

# The Methodist News

13 May 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News.  
Yours,  
[The Communications team](#)

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 Bunmi Olayisade, Partnership Coordinator for Africa. 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 Andy Dye, Programme Team Leader for Global Relationships. You can watch the service again, [here](#).

## News

### Jerusalem



Methodists join other Christians in appealing for peace and an end to provocative actions in Jerusalem. You can read the statement from the World Methodist Council, Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church and the Methodist Church in Britain, which are partners in the Jerusalem Methodist Liaison Office, [here](#).

### The Methodist Conference



It has been confirmed that the Methodist Conference will take place at the [National Conference Centre, Birmingham](#), from Thursday 24 June to Thursday 1 July. The Conference Office is in the process of arranging hotel accommodation and travel to and from the venue each day for all who have booked to attend. Confirmation emails will be sent in early June. Further updates will be made [here](#).

### Climate Justice All Age Consultation



On 9 June, 12 June or 13 July you're invited to attend an all-age consultation hosted by the Methodist Climate Justice for All campaign. Find out more about the work and help shape the 'call to action' from the Methodist Church to the UK COP26 Ambassadors. Read more and book [here](#).



The annual Susanna Wesley Foundation Conference takes place in June. This year's theme is "Embodied Faith" and there will be three sessions:  
 Embodied Knowing – Mon 14 June  
 Embodied Belonging – Wed 16 June  
 Embodied Ministering – Thur 17 June

Read more and register, [here](#).



This Christian Aid Week marks the 75th anniversary of the charity.

It is not too late to participate and donate. You can read about Christian Aid's history, its work and how to donate and fundraise [here](#).



June is Pride month when we celebrate the LGBTQ+ community. If your church, circuit or district is participating, do let us know what you are doing so that we can share your events and activities with the wider Church. Email us [here](#).

### La Soufriere Volcano, St Vincent



The Methodist Church in the Caribbean and Americas is responding to the crisis of the eruption of the La Soufriere Volcano, St Vincent with shelter, drinking water and hygiene items. The work is supported by the World Mission Fund of the Methodist Church in Britain and the World Mission of the Methodist Church in Ireland. Read more [here](#).

### Messy Church



The team behind Messy Church have released the findings of research into its effectiveness in deepening the faith, confidence and commitment of its leaders and members. You can read the report 'Voyage of Discovery: Deepening discipleship in Messy Churches and beyond', [here](#).

### Colombia unrest



Colombia is in the midst of civil unrest. The Colombian Methodist Church has shared its deep concern for the most vulnerable. With prayers written by Sandra Lopez, the Methodist Church in Britain coordinator for Latin America, read more [here](#).

### Churches, COVID-19 & Communities Project



Many Methodist churches responded to the research project "Churches, communities and buildings during COVID and beyond". These results have now been published in [this report](#).

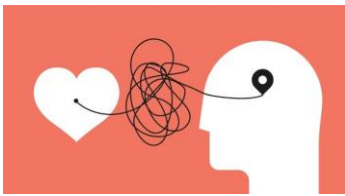
The report highlights the essential contribution places of worship make to societal wellbeing and community cohesion in normal times and during crises. The report highlights the ability of churches to make a major contribution to national recovery and makes important recommendations for future action at national and local level.

# Mental Health Awareness Week

Mental Health Chaplaincy

Mental Health and Faith

PeerTalk



in this [blog](#), Ian Cartwright, a mental health chaplain, shares his personal experience of mental health and his approach to chaplaincy, turning his "personal darkness into a ministry of light".



Peter Sawkins, Great British Bake Off Winner 2020, chatted with the Revd Matt Finch from the Evangelism & Growth Team about mental health and spirituality as part of Mental Health Awareness Week. Peter says that when he was on Bake Off, he set out to try and model his faith through bringing joy, having fun, being kind and trying his best. See the full interview with Peter on our YouTube channel [here](#).



As part of Mental Health Awareness Week, you can watch a range of videos from the charity PeerTalk on their YouTube channel. Videos include the Revd Dr. Inderjit Bhogal, past President of the Methodist Conference, speaking on cultural heritage and identity and Dr Rosena Allin Khan MP, Shadow Minister for Mental Health. Watch [here](#).

## Thy Kingdom Come



From today, May 13 to May 23 2021, you can be part of Thy Kingdom Come, the global wave of prayer calling Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ. Read more [here](#).



A number of new resources are now available to download online from Thy Kingdom Come, including a prayer journal and novena, social media graphics, and lots of family and children's resources. Take a look at what's on offer [here](#).



Watch our new video [here](#) where Methodists from across the Connexion share why prayer is important to them and make a commitment to pray daily between Ascension and Pentecost. You can download the video [here](#) to use in your church services.

## Media

### The Methodist Podcast



In this podcast we consider vocation. What is a vocation, what is a calling and how do we respond? We talk to Alison Ransome, Connexional Vocations Advisor and hear from people around the Connexion who share their vocations, both inside and outside of the Church. 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](#)

### Pause for Thought



Listen again to Revd Dawn Saunders on Monday morning's BBC Radio 2 Pause for Thought reflecting on 'Taking Care of my Mind'. Listen [here](#), starts 1 hour 42 minutes in.

### More Pause for Thought



Trey Hall, Director of Evangelism & Growth, was also on Pause for Thought this week, where his running gives Trey "direct access to free medicine from God." Listen [here](#).

### Faith in Politics Podcast



In the latest Faith in Politics Podcast Meg interviews Conservative MP Miriam Cates about being a Christian in Westminster, the levelling up agenda and family policy in the UK. Rodney reflects theologically on the levelling up agenda and the role of the Church in aiding social cohesion in communities and church-based social action. Listen [here](#).

## Spiritual sustenance in isolation



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



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. Updates for [Step 2](#) on 12 April 2021 included:

Funerals are limited to 30 people, weddings & civil partnership ceremonies, wakes and wedding receptions are limited to 15 people. Children and youth activities are allowed.

Further information can be found on [Coronavirus Guidance for Property](#). Please note that this is only for England. In Scotland, please refer to the [Timetable for Easing Restrictions](#). In Wales, please refer to the [Restrictions during our Gradual Move Out of Lockdown](#)

