

The Methodist News

20 May 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News.

Yours,

[The Communications team](#)

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 Sandra Lopez, Partnership Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean. 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 Bunmi Olayisade, Partnership Coordinator for Africa. You can watch the service again, [here](#).

Commemorating George Floyd

First Anniversary Online Service



You are invited to a special broadcast service 'Doing Justice: A Service of Reflection on the first anniversary of the murder of George Floyd' taking place next Tuesday 25 May 2021, 7pm on the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland's (CTBI) YouTube channel. The service features contributions from Revd Inderjit Bhogal and Methodist Youth President Elect Daud Irfan. You can read about the service [here](#) and watch the broadcast [here](#). BBC Radio 4 will subsequently broadcast the service at 8:10 am on Sunday 30 May for its Sunday Worship programme.

First Understanding the past, shaping the present and future



In this blog, the Revd Arlington Trotman considers the roots of racism, the impact of the murder of George Floyd and the world's response. Read [here](#).

Candle of Justice



To mark the anniversary of the killing of George Floyd, churches are invited to come together for the #CandleOfJustice prayer initiative, taking place on Tuesday 25 May at noon.

This is a moment for individuals and churches to light a candle, pray for racial justice and commit to taking action. Learn more [here](#)

Methodist Strategy for Justice, Dignity and Solidarity

Bevan Powell, Equalities & Diversity Adviser, and the Revd Jill Marsh, Inclusive Church Implementation Officer, discuss the Methodist Strategy for Justice, Dignity and Solidarity in the context of the murder of George Floyd. Watch [here](#).



News



Coronavirus Guidance for Property (Update 17 May 2021)

The government has updated the Safe Use of Places of Worship to include details of how restrictions will be lifted for churches in England.

You can read more information on the key changes involved in each of the remaining steps [here](#).

Jerusalem is on fire, tears fall like rain



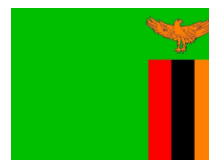
Following a joint statement with Methodist partners for peace in Jerusalem, here is a first hand account of life in the region from our mission partner there. Read more [here](#).

Children, Youth and Family



The Children, Youth and Family Team web pages [Resources for lockdown and beyond](#) have been updated. This includes a complete review of the [Changing times](#) pages, which offers advice and guidance on the next steps of the Government roadmap.

The United Church of Zambia World Mission Fund support



Cases of Covid-19 in Zambia have been through two waves so far. The United Church of Zambia Health Institutions have recorded cases in the hundreds, with a number of deaths. The [United Church of Zambia](#) has received a [World Mission Fund](#) grant of £7,035 to provide PPE for staff and ten oxygen cylinders. Read more [here](#).

Cycle Ride



Following the 42 Cathedrals cycle route, Gloucestershire Methodist minister the Revd John Kime is cycling across England bearing a letter from the Church's Bristol District Chair, the Revd Dr. Jonathan Pye, highlighting the urgent issue of Climate Change and Climate Justice. Revd John aims to be back in Gloucestershire in the middle of June. You can follow John's progress [here](#).

Scholarships and Funding



All members of the Methodist Church, lay and ordained, may apply for support for proposed higher education (HE) study. This is usually for a taught Masters, a research degree or in a theological subject area. Application forms should be submitted by Monday, 5th July 2021 at 5pm.

Full eligibility criteria and guidelines for applications can be found [here](#)

Henry Martyn Institute



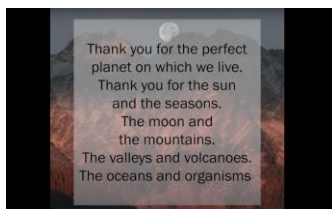
All We Can and the Methodist Church in Britain (MCB) will be supporting the work of the Henry Martyn Institute in India, an MCB partner organisation. The Methodist Church is also responding with grants from the [World Mission Fund](#). The Henry Martyn Institute aims at building interfaith relations, dialogue and reconciliation across all the sections and religious groups of society. Read more [here](#).

Climate Justice Blog



Read the third blog in this series of theological reflections by the Revd Simon Topping on climate justice. Simon discusses the relationship between earth and heaven and why how we see this is important in our understanding of a Christian response to climate justice. Read [here](#).

A Prayer for the environment



A prayer for the environment, written and read by James Appleby, one of the Church's COP26 Campaigns Workers. Watch [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](#).



CEC Theological Reflections

As part of CEC's monthly Theological Reflections series "Communion in Crisis: The Church during the COVID-19 Pandemic" you can read reflections from Revd Ruth Gee, Assistant Secretary of the Conference [here](#).

Media

The Methodist Podcast



As we continue to consider vocation, podcast co-presenter Revd Jenny Pathmarajah lets us accompany her on an average weekday ministering to the people of Jersey in the Channel Islands. 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. This week reflecting on "My eleventh Commandment". Listen [here](#).

Calm Town



More than two years ago, the community in St Ives came together in an effort to become the first ever CALM (campaign against living miserably) town in the UK. The group is led by Methodist Minister Matt Finch and pub landlord Phil Pope in a bid to highlight mental health and wellbeing across the entire community. Watch the report on ITV Anglia [here](#).

Pause for Thought



The Revd Trey Hall was on Pause for Thought on Tuesday considering comedy class, failure, and what to do when we mess up. 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](#)

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