

# The Methodist News

26 November 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News.

Yours, in prayer,

[The Communications team](#)

## Advent and Christmas

**#GodIsWithUs – 5 days to go!**



**#GodIsWithUs:** the first national Christmas campaign brings Methodist churches and charities together.

Starting on 1 December we will be sharing stories of service, loss and sacrifice through the pandemic reveal the hope and joy of a loving God who is with us at all times.

[Read more about the campaign here.](#)

**#GodIsWithUs CD and Resources**



We have had an overwhelming response to our Christmas service CD with thousands pre-ordered. We'll be closing orders for this soon, so please [place your order here asap](#).

Along with the CD there are worship at home sheets (5 services including one for Christmas Day) and downloadable posters and postcards for you to send to your family, friends, neighbours and communities. [Get your resources here.](#)

**All We Can – Big Sing Special**



The next Big Sing is on Advent Sunday – a bumper Christmas special in aid of All we Can.

It will go [live on YouTube](#) at 4pm and will be available in the run up to Christmas whenever you need some festive cheer.

**MCHW carols**



A Christmas highlight at Methodist Central Hall Westminster (MCHW) is their Traditional Carol Service run in partnership with Premier.

Join them at 6 pm on Sunday evening 6 December [here](#).

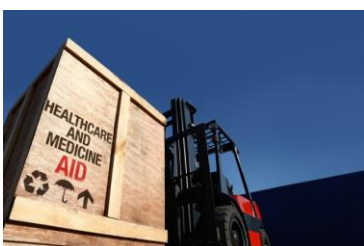
**BBC Local Radio service**



Join Jenny Pathmarajah, a Methodist minister on Jersey for the weekly BBC Local Radio service this Advent Sunday at 8am on your [local BBC Radio Station](#).

## News

**Foreign Aid cuts**



**The Church in a pandemic**



**A calling to Pioneer?**



The President and Vice-President of the Conference have reacted to the announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the foreign aid budget will be cut from 0.7% of national income to 0.5%.

[Read more](#)

In the first of a series on church life during the pandemic, the Revd Leslie Newton shares an inspiring story from Hull.

[Read more](#)

At the end of a traumatic year, have you been stirred to follow your faith in new ways? If so, the Revd Matt Finch, Pioneering and Church Planting Officer, would like to hear from you.

[Read more](#)

### Global Relationships



You can now read reports of some of the work that the Methodist Church in Zimbabwe and the Methodist Church and The Gambia, have undertaken to support communities through the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Read more.](#)

### Connecting Communities and Serving People



A major research project looking at how churches work with communities is published today by the Free Churches Group. Over 360 people in England were consulted and the report aims to highlight the important role churches play in the nation's social fabric. [You can read more here](#)



### Tune in - Watch Again



It was fantastic to have so many children and young people join Phoebe Parkin, Youth President, for this live streamed event last weekend.

If you missed it, the broadcast is [available to view here](#).

### 3Generate Elections



Voting is now open for both the Youth President 2021/22 and the 3Generate Youth Representatives.

[Find out how to vote and more here.](#)

### 3Gen App is here!



### 3GEN APP

The brand new 3Generate is now available to download from your usual app store. Share this news with all the children and young people you know, [more details are 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, Tuesday 1 December at 12:45, are led by Deacon Stephen Roe of Synod Cymru who will lead partly in Welsh. Read more and register [here](#).

## Watch



If you missed Tuesday's prayer meeting with the Revd Dr Calvin T Samuel, a minister in the Southend & Leigh Circuit, you can watch again, with a BSL translation, [here](#).

# Media

## The Methodist Podcast



This week Digital Content Officer, Oli Morriss speaks to composer and choir master, Matt Beckingham.

[Listen here](#).

## Foreign aid cuts



CEO of All we Can, Graeme Hodge spoke to Premier about the cut to the overseas aid budget. [Read here](#).

## Webinar



A series of webinars called Wellbeing+Chaplaincy+Faith offers chaplaincy support during the pandemic.

[Watch Dr Chris Swift - Director of Chaplaincy at Methodist Homes \(MHA\) here](#).

## President and Vice-President Facebook Live



Don't forget to join Richard Teal and Carolyn Lawrence each week on their Facebook page for a Facebook Live – Mondays at 12.45pm. They chat about their week in office, offer a reflection on a theme and prayers. A short social and contemplative away from your busy day! [Join them here](#).

Richard and Carolyn are also busy writing blogs to share with the Church so make sure you follow their Facebook page.

# 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.



## Guidance

The latest coronavirus updates for churches are available here, and are updated regularly following government announcements. [Read the latest guidance on England's new tier system here.](#)

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