

The Week Ahead

Hi everyone,

It's been a bit of an emotional week here

*at Methodist Church House. Yesterday the Connexional Team got together to say farewell to the **Revd Dr Martyn Atkins** as he leaves his role as General Secretary and prepares to become Superintendent Minister at Methodist Central Hall in Westminster. We know that similar farewells and moves are happening across Britain - please keep all those who are moving in your prayers.*

Toby Scott will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week (07974 208360).

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Anna

Britain at the Bookies

The changing face of family ministry

A new report looking into the diversity of family life and a new training course will be launched at the **We are Family** Family ministry Conference on 11-12 September. Delegates can expect to attend workshops exploring the six different sessions of the new training course, network with other family workers from across the country and hear a keynote speech from Carrie Longton, co-founder of parenting website [Mumsnet](#). Find out more and book tickets [here](#).

Pilgrims on a Journey

The latest edition of the **Methodist Prayer Handbook** looks at God's call to pilgrimage, both journey and destination, our companions on the way and the everyday realities of the road to heaven. You can order your copy [here](#) for the usual price of £3.75 (plus p&p). If you order ten or more copies, the price reduces to £3.35 per copy. Those who've already placed their orders should start receiving their copies next week.

You can also **submit prayers** for the 2016/2017 edition of the Handbook - find out more [here](#).

Them and Us

Monday, 9pm, BBC1

The documentary concludes by exploring how Britain ended up with a 24/7 betting culture, and investigates what the future holds for the nation's gamblers.

The Great British

Bake Off

Wednesday, 8pm, BBC1

Twelve contestants begin the battle to be named Britain's best amateur baker, facing tasks devised by judges Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood, who have created 30 new tasks to test their baking skills and creativity.

BBC Proms 2015

Tonight, 7:30pm,

BBC Radio 3

Mark Elder and the Hallé orchestra, live at the BBC Proms, with a programme of Debussy, Vaughan Williams and Elgar.

Cradle to Grave

Saturday, 8pm,

BBC Radio 4

Documentary exploring the history of the NHS through the story of the first hospital built for the

Who are 'they' and how do we decide who is and isn't like us? 'Them and Us' is the theme of this year's **Church and Media Conference**, which will take place in London on 13 October. The Conference will look at how the media demonises some and sanctifies others, asking whether as Christians we should be worried about describing people negatively based on generalisations? Find out more and book your ticket [here](#).

New website for Cliff

Cliff College provides education and training with a particular focus on mission and evangelism. Historically, Cliff was a Methodist Lay Training college but today its student body is both lay and ordained and from a range of denominational backgrounds. The college has [just revamped its website](#), making it more user friendly and easier to navigate.

Combating social isolation

Local churches provide unique opportunities to bring together people of all ages. As your church becomes a healthy and loving congregation, can it also answer a need for belonging and friendship in the community around it? The **Build-A-Link Challenge** is designed to increase your awareness of the extent of social isolation among older people where you live and act as a prompt for your discussion and planning. Find out more and access free resources [here](#).

Reflections

In the coming week the Prayer Handbook will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in Southern Europe and West Africa, with all creation and for the

service, the QEII in Welwyn Garden City, which ran from 1963 to earlier this year.

Act of Worship

Friday, 9:45am,

BBC Radio 4 LW

An act of worship and music, led by Leslie Griffiths.

Sunday Worship

Sunday, 8:10am,

BBC Radio 4

Fifty years ago the Corrymeela Community of Reconciliation was established in Northern Ireland. Sunday Worship from the Community's Centre at Ballycastle marks its anniversary.

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

Church around the world. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **The Joys of the Kingdom** written by the Revd Diane Clutterbuck.

Video Thursday: Jesus You're My Superhero

This week's video is a fun one - and perfect for **holiday club season** - 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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