

The Methodist News

27 August 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

News

Online worship milestone



Methodist Central Hall Westminster

With recent research showing that 1 in 4 people have engaged in online worship since lockdown began, it is no surprise that a major church like Methodist Central Hall, Westminster has seen significant numbers of people attending online services in the last few months. The scale of numbers and the geographical spread is, however, remarkable. Read more [here](#).

Evangelism and Growth



Year of Prayer

The Methodist Conference has declared 2020/2021 a year of prayer.

Join others across the Methodist Church to pray together every Tuesday (starting on 1 September) from 12.45 to 1.00pm. Read more and take part [here](#).

MHA



Memorial Day

On Friday 4 September MHA are asking us all to take a moment to reflect by joining together for a Memorial Day to remember those who were sadly lost during the pandemic. The day is to honour everyone who has passed away during this time, be it from coronavirus or not. Read more [here](#).

Reopening churches



Posters and resources

A range of posters to assist with the reopening of churches can be download to print from [here](#). Welsh language versions will be available shortly.

Climate Sunday



Resources

Climate Sunday, from 6 September, encourages us all to make a commitment to greater action in order to address climate change in our places of worship and community, and to raise our voice to urge bolder action from governments. Read more [here](#).

Racial Justice



Webinar

CTBI are hosting a webinar on Tuesday 8 September to discuss racial justice following the Grenfell Tower tragedy. Participating will be Bevan Powell, advisor on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion with the Methodist Church and Revd Mike Long, superintendent minister, Notting Hill Methodist Church. Find out more [here](#).

Media

Radio



BBC Coventry & Warwickshire

Trevor Gay, who runs Coffee Shop Sunday in Coventry, led Thought for the Day last Sunday morning on BBC Coventry & Warwickshire. Listen [here](#) from 2hrs 54mins 40 secs.

Podcast



The Methodist Podcast

In this week's [podcast](#) we get an update from the Chief Executive of MHA on their challenges with the coronavirus and we hear from a Methodist school Head preparing for the return of pupils. With Tuesday's launch of the Year of Prayer, we also talk to the Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, and we hear about a church allotment.

Radio



Sunday Worship

The Revd Sally Thornton from Whitefield Methodist Church led the Sunday worship service across all 39 BBC Local Radio stations last Sunday. You can hear the programme, entitled 'Storms of Life', [here](#).

Guidance



Worship and re-opening churches during the pandemic

There are suggestions for worship opportunities and worship sheets to print at home [here](#). There is also a short act of [spiritual communion](#). There is also a range of [resources](#) for open air worship, advice on face coverings, weddings, house groups and wider community use of church buildings. A service to celebrate a return to public worship, Beyond Exile, can be found [here](#).



Updates

Updates on singing & the use of wind musical instruments and the addition of links for government guidance for Scotland & Wales can be found [here](#).

This page also provides links to [guidance on face coverings](#).



Dial a prayer and podcast

uring lockdown we heard that many people didn't have access to online services so we set up free [phone lines](#) that are updated on a Thursday with a new prayer and our podcast. We are delighted that nearly 6000 people have used this service and would ask you to share the numbers with anyone you know who might not wish to use online services.

Listen to a prayer: 0808 281 2514

Listen to news: 0808 281 2478