

The Methodist News

22 July 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News.

Yours,

[The Communications team](#)

Prayer for School Holidays



With the school holidays upon us, the Vice-President of the Methodist Conference and Director of Education for the Methodist Church in Britain, Barbara Easton, has recorded this prayer.

Watch [here](#).

News

Floods in Europe



The Vice-President has sent condolences after floods in Germany, Belgium and Austria. Rainfall on 15 July brought terrible flooding to Germany with over 160 deaths, hundreds more injured or missing, homes lost and infrastructure destroyed. Letters expressing prayer and condolences were sent from the Vice-President of the British Methodist Conference to the head of each Church. Read more [here](#).

Coronavirus Guidance for Property



The Coronavirus Guidance for Property page has been updated to reflect the lifting of most legal restrictions that took place on the 19 July. Read more [here](#).

The Conference Digest



The Conference Digest has details of decisions taken at the 2021 Conference, including minimum numbers for churches and online worship. You can download a copy [here](#).

Connexional Year resources 2021 / 2022



3Generate - Tickets



Essential resources in the Methodist Church to fulfil Our Calling of responding to God's love in Christ and working this out through discipleship, mission and worship. Available to order from [Methodist Publishing](#).

You can now book tickets for groups to take part in 3Generate 2021. Book with confidence knowing; the NEC venue is secure and Covid measures will be in place, your group's camping village will be set up and ready on arrival with toilets and washing facilities nearby and only 3Generate participants have access to our halls during the event. Find out more and book residential or day tickets [here](#).

Covid support for Youth Workers



On Monday 19 July we reached step 4 in the government roadmap out of lockdown. Children, youth and family workers can visit the [Changing Times](#) pages for advice, information and support. Three new [Facebook groups](#) have been created to provide supportive communities for Youth Workers as we navigate our way out of lockdown.

God's World, Our Home



Phoebe Parkin, the Youth President, is launching new resources tomorrow (Friday) as part of the theme for her year. God's World, Our Home is designed to help young people explore challenging topics and take action for climate justice. Discover more [here](#).

Climate Justice For All



As part of the British aspect of the Climate Justice For All (CJ4A) campaign, the team have been running 'Have Your Say' consultation sessions to try and hear the voices of as many Methodists as possible in the run up to the UN's Climate Change Conference (COP26). If you didn't attend any of the Have Your Say sessions, CJ4A encourages you to fill out the Google form [here](#).

Evangelism and Growth

Email Updates



Sign up for Email Updates from Evangelism and Growth! If you'd like to receive future updates about digital mission, evangelism, church at the margins, pioneering and more, click the link [here](#) to register your contact information. This should take less than a minute.

Follow Us!



On our social media pages you can read how Evangelism and Growth is changing lives and bringing people to faith and how each church can play its part in growing the Kingdom. You can find us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Features

Prayer for our planet



Reducing carbon footprint



Is your church community looking to learn about the climate and ecological crises that we face? If so, you might like to use these talks organised by Bramhall Methodist Church in which eminent scientists share how science informs prayer for our planet. Click [here](#).

If you're wanting to do more for the environment, Romsey Methodist Church have created a YouTube channel, Stewarding Precious Earth, to help inform and offer practical support for church communities tackling climate change. Take a look and subscribe [here](#).

South Africa Violence



Olubunmi Olayisade, Partnership Coordinator for Africa, shares prayers for South Africa following the recent violence there. Join in prayer [here](#).

Cuba



The mass protests that broke out in Cuba on 11 July have been a rare public demonstration of social discontent not seen in more than 60 years. Read [this report](#) from Sandra Lopez, Partnership Co-ordinator, Americas/Caribbean.

Media

The Methodist Podcast



The Theology of Safeguarding report received by the Methodist Conference considered safeguarding in the context of faith. To discuss the report, the Methodist Podcast talks with Tim Carter, Director of Safeguarding; Vivien, a survivor of abuse, local preacher and member of the Methodist survivor's group, and Nicola Price-Tebbutt, the Secretary of the Faith and Order Committee. Listen [here](#).

End of formal restrictions



The Revd Paul Wood, Interim Director of Ministries, discussed the impact of the lifting of formal Covid restrictions on church life in a series fourteen interviews across BBC local radio stations last Sunday. You can hear Paul on BBC Radio Manchester [here](#) (from 3hrs 46mins).

Travellers Tales



"What we are about is making God's love real in our communities." The President of the Methodist Conference, the Revd Sonia Hicks, spoke to Premier Christian Radio about family, finding faith in her teens, racism, vocation and her hope that we learn to celebrate our differences. Listen [here](#).

BBC Local Radio Morning Service



Bridget and family will be leading the Sunday Service to be broadcast on all BBC local radio stations across the Connexion on Sunday 25th July at 8am, with the theme of 'The Welcome of the Farmhouse Kitchen Table'. Tune into your local radio station or log onto [BBC Sounds](#) to join the service.

Justice, Dignity and Solidarity



The Revd Jill Marsh, Inclusive Church Implementation Officer, spoke to Paul Hammond from UCB Radio about the Justice, Dignity and Solidarity report and the God in Love Unites Us report received by the Methodist Conference. Listen [here](#).

Spiritual sustenance in isolation



During this time 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](#).

'Dial-a-Prayer' phonelines



Prayer: 0808 281 2514

Methodist Podcast: 0808 281 2478

Pastoral message from the President and Vice-President: 0808 281 2695 (Please note - content on this phonenumber will resume in September and there is currently a holding message to that effect)

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

Guidance



The government has updated the Guidance for Weddings & Civil Partnerships in England following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday.

It states: From 21 June, there will no longer be a maximum number cap for attendees set out in law. Instead, the number of attendees at weddings, civil partnerships and receptions will be determined by how many people the venue or space can safely accommodate with social distancing measures in place. This will be based on the COVID-19 risk assessment of the venue or outdoor space, and the measures put in place to limit the spread of COVID-19.

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](#)