



The Methodist News

30 April 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News, which replaces The Week Ahead. We hope that this new look better reflects the work of the Methodist Church. Additional features will be added in the near future. Urgent updates will be given on social media and on the Methodist Church website. Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

Guidance



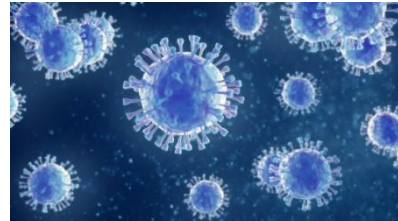
Worship during the pandemic

Suggestions for worship opportunities and how to help others in worship can be found [here](#), including service sheets to be printed at home. For those Methodists feeling the loss of communion, a short act of [spiritual communion](#)



Streamed services

A selection of streamed Methodist services are taking place online. The list of services, produced with current guidelines in place, can be found [here](#).



Official guidance

The Methodist Church has announced the closure of all its church buildings for the foreseeable future. The only exception will be for churches that are offering essential social outreach. Full guidance can be found [here](#).

News



Ministers' mental health

During this time, ministers are supporting people through all kinds of difficulties, challenges and unprecedented anxieties. Though



World Mission Fund

As cases of coronavirus continue to increase around the globe, the World Mission Fund has been used to support partner churches. [These](#)



Prayers for the dying

When someone is nearing the end of their life, usually a Methodist Minister would offer to pray with them and their families. Similarly

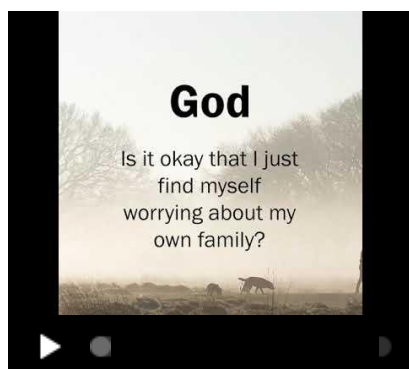
used to being with and alongside others in illness, bereavement, the end of life, and amid mental health difficulties, the scope and scale of the coronavirus are new, and challenging, and potentially overwhelming. Resources are available [here](#) to help.

[grants](#) have been sent from the World Mission Fund between April 8 to 24, in conjunction with the [Emergency Appeal](#) raised by All We Can and the Methodist Church in Britain.

the minister may offer prayers for the family after the death of a loved one. With current restrictions in place, this may not be possible. Therefore [resources](#) have been provided online, adapted from the Methodist Worship Book, that you can use in your own location.

Media

Video



Is it Okay?

[Is it okay?](#) written and read by Cathy Bird, Superintendent of Stockport United Circuit.

Podcast



The Methodist Podcast

In advance of next week's commemoration of the 75th anniversary of V E Day, we talk to Methodists from Jersey who were liberated from occupation. We chat to a mental health chaplain and learn how a mission for the homeless is coping with coronavirus. Listen [here](#).

Telephone



Dial-a-Prayer

A [FREE phone service](#) to hear prayers and news from the Methodist Church has been launched.

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514
Listen to news: 0808 281 2478

Content is updated weekly on Thursday evening.

Newsletter



Methodist Ministers' Housing Society

In the spring edition of [Roof 'n' Roots](#), the newsletter of the Methodist Ministers' Housing Society, team member Rachel Dawson explains how she's seen her wider family get to know each other better through the current crisis. Roof 'n' Roots also offers coronavirus advice for your wellbeing and tips on how to take care amid the gardening boom.

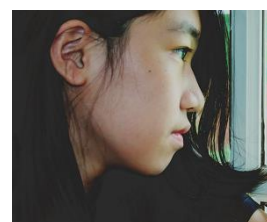
Podcast



The JPIT Podcast

As the world fights a global pandemic, attention is already turning to what happens next. Join Cameron Hume and Rosella Payne as they interview Paul Morrison, a leading expert on poverty in the UK and member of the JPIT team. This month's monthly musing asks why should Christians care about macro economics? You can find ways to listen [here](#).

Blog



Survivors of Modern Slavery

A project of the Birmingham Methodist District, [Adavu](#) supports adult survivors of modern slavery in the West Midlands. Liisa Wiseman, project manager, reflects on the impact of coronavirus on this vulnerable group and in particular on people living with no recourse to public funds at this time in her [blog](#).

Diary

8 May



VE DAY

VE Day 75

Friday 8 May is the 75th anniversary of V E Day. Although the events planned to mark the commemoration have been postponed or cancelled, there are still many resources available [online](#).

10 - 16 May



Christian Aid Week

Under the current circumstances, the usual Christian Aid Week events cannot go ahead. The need, however, is greater than ever. Christian Aid have created a vibrant, virtual [Christian Aid Week online](#) with activities, reflections and a virtual Christian Aid Week service.

21 - 31 May



Thy Kingdom Come

[Thy Kingdom Come](#) is an ecumenical, global prayer movement inviting all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus. Hymns Ancient and Modern are offering free UK delivery for online orders until further notice. Please [order your resources](#) by noon, 13 May.

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