

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hi everyone,


Congratulations to all those who spotted the,

ahem, **deliberate mistake** in last week's mailing: 2 October (the Methodist Schools Workers Conference) is a Friday, not a Sunday ([email the team for details](#)).

I will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week (07881783812).

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Anna

 On the box**Who Do You Think You Are?**

Tonight, 9pm, BBC1

Actress Jane Seymour knows there is Jewish ancestry on her father's side of the family, but beyond that she knows very little, other than her own suspicions that they suffered in the Holocaust.

Sunday Morning Live Sunday, 10am, BBC1

Indian politician Shashi Taroor argues for Britain to pay compensation for the Empire. Sian Williams and guests discuss this, amongst other topics.

Educating Cardiff Tuesday, 9pm, Channel 4

Documentary following pupils and staff at Willows High School, where head teacher Joy Ballard has helped turn around one of Cardiff's worst-performing schools and introduced a

Fake DWP stories

The Department for Work and Pensions has come under fire this week after it admitted **using made-up stories** from fictional claimants to demonstrate the positive impact of benefit sanctions. The Methodist Church and several partners have written a letter to the Daily Telegraph about this and you can [read it here](#). And if you're interested in the real stories of real benefit claimants, check out the [Rethink Sanctions report](#).

Podcast: Red Fridays

While we're on the subject of sanctions, you can click [here](#) to listen to our latest podcast. Methodist deacon Tracey Hume speaks to me about "Red Fridays" - a campaign she started to raise awareness of the damage caused by **benefit sanctions**.

Lowering the level of debate

Late last week, leaders of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church [issued a statement](#) on the situation in Calais, calling on the Government to rethink the way it **speaks about migrants**.

More job opportunities

We have another two job opportunities to share with you this week:

- the Connexional Team is looking to appoint a **Director of Publishing and Communications** (closes 9 September). [Click here](#) for details.
- the Central Finance board is seeking an **Office Manager** (closes 11 September) - [details here](#).

Please do **share these jobs** with anyone you may think might be suitable.

Our great swimmer

On Saturday 29 August, Methodist Helen Cunningham will be participating in the **Great Scottish Swim** in Loch Lomond. Helen will be swimming one mile to raise money

house system with pupils competing against each other to give them a sense of home and pride.

Radio

The Reunion

**Friday, 9am,
BBC Radio 4**

Sue MacGregor reunites former Guantanamo Bay detainee Moazzam Begg with his lawyer, a fellow ex-prisoner and the officer in charge of guarding the controversial prison.

Daily Service

**Tuesday, 9:45am,
BBC Radio 4 LW**

A space for spiritual reflection with a bible reading, prayer and a range of Christian music. Led by the Revd Dr Mark Wakelin.

Pause for Thought

**Thursday, 5:45am,
BBC Radio 2**

The Revd Tony Miles on 'Favourite World Record'.

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

for the Methodist Church's World Mission Fund and you can sponsor her [here](#).

Get ready for Harvest

Churches across Britain will be holding Harvest Festivals over the next couple of months. If you're looking for ideas, **All We Can** has created some [helpful resources](#) to go along with their Harvest Appeal and for yet more ideas, the Evangelical Alliance has compiled a useful list [here](#).

Reflections

In the coming week the Prayer Handbook will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in Asia, East Asia, Australia and New Zealand, the Pacific, Northern Europe and Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **The Demands of the kingdom** written by local preacher Gillian Kingston, Interim Vice-President of the World Methodist Council.

Video Thursday: Happy remixed

[This week's video](#) is a completely joyful remix of Pharrell William's ever-popular track **Happy**. It's a lovely take on what was already a fantastic song. Enjoy!

***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.*

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