

# The Methodist News

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15 October 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

Please note the [update to guidance](#) on how the new three-tier Covid alert levels will affect churches

## The Methodist Council

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### Report

You can read a report on the Methodist Council meeting held earlier this week [here](#).



### Assistant Secretary of the Conference

The Methodist Council has voted to recommend the appointment of the Revd Michaela Youngson as Assistant Secretary of the Conference for an initial period of six years from September 2021. Read more [here](#).



### Climate emergency

The Methodist Council has requested its ethical investment advisory body to recommend disinvestment from all oil and gas companies not currently aligned with the Paris Agreement. Read more [here](#).

## News

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### Christmas Campaign



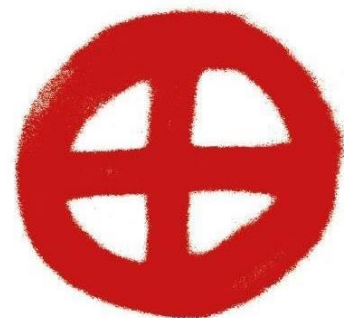
### Webinar

Please join the Evangelism and Contemporary Culture Officer, Holly Adams, as she explains how the Methodist Christmas campaign can help your church in its evangelism this Christmas.

This webinar is on Wednesday 21st October, 6-8pm.

More information and sign-up details [here](#).

### Children and Youth



### Get Creative

The Children, Youth and Family Team are looking forward to announcing the winners of the Get Creative competition next week on 21st October. They'll be announcing who won in each category throughout the day on The Well for Methodist Children, Youth and Family workers [Facebook page](#).

## Black History Month

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## October is Black History Month

### Website



A new area of the Methodist Church website marks Black History Month. The [page](#) includes personal testimony and blogs from BAME members of the Church, prayers and information on events. Read about [Thomas Birch Freeman](#), a nineteenth century missionary from Britain who helped to build the Methodist Church across Africa.

### Podcast



During Black History Month a series of special podcasts has been produced featuring black and ethnic minority voices from the Church. This week's podcast features an interview with the leading black theologian and Methodist local preacher, Anthony Reddie. Listen [here](#).

### Events



You can find details of events [here](#).

If your church is holding events and initiatives to mark Black History Month, do let us know so that we can share your stories. Email us [here](#).

## Year of Prayer

Join others across the Methodist Church to pray, every Tuesday from 12.45pm to 1.00pm

### Participate



Next week's prayers, 20 October at 12:45, are with the Revd Romeo Regardo Pedro Superintendent Minister Northampton Methodist Circuit. [Read more and register here](#).

### Watch



If you missed Tuesday's prayer meeting featuring Revd Charity Nzegwu, minister of the Orwell and Royston churches in the Cambridge Circuit, you can watch again, with a BSL translation, [here](#).

## Media

### BBC Cornwall



Vice-President

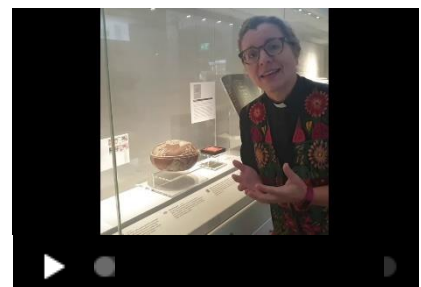
### Blog



### Prisons Week

As we continue to reflect during Prisons Week, [this blog](#) tells of the work of

### Video



Kent College

The Vice-President of the Methodist Conference, Carolyn Lawrence, was interviewed on BBC Radio Cornwall earlier this week about her visit to the county. You can listen to the interview [here](#) from 3hours 9mins.

those who walk alongside prisoners and their families.

For collective worship at Kent College, Canterbury during Black History Month they invited Revd Jennifer Smith at Wesley's Chapel to create videos around the stories of some of the artefacts. You can watch the collective worship [here](#).



### The Methodist Podcast

In this week's Methodist Podcast we learn of the news from the Methodist Council, we hear how a story from the Bible is helping prisoners, we talk with the leading black theologian and Methodist local preacher, Anthony Reddie and we consider how churches can support those with eating disorders. You can listen [here](#).

## Guidance

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### Worship 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](#) and a range of [resources](#) for open air worship, advice on face coverings, weddings, house groups and wider community use of church buildings.



### Updated guidance (14/10/2020)

Following the announcement on Monday, the Government has introduced a new system of local Covid-19 Alert Levels in England. Places of Worship remain open in all three Category Tiers, but with different requirements and restrictions.

The Connexional Property Team have provided a summary on their webpage [here](#).

This includes links to the list of areas within each tier, the restrictions in each of the three tier levels and local alert level posters for public information.



### Dial a prayer and podcast

During 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

Email: [mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk](mailto:mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk)