

# The Methodist News

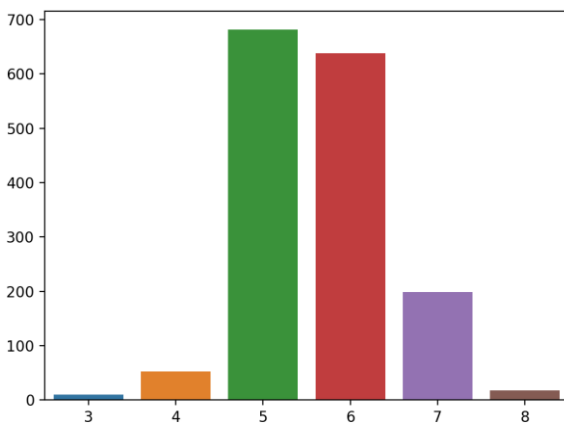
1 October 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

## News



### Statistics for Mission

In light of the closure of many of our churches because of the Coronavirus pandemic restrictions, we will not be collecting statistics on attendance this year. With an increased move to online participation in worship, we are reviewing how these statistics will be collected in 2021.

All other statistics (including the membership returns) are still required and returns should be completed in the usual way. The Statistics for Mission website for 2020 returns is [here](#) from.

### All We Can



### Big Church Sing

Join the Harvest Big Church Sing, this Sunday 4 October at 4.00pm on the [Methodist Church Youtube Channel](#). Featuring Graham Kendrick, the London Community Gospel Choir, Celtic Worship and many more exciting performers, the Harvest Big Church Sing promises to be a joyful and uplifting event for all ages. We can't wait to see you there!

### British Methodist Youth Choir



### Rehearsal

The British Methodist Youth Choir are having their first virtual rehearsal on the 16th October at 7.00pm. Click [here](#) for more information and to sign up.

### Supporting Refugees



### Zoom Gathering

A Supporting Refugees and Asylum Seekers Gathering will take place via Zoom on Thursday 15 October between 11.00am and 12.30pm. It will be hosted by Ian Rutherford and David Hardman (Manchester and Stockport) and Bala Gnanapragasam (London). Joining from Rome will be Fiona Kendall, the European and Legal Affairs Advisor with Mediterranean Hope. Click [here](#) for more information.

[Cameroon](#)

[Chaplaincy Everywhere](#)

[Prisons Week](#)



### Ecumenical statement

An ecumenical statement on the situation for English speakers in Cameroon has been signed by the President of the Methodist Conference. You can read the statement [here](#) and you can hear a first-hand account of the violence in the region on last week's [Methodist Podcast](#).



### Wellbeing Webinar

A Wellbeing, Chaplaincy and Faith webinar is to take place on the 8 October 10.00-11.30. The webinar will raise awareness of wellbeing and chaplaincy in many settings and offer support to share the experience of Chaplains. Click [here](#) for more details.



### 11 - 17 October

Prisons Week aims to encourage prayer and awareness of the needs of prisoners and their families, victims of offenders, prison staff and all those who care. Read more and find resources [here](#).

# Black History Month

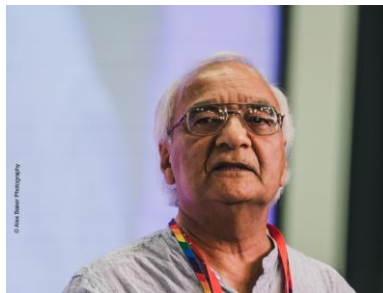
## October is Black History Month

### Website



A new area of the Methodist Church website has been launched to mark Black History Month. The page includes personal testimony and blogs from BAME members of the Church, prayers and information on events. Find out more [here](#).

### Podcast



During Black History Month a series of special podcasts has been produced featuring black and ethnic minority voices from the Church. You can listen to the first special podcast, an interview with Inderjit Bhogal, [here](#).

### Engage



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

### Watch



Next week's prayers, 6 October at 12:45, are with Revd Dr Vincent Jambawo, stationed in the Birmingham Methodist Circuit. Read more and register [here](#).



If you missed Tuesday's prayer meeting, featuring Tracey Hume, a Deacon working as the District Community Engagement Enabler for the Newcastle Upon Tyne District, then you can watch again, with a BSL translation, [here](#).

## Media

### BBC Radio 5 Live



#### University Chaplaincy

Karen Turner, the Methodist Chaplain at the University of Bath, was interviewed on BBC Radio 5 Live last week to discuss the support she is offering students. Listen [here](#) from 57:10mins.

### Wesley Memorial Church



#### Oxford

Members of the Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, Oxford describe what their church means to them in [this](#) video.

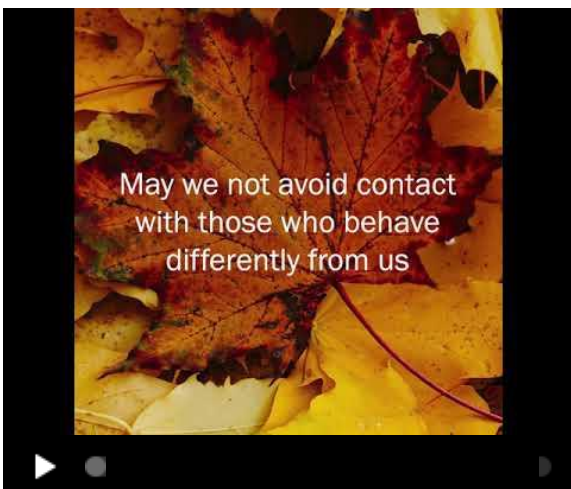
### BBC Local Radio



#### BBC

Revd Jenny Pathmarajah chats with someone who is visiting all the places of worship on Jersey in this interview with BBC Radio Jersey. Listen [here](#) from 1:44m 40s.

### Video



#### Prayer

A prayer for October, written and read by Richard Teal, President of the Methodist Conference.

### Podcast



#### The Methodist Podcast

In this week's [Methodist Podcast](#) we hear about the Joint Public Issues Team's call to reset household Covid debt, we celebrate the start of Black History Month with an interview with Inderjit Bhogal and we hear from a Performing Arts Mission Enabler.

# 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

You can read updated guidance following recent government announcements [here](#).

TMCP have produced a helpful article regarding the legal requirements for Test & Trace and QR codes, read more [here](#)

The following Guides have also been update (29.9.2020) and can be found [here](#).

Weddings  
Open Air Worship  
Church Meetings, Small Gatherings &  
House Groups  
Pastoral Visits  
Guide for Face Coverings



## 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

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