

The **Methodist News**

10 December 2020

Hello everyone and welcome to The Methodist News. Yours, in prayer,

The Communications team

Guidance



The government has published guidance for the Christmas period in England, which includes a section on carol singing.

Carol singing is allowed indoors & outdoors by professional and amateur choirs. Guidance has also been released for Christmas celebrations.

Read the guidance here, including links for other nations.

#GodIsWithUs

Christmas service CD



Almost 20,000 copies of the Methodist Christmas service on a CD have now been pressed and will be distributed from mid-December.

Although orders are now closed, you can stream and download the service <u>here</u>.

#GodIsWithUs



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

This year has been unforgettable, but through it all we can say that God is with us. Each of the participants in the video have their own story to tell. Find them here.

Children and Youth



A resource has been made available to use with children and young people to explore the testimony of the God Is With Us campaign.

You can download the resource here.

News

Online



Wesley House



Methodist Publishing



Fraud

Action Fraud, the Charity Commission and the Fundraising Regulator are warning the public and organisations, including churches, to remain vigilant when making charitable donations this Christmas. Read more here.



Appointment

Wesley House Cambridge is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Helen Cameron as the Interim Director of Doctoral Pathways. Read more here.

Prayer Handbook

The theme for the Methodist Prayer Handbook 2021/2022 is 'a place for all'. You can find out more and submit a prayer by 11 January, 2021, here.

Global Relationships

Application for the 2021-23 Global Mission Fellows programme is now open, offering an opportunity to serve in another country, live out your faith and develop as a leader committed to justice and peace. Placements will begin September 2021, Covid-19 permitting. Find out more here and apply by 7 January.





Voting for 3Generate Youth Reps closes on 14 December at 11pm and for the Youth President on 21 December. Voting is via the app or on the <u>website</u>.

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 15 December at 12:45, are led by Jude Levermore, Head of Mission. More information about the Year of Prayer can be found here or use this direct link to register.

Watch Again



If you missed Tuesday's prayer meeting with Revd Teddy Siwila from the Wolverhampton Circuit, you can watch again, with a BSL translation, here.

Media

The Methodist Podcast



Premier Christian News



The Observer



This week, Christmas Covid guidance for churches. Youth Rep elections, Queen Victoria Seamen's Rest and Covid church cartoons. Listen here.

500 church leaders, including Methodists, have written to Rishi Sunak calling for him to help the growing number of people put into debt because of Coronavirus. Read the report from Premier News here.

Paul Morrison, a policy adviser to the Methodist Church and a trustee of the Trussell Trust. spoke into the issue of poverty in this piece in Sunday's Observer.

In Our Time



For this week's In Our Time on BBC Radio 4, (10 December at 9:30pm) Melvyn Bragg and guests discuss John Wesley (1703 - 1791) and the Methodist movement he was to lead and inspire. The programme is also available to listen to here.

Premier Christian News



With a Brexit trade deal currently hanging in the balance, how can Christians pray for the process and our post-Brexit world. Paul Morrison, a Policy Adviser with the Joint Public Issues Team representing the Methodist Church, has highlighted three key areas that Christians can pray for in this article.

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.



Guidance

The latest coronavirus updates for churches are available <u>here</u> and are reviewed regularly following government announcements.

Email: mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk