

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hi everyone,

We've got a competition for you this week, together with some

fantasticresources and events.

Also, make sure you keep your eyes peeled for a new report from the Churches on benefit sanctions, due to launch on Monday (2 March).

Toby will be staffing the out-of-hours support line

this week (07974 208 360).

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Anna

 On the box**Songs of Praise**
Sunday, 5pm, BBC1

Featuring the vicar sprinkling her sermons with comedy and hymns for St David's Day.

Dispatches
Monday, 8pm, Channel 4

With government promises to end the 'something for nothing culture', life is getting tougher for benefit claimants. Reporter Liz MacKean investigates Britain's new sanctions regime and asks what life is really like for those hit with penalties.

Panorama
Monday, 8:30pm, BBC1

With the General Election fast approaching, reporter Fergal Keane investigates whether modern-day Britain is up to the task of

Calling all photographers!

The **Local Preachers and Worship Leaders Photo Competition**, launched yesterday, aims to showcase the diversity of worship leaders and local preachers across the Church. It is sponsored by the Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust (LWPT), which launched [Preach Resources](#) in September 2014. The competition is open to all and you can find out more [here](#).

Love Your Neighbour

Our identity as disciples of Jesus is something that should impact every aspect of our being – including **theway we vote**. [This new resource](#) from the Joint Public Issues Team will help you and your church community to reflect on how being a follower of Jesus will affect your behaviour at election time. It's priced £7.50 (plus postage and packing).

A Gift of Easter

This new edition of the popular pocket-sized booklet introduces the reader to Holy Week through Scripture, prayer, poetry and pictures. It focuses on the **words Jesus spoke from the cross** and the resurrection on Easter Sunday morning. It's available from Methodist Publishing [here](#), priced £5 for a pack of 50 (plus postage and packing).

Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy

On Sunday (1 March) there will be a special **service of commissioning** for the chaplains and team at the Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy. The service will be led by the President of the Conference, the Revd Ken Howcroft and the commissioning will be conducted by the Bishop of Hereford, the Rt Revd Richard Frith. The service will be held at the Priory Church of St Peter and St Paul, Leominster and will begin at 3pm.

Programming Priests

On Thursday (5 March) CODEC at St John's College in Durham will be holding a research seminar, 1-2pm. Entitled **Programming Priests: The Limits and Possibilities of Online Education**, it explore the issues

delivering on the things that have traditionally defined 'good living' for generations.

No Place to Call Home
Tuesday, 10:45pm,
BBC1

Award-winning film-maker Jezza Neumann tells the story of two families who are evicted by their private landlords, following them over 18 months as they spend time living in a hostel and relying on friends and family for a sofa to sleep on.

Radio

Moral Maze:
Freedom of Expression
on the Internet
Saturday, 10:15pm,
BBC Radio 4

Combative, provocative and engaging debate chaired by Michael Buerk.

Good Morning Sunday
Sunday, 7am,
BBC Radio 2

Clare Balding hosts the topical faith show and talks to entrepreneur, Iain MacRitchie about a project which helps young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Choral Evensong
Wednesday, 3:30pm,
BBC Radio 3

International Women's Day, celebrating female composers: A service live from the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge.

Lent Talks
Wednesday, 8:45pm,
BBC Radio 4

Contributed by Kate Saunders.

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

of teaching online for the next generation of spiritual leaders. If you're not able to make it to Durham you can join in online. Find out more [here](#).

Quaker Equality Week

Quaker Equality Week begins on 6 March. It's an opportunity for Friends across Britain and their partners to **witness to equality** in the face of the huge and increasing differences in levels of income and wealth in the UK. Find out more [here](#).

Headteachers in Methodist Schools

The 'Headteachers in Methodist Schools' conference will take place on 9 March at Methodist Church House in London. It's an opportunity to meet colleagues in the **Methodist Family of Schools**, review recent updates to inspection frameworks and share best practice. Find out more and book [here](#).

People, Places, Possibilities...

From 16 May to 25 July there will be a series of roadshows across the country, aimed at local churches with an interest in the relationship between mission, community and buildings. The roadshows are designed to enable people to **think creatively** about using property to further mission within their local churches. Find out more and book your place [here](#).

This week in Parliament

This week's UK **parliamentary business** can be found online [here](#).

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 **Songs of Salvation** written by the Revd Andrew Murphy.

Video Thursday: Think, Pray, Vote

If you missed last weekend's **Love Your Neighbour: Think, Pray, Vote** conference, never fear, you can get a flavour of the day by checking out [this video](#). You can also find out more and listen to the keynote speeches [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.

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