

The Methodist News

17 September 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Please note updated guidance at the bottom of this newsletter regarding the "rule of six"

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

News

Learning Network



Change to regions

The Learning and Development Network of the Methodist Church has announced the formation of a new region combining the existing East of England and East Central regions. The new region will be called The Eastern Region of the Learning Network and will officially come into effect from 1 October 2020. Read more [here](#).

Global Relationships



Presidential theme resources

The Global Relationships team have published worship resources based on the Presidential theme for 2020/21 of "The Best of All is God is with Us." The resources include videos, stories, pictures, prayers and reflections from the work of God around the world. Download the resources [here](#).

Action for Children



Poverty

The charity Action for Children have released a report entitled Childhood During Coronavirus: protecting children from the effects of poverty. The report highlights the need for the government to improve financial support for low-income families. You can read the report [here](#).

Peace Sunday



Resources

Sunday 20 September is Peace Sunday, the Sunday closest to the UN Day of Peace, 21 September. The World Council of Churches calls on churches to make this a day of prayer for peace. Resources can be found [here](#).

Year of Prayer

Participate

Watch



The Methodist Conference has declared 2020/2021 a year of prayer. Join others across the Methodist Church to pray together, every Tuesday from 12.45pm to 1.00pm. Read more and register [here](#)



If you missed Tuesday's prayer meeting, one of the weekly sessions that are part of the Year of Prayer, then you can watch again, with a BSL translation, [here](#).

3Generate 365

Youth President



Welcome Service

Last Sunday's welcome service for Phoebe Parkin, the new Methodist Youth President, was held at Wellington Methodist Church, Telford. The service is available to watch again [here](#).

3Generate 365



Launch Video

You can watch Tuesday's launch of 3Generate 365 on the 3Generate YouTube channel [here](#).

Volunteers



District Ambassadors

There are plenty of ways to get involved with 3Generate 365, why not give some thought to volunteering? Whether as a District Ambassador, satellite group member or by engaging children and young people, you can help make it a year to remember. Find out more about the roles available [here](#).

Media

Radio



Youth President

Youth President Pheobe Parkin was interviewed on BBC Radio Shropshire on the morning of her Welcome Service at

Radio



Reopening

The Revd Mark Lawrence of Plymouth and Devonport Circuit was interviewed across the BBC local radio network on how churches have reopened with the

Podcast



The Methodist Podcast

In this week's Methodist [podcast](#) we talk to Action for Children about child poverty, we consider harvest and our rural communities, discuss the strategic

Wellington Church, Telford. You can hear the interview [here](#) from 1:39:30.

restrictions required to keep worshippers safe and how churches are adapting to pastoral ministry online. You can listen to his interview on BBC Bristol [here](#), starting at 1:09.

direction of All We Can and hear about the Vice-President's personal connection to the Mayflower that set off for America 400 years ago this week.

Guidance



Worship and reopening churches during the pandemic

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](#).



Updated guidance Rule of Six

The government has yet to publish more specific guidelines but based on the brief information received, it is understood that the number relates to the maximum group size before they come into church and therefore can sit together in church. Guidance can be found [here](#).



Dial a prayer and podcast

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