

# The Methodist News

1 April 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News.

Yours,

[The Communications team](#)

## Easter

### Reflections



Easter reflections from the President and Vice-President are available each day until Sunday 4 April. You can watch them on the [President and Vice-President](#) Facebook page, on the [Methodist Church](#) Facebook page and on [YouTube](#) each morning.

### Online Easter Services



Many local churches will be open or offering online or telephone services this Holy Week and Easter. Find your local Methodist church [here](#).

Alternatively, join an online service. You can find details [here](#).

### Stations of the Cross



A reflection on the Stations of the Cross and Resurrection in the light of COVID-19 has been created in glass by the Revd Rachel Parkinson, Chair of the Wolverhampton & Shrewsbury District. You can read the reflection [here](#).

### The Ministry of Welcome



We celebrate some of the food stories from around the Methodist Connexion with Easter buns, cookies and more, along with recipes from the President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference. Read [here](#).

### The Big Church Sing



At 4pm on Easter Sunday, you can be part of [The Big Church Sing Easter Special](#) and raise your voices along with incredible Christian artists like Graham Kendrick, Noel Robinson, Celtic Worship and our very own National Methodist Choir. All performing to support All We Can's work with people in some of the world's most vulnerable communities. You will be able to watch, on the day, on [YouTube](#).

### The European Methodist Council



The European Methodist Council has prepared three short video reflections for Holy Week from members of the European Methodist Council. These will be shared on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday through the new [EMC Facebook page](#).

# News

## The Methodist Conference 2021



The Conference Arrangements Committee has reviewed its plans for the 2021 Conference in the light of the Government's roadmap out of lockdown. The Committee has decided to work towards the Conference going ahead at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole between 24 June and 1 July. Read more [here](#).

## Safe Use of Places of Worship



The government has updated the [Safe Use of Places of Worship](#) guidance to include details of how restrictions will be lifted for churches in England.

You can find the updated guidance and further information [here](#).

## Service of Lament



As lockdown eases, for many it will be right to give voice together for the loss and sadness we have shared. A new Service of Lament has been published, not intended to replace individual memorials nor as a memorial only for those who have died. You can read the Lament [here](#).

## Peace in an angry world?



We live in a world which seems to be permanently angry, from conflicts between countries to aggressive trolling on social media. Is it possible to live and work for peace? Methodist minister and theologian Revd Inderjit Bhogal will be in conversation with John Cooper from the Fellowship of Reconciliation on 19 April. Find out more and book [here](#).

## Vacancy Evangelism and Leadership



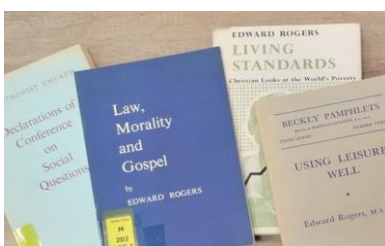
In partnership with The Queen's Foundation, The Methodist Church is seeking applications for an Officer and Tutor in Evangelism and Leadership. Based at The Queen's Foundation in Birmingham as a tutor, the position will also act as an Officer within the Ministries Team. Click [here](#) to read more.

## Methodist Central Hall Westminster



A video has been released reflecting on a year of church online at Methodist Central Hall Westminster. Communications and Digital Media Coordinator Dan Forshaw speaks to the team on how things changed in March 2020 when the UK went into lockdown and church buildings were closed. Methodist Central Hall Westminster reached millions of people around the world with their online services. Watch [here](#).

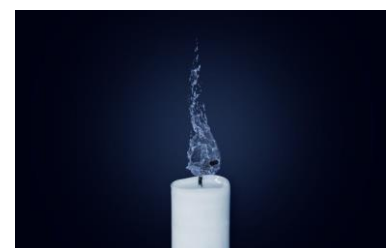
## Revd Edward Rogers Scholarship



## Roof 'n' Roots Methodist Ministers' Housing Society



## Coercive Behaviour



The Centre for Faith in Public Life at Wesley House has announced a new PhD scholarship in social ethics. Named after a past president of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Edward Rogers, the scholarship offers the chance for a Methodist student to pursue advanced study in social ethics or public theology. Click [here](#).

It's 'all shook up' for the latest *Roof 'n' Roots*, the regular newsletter of the Methodist Ministers' Housing Society. Not only does the publication have a bold new design, but also features the Revd Derek Aldridge, who is chaplain to UK fan organisation 'Strictly Elvis'. You can download the magazine [here](#).

The University of Bristol is carrying out research to better understand the relationship between faith/religion and coercive and controlling behaviour. The university is seeking input from people who are over the age of 18 who have experienced or witnessed – at any age – coercive control in a faith context, in the UK. You can find an anonymous survey [here](#).

## Year of Prayer

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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 Graeme Hodge, Chief Executive of All We Can, the Methodist relief & development organisation. 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 Revd Sean Adair, Superintendent of the Derbyshire North East Circuit, minister of Chesterfield Central Methodist Church, and Deputy Chair of the Sheffield District. You can watch the service again, [here](#).

## Media

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### The Methodist Podcast



An estimated six million people in the UK have fallen behind on one or more household bills as a result of Covid-19. With the biggest increases in debt amongst the poorest households, the Methodist Podcast hears from JPIT about the Reset the Debt campaign and talks to Methodists in Walsall and Newcastle about the practical and emotional impact of debt. Listen [here](#).

### 'Dial-a-Prayer' phonelines



**Prayer:** 0808 281 2514

**Pastoral message** from the President and Vice-President:  
0808 281 2695

**Methodist Podcast:** 0808 281 2478

You can download a print-and-cut-out sheet with details to send to others [here](#)

### BBC Radio Oxford



Jude Levermore, Head of Mission in the Connexional Team and a local preacher, discusses her work, her faith and Palm Sunday in this interview on BBC Radio Oxford. Listen [here](#) from 1hr 39min.

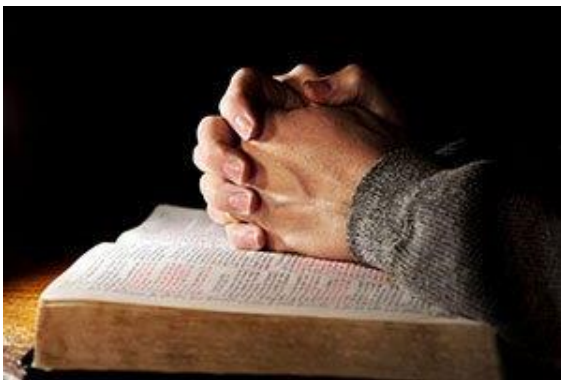
### BBC Radio Two



"We all need encouragement as we travel through life." The Revd Delyth Liddell considers the theme 'A Running Story' on BBC Radio Two's Pause for Thought slot during the OJ Boug show. You can listen [here](#).

## Spiritual sustenance in isolation

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During this time of 'lockdown' a special page on our website signposts you to resources to help nourish your spiritual life.

These are mostly resources that are provided centrally but you can also check what your local church or circuit is providing.

Click [here](#).

## Guidance

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

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