

The Week Ahead

The Methodist Church 

Hello everyone and welcome to The

Week Ahead.

Rosie Winn will be staffing the out-of-hours media support line on 020 7467 5170.

Wishing you all a wonderful week.

[Michael Ivatt and Rosie Winn](#)
The Media Team



On the box

[Grayson Perry: Rites of Passage](#)

Thursday 23 August
Channel 4, 10.00pm

Artist and contrarian Grayson Perry thinks we, the British, have lost sight of what life's great rituals – those marking birth, marriage and death – really mean.

[Extraordinary Rituals: Great Gatherings](#)

Friday 24 August
BBC Two, 9.00pm

Great Gatherings looks at rituals that bring people together in huge numbers, and explores how these ceremonies keep communities alive.

[Songs of Praise](#)

Sunday 26 August
BBC One, 3.30pm

Claire McCollum reports on Pope Francis' visit to Ireland for the World Meeting of Families.



Radio

Refugee stories

Churches who have welcomed and supported refugees are being called to tell their stories. These will feature in a special magazine to be published this autumn, illustrating how Methodist churches across Britain are responding to the call. Please email your stories to [George Luke](#).

Floods in Kerala

The Church of South India Synod has published an update on the floods which have devastated parts of Kerala. Please [read the Synod's assessment](#) of the situation.

Let your light shine!

All We Can has created Harvest resources to inspire churches and schools to [let their light shine](#). The resources celebrate how God's gift of light transforms lives and how vulnerable communities are overcoming failed harvests with the introduction of solar powered irrigation.

New automatic disqualification of charity trustees

On 1 August 2018, the rules on automatic disqualification for charity trustees [changed, imposing tighter restrictions](#) on those who manage a charity. The new rules widen the reasons an individual can be disqualified to include unspent convictions for terrorism, money laundering or being on the sex offenders register.

Lectionary readings

This [weekly blog](#) has been created by the Revd Paul Glass, chaplain at Kent College. The readings are designed to be used in worship.

Thinking lunch

[The Missing Hancocks](#)

**Thursday 23 August
BBC Radio 4, 11.00pm**

Comedy, by Ray Galton and Alan Simpson. Tony tells Andree a seemingly far-fetched story about how he got his war wound. Re-recording of a lost episode from 1956.

[Something Understood](#)

**Sunday 26 August
BBC Radio 4, 6.05am**

To mark this year's festival of Raksha Bandhan, Mark Tully discusses the significance of the rite in which sisters tie rakhi threads round their brothers' wrists for protection.

[Crossing Continents](#)

**Monday 27 August
BBC Radio 4, 8.30pm**

Over the past 70 years several hundred thousand Jamaicans have emigrated to the UK, following in the footsteps of the so-called 'Windrush generation', who first arrived in Britain in the late 1940s.

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

A [lunchtime event](#) at Marlborough Road Methodist Church, St Albans on Thursday 6 September, 12.30pm-1.30pm. Matthew Forsyth from All We Can will be speaking on *What needs to go: the 0.7% to overseas or the overseas development charities?*

This week in Parliament

The UK Parliament, the Scottish Parliament and the National Assembly for Wales are in recess.

Reflections

In the coming week, the [Prayer Handbook](#) encourages us to pray for the World Church, Christians in the Pacific, Northern and Central Europe, as well as Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is 'Crossing Jordan'.

Video Thursday: Combating Loneliness

This week's [film](#) features the Street Listening Project that offers human connection and a platform for people to find balance in themselves.

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 know what is going on, so please do [email us](#) if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.