

20 August 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

News

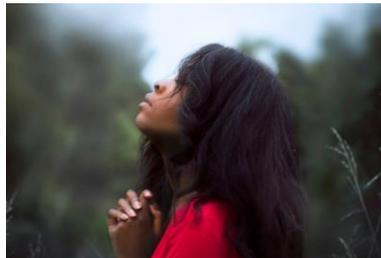
Youth President



Applications open

Applications are now open for the Methodist Youth President 2021-2022. The position is to enable, encourage and enthuse children and young people to get involved in every aspect of Church life. Candidates should be between 18 to 23 and a member of the Methodist Church. Full details are [here](#).

Evangelism and Growth



Year of Prayer

The Methodist Conference has declared 2020/2021 a year of prayer where Church-wide commitments to evangelism, church growth, church at the margins, pioneering and church planting will flow from a deep, contemplative orientation to God's grace and love. Read more and take part [here](#).

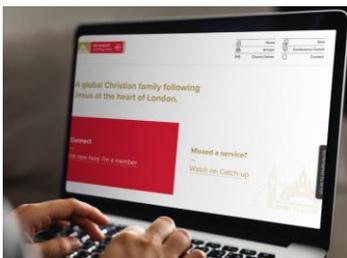
Zoom Gathering



Homelessness

The third Homelessness and Housing Gathering will be held via Zoom on Wednesday 30 September between 11 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. and will be hosted by Ian Rutherford (Manchester) and Mike Long (London). Click [here](#) to find out more.

Survey



Online engagement

This is your final chance to participate in the Communications' Team survey to discover how churches, circuits, districts or other projects across the Connexion have engaged online during lockdown. The aim is to learn from examples of good practice and help equip the Church as the world moves into a new digital era. The survey can be found [here](#).

Prayer



School Results

Phoebe Parkin, the Methodist Youth President designate, has written this prayer for those receiving their school results. Read [here](#).

Online Gatherings



Agents of Change

The Children, Youth and Families Team, in partnership with Global Relationships, JPIT and All We Can, are hosting two online gatherings on Saturday 22 August for children and young people who are passionate about climate justice.

Ages 8 – 11: 10.30am – 12pm
Ages 12 - 17: 3.30pm – 5pm

More information about the Green Agents of Change Catalyst Events can be found [here](#) or you can [email Lynne Norman](#).

Media

Blog



Secretary of the Conference

The Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, the Secretary of the Methodist Conference, reflects on Conference decisions regarding Equality, Diversity and Inclusion in this [blog](#).

Podcast



The Methodist Podcast

In the Methodist Podcast we talk to two Methodist schools about the challenges of this year's results, we preview the Methodist Year of Prayer, learn about the monitoring of religious freedoms and hear about this year's Harvest resources from All We Can. Listen [here](#).

Blog



West London Mission

in this [blog](#), Dan Simpson, Methodist intern with the Archbishop of Canterbury's Housing Commission, looks at how the West London Mission is creating new ways of supporting people faced with homelessness

Radio



Sunday Worship - BBC Radio 4

Last week's Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4 was led by Revd Dr Stephen Wigley, chair of the Wales synod of the Methodist Church, reflecting on what happens when our plans change. Listen [here](#).

Rainbow



Summer Edition

The summer edition of Rainbow is all about caring for the beautiful planet God has given us. We hear from our incoming and outgoing Youth Presidents on the topic as well as from two sisters, Amy (16) and Ella (14), who have set up their own charity to tackle plastic waste. You can also read about All We Can and 'Super Spud' – and how they are helping families in Ethiopia. Find out more [here](#).

Radio



Exam Results

The Methodist Youth President designate, Phoebe Parkin, was interviewed across the BBC local radio network last Sunday morning regarding exam results. You can hear her interview on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire [here](#). Her interview begins at 3hrs 16mins.

Guidance



Worship and re-opening churches during the pandemic



Updates



Dial a prayer and podcast

There are suggestions for worship opportunities and worship sheets to print at home [here](#). There is also a short act of [spiritual communion](#). There is also a range of [resources](#) for open air worship, advice on face coverings, weddings, house groups and wider community use of church buildings. A service to celebrate a return to public worship, Beyond Exile, can be found [here](#).

Updates on singing & the use of wind musical instruments and the addition of links for government guidance for Scotland & Wales can be found [here](#).

This page also provides links to guidance on face coverings.

During lockdown we heard that many people didn't have access to online services so we set up free [phone lines](#) that are updated on a Thursday with a new prayer and our podcast. We are delighted that nearly 6000 people have used this service and would ask you to share the numbers with anyone you know who might not wish to use online services.

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

Email: mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk