

The Methodist News

4 March 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News.

Yours,

[The Communications team](#)

Returning to school



Ahead of the return to school for many, Meg Prowting from the Methodist Church Children, Youth and Families Team chats with the Executive Head Teacher of Blackrod Church School in Bolton, Mr James Royal, and with Jo Porter who attends Downsview Methodist Church in Croydon. Jo is a mother of two and also a teacher. Watch [here](#).



Is someone you know heading back to school next week? Have they been in school for a while already? Changes happening at the moment can cause a range of emotions- some good, some difficult. In this video Lynne Norman from the Children, Youth and Families Team offers three top tips for coping with these changes and how you can manage your emotions at this time. Watch [here](#).

Easter Resources

A range of resources for personal reflection, and for home or remote worship during Holy Week is available on the [Methodist Church website](#). Please look through and see which ones will suit you best. For worship resources for use at any time see [Worship during the coronavirus pandemic](#).



News

Global Relationships



The Methodist Church in Britain is standing in solidarity with its partners in Myanmar following the coup that occurred at the start of February and the increasing violence in the country. You can read the Methodist Church's response to the call for prayer and support [here](#).

Cliff College



Cliff College is now offering a Certificate in Parenting for Faith. The online course will equip students to successfully support parents and carers as they disciple their children and explore what parenting for faith might look like in their church and community. You can find out more [here](#).

Children, Youth and Families Week



Children, Youth and Families Week is a free Learning Network event taking place from Monday 15 to 19 March. The week features input from the Connexional Children, Youth and Family Team. You can book your place and read more information [here](#).

Local elections



JPIT have created an introduction to the local elections happening on 6 May. In terms of the number of eligible voters, it will be the biggest expression of democratic opinion outside a UK General Election. Read more about how to engage [here](#).

Budget



This week, the Chancellor faced the difficult task of setting financial and economic priorities at a time when unprecedented support has been needed, and continues to be needed, to help the country get through the pandemic. Read analysis from JPIT [here](#).

Community engagement



A webinar on Wednesday 14 April at 7pm will ask What is God asking of us now? Our churches may well look very different to how they did in 2019, and our communities' needs may well have changed. Join Mission and Community Engagement Officer, Emma Nash to hear about fresh mission opportunities, pick up ideas and resources and, most importantly, you'll find a space to ask yourself: what is the one thing God is asking of our church now? Find out more [here](#).

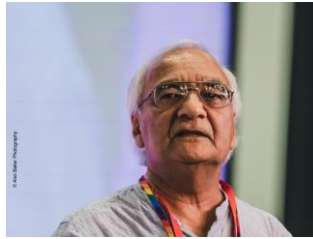
Scientists in Congregations



The Scientists in Congregations programme, organised by Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science (ECLAS), has 20 grants available worth up to £20,000 each. Applications are open to churches in England and Wales.

Grants could support events such as exhibitions, public talks, theatre productions, or online activities which explore a scientific issue or questions of science and faith. Applications close 23 April 2021. Read more [here](#).

Church of Sanctuary



Join Christians Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) on Wednesday 24 March to hear the Revd Dr Inderjit Bhogal, who heads the Church of Sanctuary movement, speak about how churches can respond to those in need of sanctuary. In the newly revised edition of his Hospitality and Sanctuary for All, Inderjit provides churches with a range of practical and spiritual tools that will enable us to engage with this vitally important issue. Read more and register [here](#).

Thy Kingdom Come



Thy Kingdom Come, the ecumenical prayer movement, unites Christians in nearly 90% of countries worldwide from the Ascension to Pentecost.

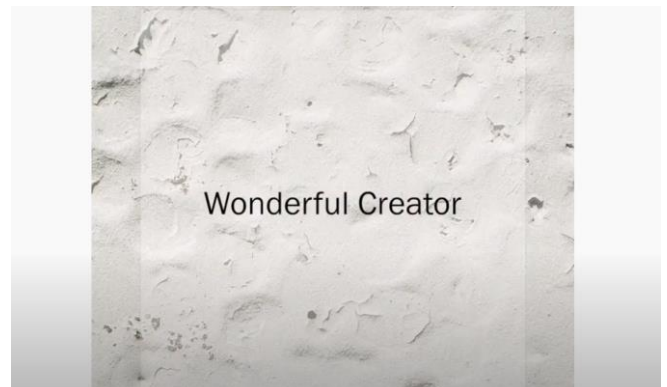
A launch event to unveil plans for this year takes place online on Tuesday 9 March. More details and booking [here](#).

A Prayer for March



Written and read by the President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Richard Teal. Watch [here](#).

A Prayer for the Environment



Written and read by Mollie Pugmire, one of the COP26 Campaigns Workers. Watch [here](#).

Year of Prayer

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

Participate



Next Tuesday's service will be led by Revd Margaret Mwaile. Margaret trained at Luther King House, Manchester and currently serves in the Derbyshire North East Circuit, Sheffield District. More information about the Year of Prayer can be found [here](#) or use this [direct link](#) to register.

Watch Again



This week's Year of Prayer service was led by Jill Baker, a local preacher and tutor in the Strathclyde Circuit, part of the small but active Methodist Church in Scotland. Jill is a former Vice-President of the Methodist Conference and currently chair of the Methodist Council. You can watch the service again, [here](#).

Media

BBC Radio Cumbria



The Revd Richard Teal spoke to BBC Radio Cumbria on Sunday about his virtual visit to the county.

Listen [here](#) from 3hr 17mins.

'Dial-a-Prayer' phonelines



The Methodist Podcast



The latest edition of The Methodist Podcast considers the impact and personal stories that have been shared as part of the Methodist Church marking LGBT+ History Month. Listen [here](#).

BBC Radio Jersey



BBC Radio Two



As part of a special series for Lent on BBC Radio Jersey, the Revd Jenny Pathmarajah, Methodist minister for the west of Jersey, travels to the south-east corner of the island to visit her 'Prayerful Place' - La Rocque. Listen [here](#).

On Friday Trey Hall was pausing for thought again on BBC Radio 2, speaking about 'the real me!'; how we are all a mix of things that don't seem to go together but actually do. Listen again [here](#) from 1hr 41mins.

Video and Audio resources



Have a look at this week's video and audio content that can be downloaded and used in online worship, e-newsletters or social media. We update the page twice-weekly with audio reflections and prayers from the President and Vice President and interviews from our podcasts. Find the resources [here](#).

Guidance



As restrictions continue, read the latest guidance [here](#), including links for other nations.

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