

The Methodist News

2 July 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

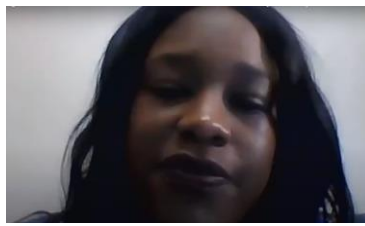
Guidance

Please note guidance for [re-opening churches for worship](#)



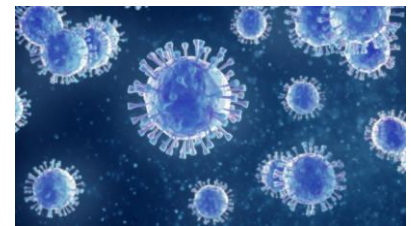
Worship during the pandemic

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](#).



Re-opening churches for worship

Some churches in England are able to re-open, under specific guidance, from 4 July. The Methodist Church's Property team have been working hard throughout the lockdown to produce relevant guidance for Managing Trustees and Ministers based on the Government's own guidelines [here](#). Beyond Exile, a service to celebrate a return to public worship, can be found [here](#).

The Methodist Conference

Sessions of the Methodist Conference are available to watch again [here](#).



New President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference inducted



Equality, Diversity and Inclusion



President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference elected for 2021/22

The Revd Richard Teal has been inducted as the new President of the Methodist Conference, taking over from the Revd Dr Barbara Glasson. The Vice-President, Carolyn Lawrence, was also inducted. Read more [here](#).

The Methodist Conference has voted to bolster and increase work on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion throughout the Connexion. Representatives voted to ensure better scrutiny of the implementation of the Inclusive Methodist Church Strategy, better collection and analysis of appropriate EDI statistics and a transparent system for monitoring and reviewing stationing outcomes with regard to EDI concerns. Read more [here](#).

The Methodist Conference has elected the Revd Sonia Hicks to serve as President and Barbara Easton to serve as Vice-President, starting their year of office when the Representative Session of the Methodist Conference opens in June 2021. Read more [here](#).



Evangelism and Growth

The Methodist Conference has voted overwhelmingly to implement a new Church-wide strategy for Evangelism and Growth. [The God for All strategy](#) commits the Church theologically, culturally, and financially to deepen its mission to be a growing, evangelistic, justice-seeking, and inclusive Church.



Children and Youth

In her speech to the Methodist Conference the Methodist Youth President, Thelma Commey, has spoken of the decision to change the format of this year's 3Generate, the Methodist Church's Children and Youth Assembly, due to the coronavirus pandemic. Read more [here](#).



Oversight and trustee structure

The Conference voted through the next steps of work around plans to simplify the oversight and trustee structure of the Methodist Church in Britain with the aim of providing greater support; enabling ministry, mission and broader strategic thinking; and promoting better coordination. Read more [here](#).

News

All We Can

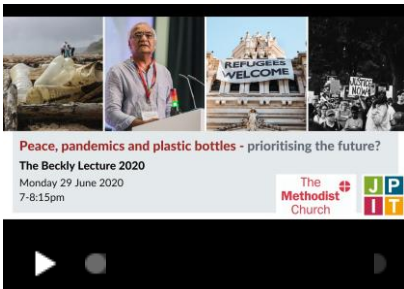


Big Church Sing

This weekend, get ready to enjoy another instalment of the Big Church Sing – the exciting online worship event for all to enjoy. Get your singing voices ready, and join in on the [Methodist Church Youtube Channel](#) at 4pm this Sunday.

Media

Video



Beckly Lecture

The Beckly Lecture 2020 was given by Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal OBE. Inderjit spoke from his many years' experience as a public and practical theologian, about how our world and our churches face the challenges ahead. When it feels as if different priorities are competing, how can we respond with integrity to God's call for justice and peace? The lecture is also transcribed [here](#).

Podcast



The Methodist Podcast

We talk to the new President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, hear a response to the Methodist Conference debate on race, we discuss churches returning to worship and hear from some of those who have been received into Full Connexion. Listen [here](#).

Online lecture



Theological education past and present

Jonathan Dean and Tim Macquiban will be giving an online lecture, *Theological education past and present*, via Zoom on Saturday 4 July at 11am, organised by [Englesea Brook Chapel and Museum](#). For a Zoom invitation please email: engleseabrookproject@outlook.com

Email: mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk