

11 July 2019



Hello everyone and welcome to 'The Week Ahead'.

This week, we celebrate Action for Children Sunday, Sea Sunday and Rural Mission Sunday.

Jillian Moody will be staffing the out-of-hours media emergency support line on 020 7467 5170.

Wishing you all a wonderful week,  
[the Communications team](#)

## Conference Business Digest

A report for local churches covering the business of the Methodist Conference 2019 is now available online. Please share this with office holders and members. You can download a PDF [here](#).



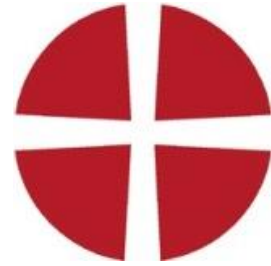
## Action for Children Sunday

Action for Children Sunday takes place every year on the second Sunday in July. Action for Children runs over 500 projects and helps children and young people affected by poverty, disability and abuse. Sunday 14 July is a chance to celebrate their work and partnership with the Church through services and activities. Materials are available to view and download from their [website](#).



## Response to Church of England Synod Vote

The Methodist Church has welcomed a vote by the Church of England's Synod backing further steps towards bringing the two churches into Communion with each other through the interchangeability of ministers. You can read the response from the Methodist Church [here](#).



## Build relationships, break down barriers, stop prejudice

For those preparing young people to live authentically as Christians in a multifaith society, a Well training day is taking place in partnership with The Feast. The course is in response to the 3Generate Manifesto call to get to know and learn about people in our communities. Held at Methodist Church House, London on 24 July, tickets cost £10 each, including lunch and can be booked [here](#).



## Rural Mission Sunday

[Rural Mission Sunday](#) on 14 July is an opportunity to celebrate the life of the rural church. Germinate: The Arthur Rank Centre has worked with ecumenical partners and organisations including Messy Church and CPO to produce materials that will help you to celebrate your rural church and community. For more resources, see the Rural Mission Germinate [website](#).



## Methodist Church Volunteer Awards

Win up to £3,000 for your church. [Methodist Insurance](#) are passionate about championing the contribution that churches make to society. The Methodist Church Volunteer Awards is your church's chance to say thank you to those members who are there when needed. To nominate a church volunteer and to find out more about the awards click [here](#).



## Planning for Retirement

Bookings are now being taken for the 2019/2020 programme of workshops to support presbyters and deacons planning for retirement. Ministers should be within two years of retirement. Further information and booking details are available [here](#).



## Applications for Youth President 2020/21

[Apply](#) to be our Methodist Youth President 2020/2021

- Enable, encourage and enthuse children and young people to get involved in every aspect of Church life
- Represent 3Generate, the Children's and Youth Assembly of the Methodist Church
- Travel around the country and maybe overseas listening to the voices of children and young people
- Influence the decision-making of lead staff by sharing opinions and priorities

For more information, see the [website](#) or contact [Ella Sibley](#). The deadline for applications is 23 September at 12 noon.



## Sea Sunday

This Sunday is Sea Sunday, a chance to celebrate seafarers and raise money to support [The Mission to Seafarers](#) vital work. Your church can pray, celebrate and fund-raise with thousands of Christians around the world. Download a pack for Sea Sunday [here](#).



## Professor Clive Marsh, Vice-President's playlist

If you enjoyed the music played during tea breaks at the Methodist Conference, you can find Vice-President Professor Clive Marsh's playlist [here](#). You can also contribute your musical suggestions before 31 January 2020 by emailing: [pandvp@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:pandvp@methodistchurch.org.uk).



## Thursday video: Sea Sunday

Sea Sunday is the global celebration of the enduring and vital work of the Mission to Seafarers. It has been taking place every year for over 160 years.



## Reflections



In the coming week, the 2018/2019 Methodist Prayer Handbook, 'A World Transformed', encourages us to pray with Christians in Asia and the North and Central America and, as well as Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time Bible studies](#) is 'The Light of Christ'. [Order your Prayer Handbook here.](#)

## Parliament



You can find the UK parliamentary business online [here](#). If you want to find out about the Scottish Parliamentary calendar, [click here](#) and the timetable for the National Assembly for Wales, [click here.](#)

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'The Week Ahead' is a regular mailing that gives you a heads-up on forthcoming events and opportunities, as well as highlighting new information and resources across the Methodist Church. We cannot know about everything that's going on, so please [do email us](#) if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.

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