also has [lots of resources](#) on our website. Have you taken the #Pledge2Pray?

Peace and Issues Forum

The Joint Public Issues Team is seeking ambassadors aged 18-25 to take part in its forum and attend the launch at parliament on Thursday 12 July. The deadline is Thursday 31 May. To apply, [click here](#).

The Big Church Day Out (BCDO)

The UK's largest [annual gathering](#) of the wider Church family creates a space for all denominations and ages to gather for worship and celebration. BCDO has two events: Saturday 26 – Sunday 27 May in West Sussex and Friday 1 – Saturday 2 June in Cheshire.

Job vacancies

We have a number of new positions available to apply for in the Connexional Team, including Director of

Radio

[Israel at 70: A Personal Reflection](#)

Friday 18 May

BBC Radio 4, 11.00am

The state of Israel was born in May 1948. Here, Simon Schama offers a personal account of the nation's troubled and often bloody history, and of the deep division with the Palestinians.

[Thy Kingdom Come](#)

Sunday 20 May

BBC Radio 4, 8.10am

A service of Holy Communion for Pentecost from Down Cathedral in Downpatrick, reflecting on the Archbishop of Canterbury's call for a global wave of prayer.

[A Tale of Two Cities: Aleppo and London](#)

Sunday 20 May

BBC Radio 4, 3.00pm

Drama updating Charles Dickens' novel to the present day. A lawyer finds his life changed forever by the release of a Syrian political prisoner during the Arab Spring.

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

Evangelism and Growth, One Mission Engagement Officer and Learning and Development Officer. For more information, [click here](#).

Windrush compensation

The government has launched a compensation consultation [Call for Evidence](#), as a first step in making sure that those affected by the Windrush scandal receive redress for financial losses. The process will run until Friday 8 June.

Iran nuclear deal

Steve Hucklesby, Policy Adviser with the Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT), was interviewed by Trans World Radio (TWR) on recent events regarding Iran's nuclear deal. Listen to the [recording here](#).

Bible Month

This takes place throughout June and we have a range of [resources available](#) on our website to help you prepare.

Volunteers for the Conference

The Media Team is looking for volunteers with experience of filming to assist during the Methodist Conference in Nottingham. Travel and meals are provided but we are unable to offer accommodation. Please email details of your skills, experience and availability to the [Media Office](#).

This week in Parliament

You can find the UK **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 India, Asia and the Pacific, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **The Promised Spirit**, written by the Revd Jennifer Potter.

Video Thursday: Thy Kingdom Come?

In this week's [film](#), the Revd Canon Gareth J Powell, Secretary of the Methodist Conference visits the New Room Bristol and reflects on why we pray '**Thy Kingdom Come**'.

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.