

The Methodist News

22 October 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

News

Tiered lockdown and its impact on churches

The Revd Dr Jonathan Hustler, Secretary of the Methodist Conference, has published a statement on the tiered lockdown and its impact on churches.

Read the statement [here](#).

Updated guidance (20.10.2020) can be found [here](#).



Get Creative!



Competition winners

The winning entries for the Get Creative! competition have been announced by the Children, Youth and Family Team. The competition invited children and young people to submit their artwork, photographs, poems and spoken word pieces on the theme of 'What is God saying?'. You can see all the winning entries [here](#).

3Generate



Elections

The 3Generate elections take place from 21 November 2020 and will remain open for one month. Young people have the opportunity to elect the Youth President for 2021/22 as well as their 3Generate representatives for the coming year. Details of how to vote will appear [here](#) shortly.



President and Vice-President

The Revd Richard Teal and Carolyn Lawrence, President and Vice-President, will host a series of Facebook Lives starting at 12.45 next Monday, 26 October. For the first week they will reflect on the Fruits of the Spirit. Join them [here](#).



Global Relationships

Between February and August 2020 The Methodist Church supported world church partners with general grants of £573,779 from the World Mission Fund for COVID-19 related work. Read more about the grants given and reports from partners [here](#).



National Churches Trust

Methodist churches submitted evidence to this report from the National Churches Trust which estimates the total economic and social value that church buildings generate in the UK to be at least £12.4 billion per year. Read more [here](#).

Green Christian



Festival

The Green Christian Festival 2020, Re-imagining the Promised Land takes place 23-25 October. As Covid-19 has brought dark times, we have seen positives emerge through lockdown: breathing space for nature, renewed community spirit and a focus on the local. You can find out more about the event [here](#).

Wellbeing



Methodist City Centre Network

The Methodist City Centre Network invite you to join a two day gathering, on the 17 and 18 November, focusing on wellbeing. Details and registration are [here](#).

Refugees and migrants



Churches' Refugee Network

You invited to attend the Churches' Refugee Network (CRN) meeting on Thursday 29 October 2020 from 2:30pm to 4:00pm. The meeting will take place pm via Zoom and will involve a discussion on immigration issues, and include presentations from refugees and those who work with them. To register, please click [here](#).

Black History Month

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. Born into slavery in South Carolina in around 1759, Boston King suffered at the hands of a cruel master until he fled and joined the British forces at the start of the American War of Independence. Read about his story [here](#).

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 BHM podcast features the President Designate of the Methodist Conference, Revd Sonia Hicks, in conversation with Revd Charity Nzegwu discussing their ministry as black women. 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

Watch



Next week's prayers, 27 October at 12:45, are with the Methodist Youth President, Phoebe Parkin. Read more and register [here](#).



If you missed Tuesday's prayer meeting featuring Revd Romeo Regardo Pedro Superintendent, Minister for the Northampton Methodist Circuit, you can watch again, with a BSL translation, [here](#).

Media



The Methodist Podcast

In this week's Methodist Podcast we hear an update from the Property Team on how churches should work with the new system of local coronavirus restrictions, we learn about the multibillion pound social value of churches, we continue Black History Month as two black, female ministers discuss their ministry and we hear from the Methodist Youth President about the Year of Prayer. Listen [here](#).

Guidance



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

As England has moved to a tiered system for lockdown and different restrictions are in place for Scotland and Wales, the [coronavirus guidance](#) on the website has been updated to reflect this.



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