

The Methodist News

7 January 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the first Methodist News of 2021!

Yours

[The Communications team](#)

Updated guidance and support



Updated 5 January 2021

Following the Prime Minister's statement on 4 January 2021, a new National Lockdown has been announced in England. This supersedes all previous government guidance, including the Tier system.

Please read the guidance [here](#), including links for other nations.

Putting our hand into the hand of God



The Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, Secretary of the Methodist Conference, has written a blog following the announcement of further lockdown.

Read [here](#).

Spiritual sustenance in isolation



During this time of lockdown a new page on the Methodist Church website signposts you to resources to help nourish your spiritual life. These are mostly resources that are provided centrally. You can also check what your local church or circuit is providing.

Find out more [here](#).

News

Youth President Elections



Following elections held online as part of 3Generate365, it has been announced that the next Youth President (2021/2022) will be Daud Irfan, aged 21, from Cardiff.

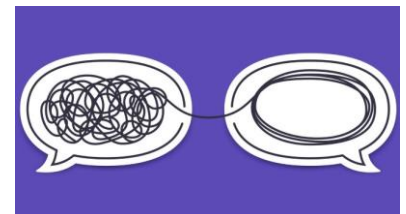
Read more [here](#).

Methodist Central Hall Westminster - UN 75



On the 10th January 1946, in a world convalescing from the horrors of a World War, the inaugural meeting of the United Nations General Assembly took place at Methodist Central Hall Westminster (MCHW). This Sunday, 10th January 2021, 75 years later, MCHW's congregation will be praying for, and celebrating the UN's work in its online service. Watch [here](#) from 10.55am for 11am this Sunday.

Mental Health First Aid



The pandemic has created a mental health crisis for many across the country. Carla Quenet, Learning & Development Officer for the Yorkshire Plus Region, explains why the Methodist Church is supporting mental health first aid training, read [here](#).

New Year



The Revd Ruth Gee, Assistant Secretary of the Methodist Conference, shares some thoughts on New Year in [this blog](#).

Epiphany



The 'O Antiphons' have been re-imagined for Epiphany through to Lent 2021 by Vince Gilbert and the Revd Micky Youngson. Read more on the Singing the Faith webpages [here](#).

Youth & Children Worker



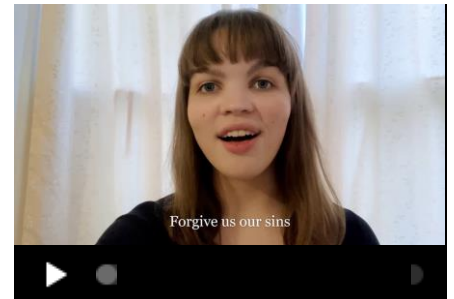
Christchurch Hitchin, a Methodist/URC congregation, are looking for a leader to take a key role in their mission who would have overall responsibility for the work with 5-25 year olds. Read more [here](#).

Fridays@5:17



Fridays@5:17 will encourage children and young people to pray and listen to God each week, joining others from local groups, churches and circuits. The wider Church is urged to also join in. The 3Generate Youth Reps chose the time 5:17 because 1 Thessalonians 5:17 says 'Never stop praying'. The next Friday@5:17 is on Friday 8 January. Read more [here](#).

Last week, the Youth Reps prayed the Lord's Prayer to kick off Fridays@5:17.



Year of Prayer

Join others across the Methodist Church to pray, every Tuesday from 12.45pm to 1.00pm

Participate



The Year of Prayer meeting for Tuesday 12 January at 12:45 will be led by Revd Dr Jimmy Dube, General Secretary of the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe who is currently serving in the Sutton Park (Birmingham) Circuit as well as having pastoral oversight for the Zimbabwe Methodist Fellowship in the UK. More information about the Year of Prayer can be found [here](#) or use this [direct link](#) to register.

Watch Again



If you missed Tuesday's prayer meeting led by Deacon Theresa Sam, minister for special projects in Ealing Trinity Circuit, London, you can watch again, [here](#) with BSL translation.

Media

The Methodist Podcast



With January being one of the months when many people can struggle with their mental health, this week's Methodist Podcast considers well-being and happiness. You can listen to the Methodist podcast [here](#).

Dial a Prayer



Freephone lines for prayers and messages from the Methodist Church.

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to the Methodist Podcast: 0808 281 2478

Guidance



Worship 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](#) and a range of [resources](#) for open air worship, advice on face coverings, weddings, house groups and wider community use of church buildings.



Guidance

The latest coronavirus updates for churches are available [here](#) and are reviewed regularly following government announcements.

Email: mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk