

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 


Hi everyone,
and welcome to
The Week Ahead.

This week we highlight some guidance and resources to help you consider the **forth-coming General Election** and announce plans for this year's **3Generate event.**

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

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Mike Ivatt
Lead Media Officer

 On the box**[The Birth of British Music](#)**

Sunday 30 April
BBC Four, 7:00pm

Conductor Charles Hazlewood investigates what life would have been like for composers in 17th-century London through a wide range of Purcell's music.

[Penny Blacks and Twopenny Blues: How Britain Got Stuck on Stamps](#)

Monday 1 May
BBC Four, 8:00pm

The evolution of the British postage stamp and how these sticky little labels became a national obsession.

Election resources

In the weeks leading up to the General Election, the **Joint Public Issues Team** is offering reflections and balanced analysis to support Christians and local churches **engage with the various issues.** A reflection on some of the key themes is already [available online](#) and further resources will be added over the next few weeks.

3Generate tickets

Bookings are **now open** for 3Generate 2017, the Methodist children and young people's event, taking place from **24 to 26 November** at Pontins, Southport. [Click here](#) for more details and information on how to book your tickets.

Family Safety Week

Every week at least one child under five **is killed** because of an accident, with disadvantaged children most at risk. This year, Family Safety Week, **2-5 May**, will be focusing on protecting some of the most vulnerable members of our community — babies, toddlers and children under five. [Click here](#) for more information.

Invest in peace

The Parents' Circle, which promotes **peace and reconciliation** between Israelis and Palestinians, is visiting churches and synagogues during May to support Israeli-Palestinian peace building. For more information and dates, [click here](#).

'Then 'til Now' - Quilts Past and Present

Englesea Brook is holding a special display and demonstration of quilts, banners and wall hangings, from **11 to 14 May**. Admission is free and refreshments will be available. [Click here](#) to find out more.

[Richard and Jaco](#)

Tuesday 2 May
BBC One, 11:20pm

In this documentary, Welsh actor Richard Mylan reflects on his experience of raising a son on the autistic spectrum, and discusses his hopes for Jaco in the future.

Radio

[Climbié Inquiry](#)

Sunday 30 April
BBC Radio 4, 11:15am

Sue MacGregor meets people involved in the Victoria Climbié Inquiry, the catalyst for widespread reforms to child protection.

[Private Passions](#)

Sunday 30 April
BBC Radio 3, 12:00pm

Professor of the History of Christianity at Cambridge, Eamon Duffy, talks about his passion for medieval, Tudor and seventeenth-century music and history, the state of church music today and the pleasures of playing chamber music.

[Ella Fitzgerald at 100](#) [The First Lady of Song](#)

Tuesday 2 May
BBC Radio 2, 10:00pm

Petula Clark tells the story of Ella Fitzgerald who was born on April 25, 1917.

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

Mental Health Matters

Tickets are still available for the Mental Health Matters Conference, taking place at Cliff College from **2 to 4 June**. The conference is for all who want to learn how to **promote good mental health** and reach out to those **living with mental illness**. It is especially helpful for church leaders, youth workers, lay employees and anyone involved in pastoral care or outreach in their community. [Click here](#) for more information.

Media volunteers

We are still seeking more volunteers to assist us with **social media, videos, photographs and voxpop interviews** during this year's **Methodist Conference**, taking place in Birmingham between **22 and 29 June**. For more information, please [get in touch](#).

Podcast

Former mission partner, **Pat Jamison**, reflects on her time in **Ghana** and **Bangladesh** in the latest podcast. [Click here](#) to find out more.

Song of the Week: I will offer up my life

As we reflect on **Psalm 116** this Sunday, Singing the Faith Plus suggests the moving hymn '[I will offer up my life](#)' (StF 446) by **Matt Redman**.

Reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in West Africa, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Apostolic Witness** written by Mike King, a Past Vice-President of the Methodist Conference.

Video Thursday: Christian Aid Week 1965

As many of us prepare to take part in Christian Aid Week, **14-20 May**, we take a look at Christian Aid Week past with [this video](#) from Pathe news, 1965. Featured in the video is Ian Campbell, of the Ian Campbell Folk Group, father of UB40 musicians Ali, Robin and Duncan, and folk singer David Campbell.

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.