

The Week Ahead

Hi everyone,

*It's been a busy week here at Methodist Church House, with the launch of the **#RethinkSanctions** campaign - please do check out and share the report and video.*

I'm delighted to see the first signs of spring emerging here in London and I hope the sun is shining wherever you are.

Karen will be staffing the out-of-hours support line this week (07969985376).

Wishing you all a wonderful week,

Anna

The Big Questions

Sunday, 10am, BBC1

Nicky Campbell visits Harris Academy, Peckham, to present moral and religious discussions on

#RethinkSanctions

On Monday, a coalition of major UK Churches published a report showing that nearly **100,000 children** were affected by benefit sanctions last year. In the same period, nearly **7 million weeks** of sanctions were handed out to people. Please read the report and show your support for the campaign by sharing it with others and emailing your MP. Everything you need is right here.

Make it Happen

Sunday (8 March) is International Women's Day. Annually, thousands of events are held throughout the world to inspire women and celebrate achievements. This year's theme is **Make it Happen** and you can find out more here.

Who's your inspirational woman?

We are all likely to have met many women who have inspired us. Women, who have nurtured and cared for us, taught us and equipped us, and led us and encouraged us in our lives. Throughout March **All We Can** is inviting you and your church to celebrate these women in support of the many who are often overlooked. Find out more and download resources here.

topical issues, with contributions by members of the studio audience.

Suffragettes Forever! The Story of Women

and Power

Sunday, 8pm, BBC2

Amanda Vickery explores how the Edwardian suffragettes started to employ violence to ensure their message was heard, examining what they achieved with these tactics and arguing they are best understood as part of a war still going on today.

Underage and Gay

**Wednesday, 11pm,
Channel 4**

This documentary follows the lives of five gay, bisexual and transgender teens as they deal with day-to-day challenges, share experiences of homophobia and talk about their first loves.

Moral Maze: The Morality of the Imagination

Saturday, 10:15pm,

BBC Radio 4

When is an idea so objectionable that we should be stopped from expressing it or hearing it? That's the question at the

One Mission

The One Mission Bible Study is an excellent resource for house groups to engage and explore **One Mission in today's context**, bringing together the local and global aspects of mission. The five session study series is based around a short film based on the final journey of Revd Thomas Coke in 1813. It's available for free [online here](#).

For everyone

Organised and endorsed by 23 denominations and organisations in Wales, **A Church for Everyone** is a day for church leaders, worship leaders, children & youth leaders and anyone with a heart to reach out to families and create a church for all ages. The day will include speakers, practical exercises, workshops, seminars, a resources exhibition and more. There are two opportunities to attend - 18 and 25 April and you can find out more [here](#).

The Big Sleepover

The Big SleepOver resource enables 8-18 year olds to take an active and participatory role in the life of the Church and creates a link between the Methodist Children and Youth Assembly (3Generate) and the local church and circuit. The resource aims to assist you in running a residential event that will enable children and young people to **think, talk and be disciples**. The Big SleepOver resource for 2015 is now [available here](#).

Don't drop the ball

heart of the debate about how Mohammed Emwazi turned from a quiet and hardworking schoolboy into a murderer.

Sunday Worship:

In God's Hands

Sunday, 8:10am,

BBC Radio 4

'We worship a God in favour of the powerless and despised' - the Revd Dr Rowan Williams, Chair of Christian Aid, preaches for the third in a series of Lent services.

Choral Evensong

Sunday, 3pm,

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 Michael Symmons Roberts.

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

The Rugby World Cup, the third largest international event of its kind, will be here in the UK this autumn. **Engage 2015** is a cross-denominational campaign set up to help UK churches serve the rugby community during the World Cup event. It aims to provide the Church with inspiration, information and resources and to build bridges between the Church and the rugby community. Find out more [here](#).

This week in Parliament

This week's 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, Southern Africa, East Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Americas, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Death and Resurrection**, written by the Revd Dave Warnock.

Video Thursday: Are you sitting comfortably?

In 2014, one million benefit sanctions were imposed on people. This means their payments stopped for a period of between one month and three years. The most common reason for being sanctioned is being late or not turning up for an appointment. Please [watch this video](#) and hear the stories of **how sanctions affect people's lives**.

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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