

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hello everyone, and welcome to the **Week Ahead**.

This week we'll be highlighting a number of resources you can use personally and in your church, as well as looking at Rural Mission Sunday and the Church's response to the ruling on arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

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

God bless,

Toby Fairclough
Media Officer



On the box

[Britain's Lost Waterlands: Escape to Swallows and Amazons Country](#)

Saturday 15 July
BBC Four, 7:00pm

Dick Strawbridge and Alice Roberts explore the landscapes that inspired the books Swallows and Amazons.

[Trump's Fortress America – Panorama](#)

Monday 17 July
BBC One, 8:30pm

Donald Trump fought the US presidential election with a promise to send millions of illegal immigrants back to Mexico. This programme investigates how his controversial deportation plans are being put into action and the families separated by immigration arrests.

Rural Mission Sunday

This Sunday (16 July) is Rural Mission Sunday, following the theme of **'Everybody Welcome!'** from the Arthur Rank Centre. Although Rural Mission Sunday itself takes place on 16 July, the materials can be used at any time of year. [Click here](#) for more information and how to get involved.

London Bible Week

The 17-22 July marks London Bible Week. Following the theme of **"Meeting Jesus in God's Word"**, eminent scholars and theologians, including our own the Revd Dr Calvin T Samuel, will be exploring the Bible at a number of events in London. [Click here](#) to find out more and book your tickets.

Accessible Bible

The New International Reader's Version aims to make the Bible clear, understandable and easy to read, with shorter sentences and simpler language. The NIrV Accessible Edition **breaks down many barriers to reading**, opening up the text to more people who wish to read it. [Click here](#) for more information and to see a sample.

New Advanced Web Map

The Strategic Research Team have **overhauled the Advanced Church Map** on the Methodist Church website. Graphically representing data of the Methodist Church in Britain, it has been designed as a tool to help churches, circuits and districts better understand the context of their areas. [Click here](#) to see for yourself.

New Connexional Year resources

Essential resources for the Methodist Connexional New Year are now available on the [Methodist Publishing website](#). Including the Methodist Diary 2018,

[Is Love Racist? The Dating Game](#)

Monday 17 July

Channel 4, 10:00pm

Sociologist and broadcaster Emma Dabiri looks at racism in Britain through the world of modern dating, unveiling the results of a national survey of British online dating habits.

Radio

[Soul Music Rhapsody in Blue](#)

Friday 14 July

Four Extra, 6:30pm

A look at how pieces of music elicit an emotional response, beginning with Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, which has become synonymous with Woody Allen's Manhattan.

[Something Understood](#)

Sunday 16 July

Radio 4, 6:25am

Mark Tully marks 500 years since the Reformation and looks at calls to reform the present day Christian Church in light of contemporary issues.

[Public Indecency: Queer Art in Britain](#)

Monday 17 July

Radio 4, 4:00pm

To mark the 50th anniversary of the partial decriminalisation of sex between men with the Sexual Offences Act of 1967, Simon Callow examines LGBT life in Britain through the lens of the arts.

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

Membership Tickets, and the new Methodist Prayer Handbook.

One Mission Matters

The Summer 2017 issue of One Mission Matters is now available to [read online](#), featuring **good news stories** and statistics about the great works being done by the Methodist Church in Britain and beyond.

Saudi arms trade

The Methodist Church has expressed its disappointment and concern following a ruling of the High Court, announced earlier this week, allowing the **UK to continue to export weapons to Saudi Arabia**. [Click here](#) to read more.

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](#).

Prayers and reflections

In the coming week the [Methodist Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in the Americas, Asia and the Indian Subcontinent, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time Bible](#) studies is **The New Prophet** by the Revd Geoffrey Farrar.

Video Thursday: Scarlet's Story

[This week's film](#), shares the touching story of how Methodist Action (North West) helped a young lady named Scarlet **turn her life around**.

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.