

The Methodist News

21 May 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Urgent updates will be given on social media and on the Methodist Church website.

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

Guidance



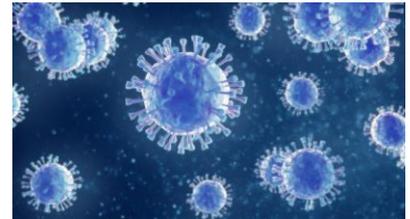
Worship during the pandemic

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, there is a short act of [spiritual communion](#).



Streamed services

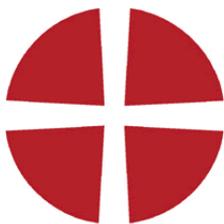
A selection of streamed Methodist services are taking place online. The list of services, produced with current guidelines in place, can be found [here](#).



Official guidance

The closure of Methodist buildings is under constant review in line with government guidance. The only exception currently is for those churches that are offering essential social outreach. Full details can be found [here](#).

News



Property guidance

The Property Team are currently working on guidelines with regard to the safe reopening of nurseries and pre-schools in Methodist buildings. Updates will be posted [here](#) as soon as possible.



3Generate

Due to uncertainty about when large face to face gatherings can restart, it will not be possible to hold the 3Generate Children and Youth Assembly in 2020. Although we won't be able to meet in person this year, there are exciting plans for 3Generate 365 which will launch in September 2020. Read more [here](#).



Cliff Festival at Home

This weekend's Cliff Festival will be as spectacular as ever, if a little different from previous years. Cliff College has been hosting a spring/summer festival for over 100 years. But this year, Festival is moving online, welcome to [Festival at Home](#), Friday May 22 to Monday May 25.

BIG CHURCH SING

Big Church Sing

Would you like to be a part of the next Big Church Sing? Submit your short videos, creative drawings/paintings or photos exploring:

- 1) In one word, what is bringing you hope today?
- 2) In one sentence, where are you needing hope for tomorrow?

Please send your responses to [Tim Baker, All We Can's Churches and Volunteers Manager](#) by Friday 29 May.



One Programme: Connexion

The ONE Programme: Connexion engages young people in the life of the Church and their local communities focusing on discipleship, vocation and leadership. For people aged 18 to 23, it offers a year of part time work with a local church project, along with training and participation nationally. Applications must be made by noon, 11 June. Discover the opportunities [here](#).

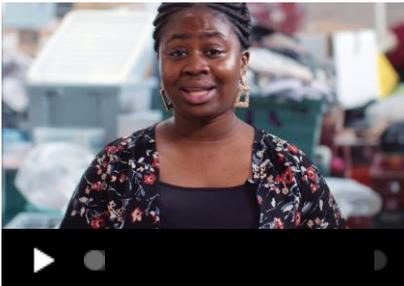


World Mission Fund Grants

Our partners across the world are working in communities to support people. We are privileged to join in this work, in prayer and through the World Mission Fund grants. To date, since the beginning of the global lockdown, the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church in Britain has dispersed over £325,000. Read about recent grants [here](#).

Media

Video



Thy Kingdom Come

Methodist Youth President Thelma Commey talks about the power of prayer as part of Thy Kingdom Come.

Podcast



The Methodist Podcast

In this week's [Methodist Podcast](#), we hear from Calais on the situation for refugees, we preview this weekend's Cliff Festival, learn how a district has handmade thousands of pieces of protective equipment and hear about Ramadan under lockdown. With a prayer from the Revd Martyn Atkins, who preaches for the last time as superintendent at Methodist Central Hall Westminster this weekend.

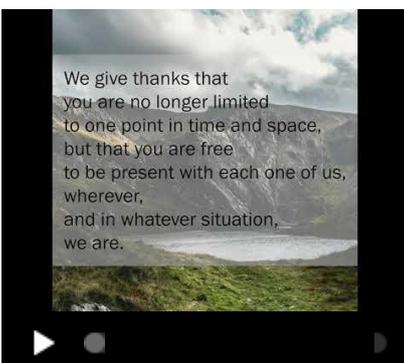
Blog



HIV Chaplaincy

The London HIV chaplain, Joseph Kyusho-Ford, discusses how those living with the illness are dealing with the challenges of the Covid-19 crisis. Read more [here](#).

Video



JPIT Podcast



Faith in Politics

This month's Faith in Politics podcast discusses the impact of COVID-19 on rough sleeping and homelessness on

Blog



Racial injustice highlighted by COVID-19

People from ethnic minority backgrounds in the UK have been

A Prayer for Ascension

[A prayer for Ascension](#), in Welsh with English subtitles. Written and read by Deacon Stephen Roe, who works in the Cymru Circuit.

present and future government policy with Baroness Hilary Armstrong and David Smith, the director of an Oasis Community Housing Project in Newcastle. Listen [here](#).

disproportionately dying from Coronavirus. Questions are rightly being asked of why this is the case and what can be done to reduce this threat to life. Read more in [this](#) blog post.

Aldersgate Sunday

Aldersgate Sunday is the Sunday nearest to 24 May (traditionally known as 'Wesley Day') or the Sunday before it. Aldersgate Sunday is a great opportunity to celebrate the work of God in our lives, and to reflect on how we should respond to everything that God has given us.

Heritage



Aldersgate Sunday

Aldersgate Sunday marks a significant event in John Wesley's life which some people call his 'conversion experience'. You can read more about Aldersgate Sunday [here](#) on the website of the New Room Bristol.

Resources



Singing the Faith

Resources including reflections, prayers and hymns for Aldersgate Sunday are available on the [Singing the Faith Plus website](#).

Streaming



Online service

This Sunday, the Bristol and South Gloucestershire Circuit are streaming a special service for Aldersgate Day. The service will be [streamed here](#) from 3pm. Watch a preview of the service [here](#).

Diary

18-24 May



Mental Health Week

Mental Health Awareness Week takes place 18 - 24 May. The current situation can have a dramatic impact on mental health. You can find support from the Methodist Church around well being here and through the [#loveyourself](#) [#loveyourneighbour](#) project.

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.

31 May



Pentecost

There are a range of resources that you can use at home during the season of Pentecost. You can access these via the [Singing the Faith Plus website](#).