# The Week Ahead

# The **Methodist** Church

Hi everyone, and welcome to The Week Ahead.



volunteers helping to open chapels and churches as part of Ride and Stride and the Heritage Open Days.

I will be staffing the out-ofhours support line this week (07881 783812). If you have any non-urgent inquiries do please email and I will be happy to help!

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Mike Ivatt Lead Media Officer

# **Ben Hur**

The rebooted Ben-Hur film is in cinemas this week starring, among others, **Morgan Freeman**. Online resources are available to help churches explore the film's religious themes of faith, hope and **redemption**. There is also a youth activity pack. Click <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> for more information.

#### Ride and Stride

This weekend will see thousands of people **visiting**churches and chapels across the UK with both Ride and Stride and Heritage Open Days taking place. Many**Methodist buildings** are taking part, including The New Room Bristol. You can read about Ride and Stride <a href="here">here</a> and the Heritage Open Days <a href="here">here</a>.

# **Connexional Conversation**

The deadline to take part in discussions on Connexionalism as agreed at the 2015 Conference has been extended until 31st October. The 2015 **Issues of Connexionalism** report can be found <a href="here">here</a> highlighting some of the challenges to Connexionalism, as well as the strength and support it brings. **Responses** to the report can be sent to <a href="mailto:faithandorder@methodistchurch.org.uk">faithandorder@methodistchurch.org.uk</a>

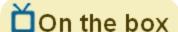
# **World Alzheimer's Month**

Throughout September, an international campaign is highlighting the **impact** of Alzheimer's. There are events as well as resources available to **understand** more about dementia. Click here for details.

## **Minister Retirement Courses**

Places are still available for

the **Practical Guide** to **Retirement** courses taking place 11-13 October in West Sussex and March 2017 Leicestershire. It is recommended that people attend this course 18-24 months before they are **due to sit down**. For information on the courses please click here.



# Songs of Praise Sunday 11 September BBC1, 5:10pm

On the anniversary of 9/11 Sally Magnusson talks to Christians who have turned to faith in the face of tragedy.

# Stacey Dooley Investigates

Tuesday 13 September BBC1, 10:45pm

Stacey travels to Russia exploring the two very different sides of sex work in the city of St Petersburg.

#### Horizon Sunday 11 September BBC2, 9:00pm

Irreverent comedian, Jimmy Carr, takes a look at the science of laughter.

# Radio

# Prayer of the Day

Friday 9 September Radio 4, 5:43am A prayer to begin the day with the archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Justin Welby.

#### **Sunday Feature**

Saturday 10 September BBC Radio 3, 6:30pm Fiona Shaw explores the Church's enthusiasm for contemporary art.

#### **Beyond Belief**

Monday 12 September BBC Radio 4, 4:30pm Ernie Rea and guests discuss the religious response to trauma.

See <u>The Radio Times</u> for further listings.

# **3Generate - Volunteers**

Volunteers are still needed for this year's 3Generate**event**, taking place 25-27 November near Swindon. For more information and to **register** as a potential volunteer, click <u>here</u>.

# This week in Parliament

You can find this week's **parliamentary business** online<u>here</u>. If you want to find out about the Scottish Parliamentary calendar, <u>click here</u> and the timetable for the National Assembly for Wales <u>click here</u>.

## Reflections

In the coming week the <u>Prayer Handbook</u> will beencouraging us to pray with Christians in the Americas, the Caribbean, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's <u>A Word in Time</u> Bible studies is **Goodness and Mercy.** 

# **Video Thursday: Ability Sunday**

This Sunday, 11 September, is Ability Sunday where we are reminded that God's love is freely given to all regardless of **ability and disability**. This week's film is from the charity Prospects, the Christian organisation for people with learning disabilities, and features readings from 1 John 4 verses 7-17. Click here to watch.

**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 <u>email us</u> if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.