

Hello and welcome to 'The Week Ahead Update'

This is an additional newsletter of updates, guidance and resources to support the Connexion during the coronavirus pandemic.

Regular updates will also be given on social media pages and on the website.

The media support line is available on 020 7467 5170.

Yours, in prayer, the Communications team









Coronavirus: most recent guidance

The recommendation is that worship services in Methodist churches are suspended in line with government guidelines. The full guidance can be found here.

This page now also includes <u>'frequently asked questions'</u> and links to other useful information and support.

Closure of Methodist Church House

Restrictions on travel in London mean that the decision has been taken to fully close Methodist Church House until further notice and staff are working remotely. Read more here.

Worship Sheets

Worship service sheets for people to use at home have been uploaded for the next four weeks. These are ideal for those who are isolating and who may not have access to the internet. The services can be downloaded from here.

Church Posters

Posters to use outside your church during the coronavirus pandemic are free to order from CPO. They are also available to download and print here.

Safeguarding

During the current crisis, safeguarding remains important to protect all those who may be vulnerable. This will be especially important for those considering a pastoral or practical response to the situation. The most recent guidance can be found here.

Live-streamed services

Many churches are undertaking the live-streaming of services. Details of some are below:

Wesley's Chapel in London

Wednesday 12.45, Thursday 12.45 and Sunday 9.45 and 11.00.

Swan Bank Methodist Church in Burslem

Sunday 10.30

Methodist Central Hall, Westminster

Sunday 11.00

Share your good news!

Many individuals and churches will be helping their members and communities during the current crisis. Please send stories of how you and your church are responding to the situation for us to share by emailing the <u>Communications Team</u>.

All We Can

All We Can, the Methodist international development and emergency relief charity, have published <u>their response</u> to the current situation. They have prepared <u>devotional materials</u> that you may wish to use to help you reflect, pray and to stay connected.

Education

Barbara Easton, Head of Service for MAST, the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust, has spoken of the impact on schools, teachers and families from the coronavirus outbreak in this new interview podcast.

A national call to prayer

Churches Together in England have issued a call for people to come together in prayer and to light candles of hope on Sunday 22 March, Mothering Sunday. More information can be found here.



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