

# The Methodist News

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6 May 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News.

Yours,

[The Communications team](#)

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

## News

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### Deaf Awareness Week 3-9 May 2021: BSL Prayer



To mark Deaf Awareness Week, Anna Herriman, a local preacher with Oxford Methodist Circuit, shared [this prayer](#) using British Sign Language .

### Central Finance Board



The Central Finance Board of the Methodist Church, and its subsidiary Epworth Investment Management Limited, have sold their remaining company holdings in the oil and gas sector, including Royal Dutch Shell. This follows advice received from the Methodist Church's Joint Advisory Committee on the Ethics of Investment ("JACEI") in April 2021. Read more [here](#).

### Greenbelt Festival



The organisers of this year's Greenbelt Festival, due to take place over the August bank holiday weekend, have announced the cancellation of the event for a second year. You can read more about the decision [here](#).

### Action for Children Fostering



Have you ever thought about fostering? Know someone who might be thinking about fostering? Then, come along to the Action for Children live Facebook event on 20 May at 7pm to hear from foster carers and social workers. The event will be on the Action for Children Fostering – England Facebook page. Click [here](#) to sign up.

### Tell It Again, a night of testimony



Taking place on Friday 11 June 2021 at 7:30pm, Tell It Again is a virtual evening of poetry, spoken word and other performances by young adults. Performances will cover a variety of Christian themes that reflect the personal experiences of young adults in the London District of the Methodist Church. Read more [here](#).

### Christian Aid 75th anniversary service



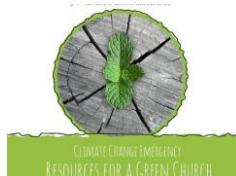
A service to mark the 75th anniversary of Christian Aid will take place on Sunday 9 May at 6.30pm, co-hosted by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland. Christian Aid began in response to the refugee crisis following World War II. In a time of weakness and crisis, the churches in the UK did not retreat into themselves and their own recovery but saw a wider need and responded. Join Christian Aid in celebration, reflection and recommitment to the cause. Register [here](#).

### Sermon of the Year



Two Methodists are finalists in [Sermon of the Year 2021](#). Catharine Hughes, who currently attends Mobberley Methodist Church while ministerial training, with her home church being Poynton Methodist Church; and Philip Sudworth, a member of Standish Methodist Church and a local preacher in the Wigan circuit.

### JPIT Yorkshire



If you think that the Climate Change Crisis really is an emergency, and that the Church has an important part to play in helping people transition to new ways of living more gently with God's world, then sign up to join the JPIT Yorkshire online conference on Saturday June 12, 2021, 9.30am-3.00pm. Read more [here](#).

### Dismantling Whiteness Critical White Theology



The conference "Dismantling Whiteness: Critical White Theology" is now available to watch again online. The day was hosted by the Oxford Centre for Religion and Culture. The conference was an historic first, being the first occasion that Whiteness as a phenomenon was explored theologically in the UK. Watch [here](#).

### 'Craftivism – how can you gain a political voice through craft?'



The next event in the New Room's series of online Wes Talks is 'Craftivism – how can you gain a political voice through craft?' on Zoom on Monday, May 17 from 7.30pm. The panel for this event features three women who are exploring the use of craftivism in collaborative and inventive ways. Tickets, priced £5, can be bought through Eventbrite [here](#).

### Climate justice: from subduing to tilling and keeping

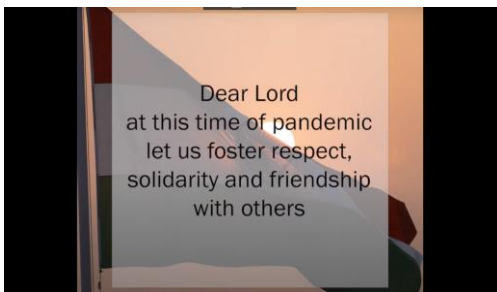


As foreign ministers of the G7 meet in London this week, climate change is on the agenda. In the second of a series of blogs, the Revd Simon Topping considers how we might develop a healthy theology of climate justice. Read [here](#).

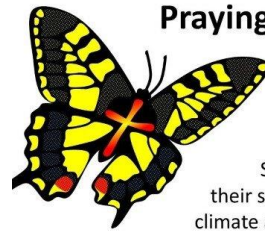
### All We Can



All We Can, the official Methodist relief and development charity, has recently signed up to Crack the Crises – a movement of over 70 organisations who are calling on the UK to take action on climate change, Covid-19, inequality and injustice. Read more [here](#).



## Praying for Our Planet



Seven scientists talk about their science, their faith and the climate and ecological emergency

The United Stockport Circuit has held an online prayer vigil for the people of India. The Revd Richard Teal, President of the Methodist Conference, shared [this prayer](#). You can hear the full vigil [here](#).

Join Bramhall Methodist Church for the first of their *Praying for Our Planet* series of Zoom talks with Dr Mike Morecroft, Principal Climate Scientist for Natural England talking first about his area of scientific expertise and then on how this influences his prayers. 7:30pm this coming Wednesday (12 May). Find out more and book tickets [here](#).

## 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](#)

### Lesbian Visibility Week



Methodist minister Delyth Liddell talked with ITV Wales as part of Lesbian Visibility Week. Watch [here](#).

### Pause for Thought



A willingness to walk - Director of Evangelism and Growth, Trey Hall, on BBC Radio 2 speaks about learning from walks with his dog, Jake. Listen [here](#).

### Travellers' Tales



The President of the Methodist Conference, Revd Richard Teal, has taken part in Travellers' Tales on Premier Christian Radio. You can listen to him share the story of his faith journey [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

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