

## The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hello everyone, and welcome to The Week Ahead.


Following the recent **hurricanes across the Caribbean** and the **earthquake in Mexico**, you can read how

our Partner Churches are responding on the [World Church News](#) pages of the Methodist Church website.

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

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Mike Ivatt  
Lead Media Officer

 On the box[Britain Beneath Your Feet](#)

**BBC 4, 9pm**

**Sunday 24 September**

First in a two-part documentary in which Dallas Campbell takes a unique look at Britain, exploring the hidden wonders beneath people's feet.

[The Human Body: Secrets of Your Life Revealed](#)

**BBC 2, 10pm**

**Monday 25 September**

New series where Chris and Xand van Tulleken uncover the secrets of our bodies.

[Jerusalem: The Making of a Holy City](#)

## Abolition of nuclear weapons

In a letter published in *the Guardian* newspaper, the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) has called upon the British government to support a treaty between nations to work towards making **the abolition of nuclear weapons a reality**. Signed by Jill Baker, Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, among others, you can read the letter [here](#). You can also take your own action by **writing to your MP**, and more information is on the Joint Public Issues Team website, [here](#).

## Political party conferences

The Joint Public Issues Team is visiting this year's major **party political conferences**. You can read the report from the **Liberal Democrats'** conference [here](#).

## Reflect retreats

Bookings are now open to join **Ray Simpson**, well-known author and Founding Guardian of the International Community of Aidan and Hilda, for a retreat at Parcevall Hall near Skipton. Taking place 17-19 October, Ray will lead the retreat on **Ancient Prayer Practices for a Post-Christian World**. You can read more [here](#).

## PeerTalk: Facing Depression Together

PeerTalk helps individuals and their families who live with **depression**. Supported by the Methodist Church, PeerTalk is an opportunity to learn about depression and the role of **church and community in tackling** the illness. Click [here](#) to learn more about their Awareness Day in Guildford on 14 October.

## Advent Offering 2017 resources

Advent Offering services will be taking place across the Connexion from 3-24 December. This year's theme is **Comfort my people** from Isaiah 40:1-11. Downloadable resources are available [here](#).

**BBC 4, 10pm**

**Tuesday 26 September**

Simon Sebag Montefiore explores how Jerusalem became a sacred place in Islam, charting Muhammad's relationship with the city, the Crusaders' attempts to reclaim it for Christianity and the construction of holy shrine the Dome of the Rock.



## Radio

**[Good Morning Sunday with Clare Balding](#)**

**BBC Radio 2, 7:00am  
Sunday 24 September**

Clare is joined by Katharine Welby-Roberts, who discusses mental health issues in the UK, her faith guest is Warren Evans and there is live music by John Smith.

**[Words and Music](#)**

**BBC Radio 3, 5:30pm  
Sunday 24 September**

Poetry, prose and music reflecting on the meaning of our existence.

**[Choral History of Britain](#)**

**BBC Radio 4, 9:00am  
Wednesday 27 Sept**

Roderick Williams explores how singing together is at the heart of being human and the social bonds we make. The first episode in the series is also available [here](#) on the BBC iPlayer.

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

## Explore Churches

Explore Churches is a website from the National Churches Trust for those who want to **visit and promote local churches** and the stories behind them. You can **register your church** [here](#) and discover some fascinating themed guides.

## Playtime Conference

The Playtime Conference takes place 30 September in Sheffield offering a fantastic opportunity for **toddler group leaders** and their teams to be inspired, supported and resourced. Toddler groups are one of the most important **ministries** to reach families. Read more about the conference [here](#).

## This week in parliament

The UK parliament is in recess for party conferences. 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 East Asia, the Pacific, Northern Europe, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **In the beginning**.

## Video Thursday: Cheers! The minister holding regular pub services

As reported by BBC 5 Live, Graeme Dutton is a Methodist minister in Bradford. He's fused his love of God and craft ale by holding regular services in pubs. You can watch his story [here](#).

***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.*