

## York & Hull District Newsletter, March 2016 #1

### **Music Workshop with John Bell**

Why do God's people sing?

Tuesday 1 March, 7.30 pm, Hunslet Methodist Church, Telford Terrace, Leeds, LS10 2HR

Booking and information at

<http://www.goldengiving.com/event/jbell>

[admin@lswmethodists.org.uk](mailto:admin@lswmethodists.org.uk)

0113 279 4816 or 07500424891

### **Women's World Day of Prayer**

Women's World Day of Prayer is an international, ecumenical movement that invites women, from a different part of the world each year, to prepare a worship service through which their hopes and fears for their country may be brought before the whole world in prayer.

On Friday 4 March an estimated 3 million people in over 170 countries and islands will gather to observe the day of prayer, using an order of service written by Christian women in Cuba and translated into over 60 languages and 1000 dialects. In the British Isles alone over 6,000 services will be held. The day begins as the sun rises over the island of Samoa and continues until it sets off the coast of American Samoa, some 35 hours later.

The theme 'Receive children, Receive me' reflects St. Mark's Gospel, chapter 10 verses 13-16, which is the focus of the service and a reminder that everyone is a child of God and equally worthy of our love and respect.

This is not a day of prayer just for women - everyone is welcome to attend the service.

Services will be held throughout the District - please see your Church notices and Notice boards.

### **Methodist Women in Britain, District Day**

11 March, coffee from 10 am, at Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church

Service of Holy Communion led by Revd Ruth Parry, followed by an opportunity to hear what is happening in the Connexion and be involved in the planning for the District.

Please bring a packed lunch - drinks provided.

You will be very welcome!

### **Joined Up Conference**

A day conference for youth, children's, families' and schools' workers to develop their skills and share creative ideas.

Date & time: Saturday 12 March, 10.00 – 3.30

Cost: £10 including lunch

Venue: St Mary's, Bramall Lane, Sheffield, S2 4QZ

Booking & further details: [joinedupconference.com](http://joinedupconference.com)

## **An Evening with Noel and Tricia Richards**

A concert featuring songs and conversation about life, love, friendship and faith, from the writers of “All Heaven Declares”, “By Your side”, “You laid aside Your Majesty”, and many more.

Tuesday 19 April, 7.30 pm, Howden Methodist Church, Hailgate, Howden, DN14 7SX

Tickets: £8 (includes refreshments)

Tickets and Information Sylvia Parkin: 01430 431929

Sheila Duck: 01430 430323

## **Ebor Lectures Essay Competition 2016 ‘Religion in the Public Sphere’**

Two prizes are offered for the best academic essays on the notion of ‘religion in the public sphere’. The applicant’s essay can be on any aspect of ‘religion in the public sphere’; that is how religion may contribute to society or how it engages with public concerns such as politics, economics, contemporary culture, society and globalisation. Or it may consider the notion of public theology itself. Examples of topics approached from the perspective of religion in the public sphere can be found by looking at the list of past lectures on the Ebor Lectures website at: [www.yorks.ac.uk/eborlectures](http://www.yorks.ac.uk/eborlectures).

The competition is open to all, in two categories: 18 years-old and younger (£300); and those aged 19 to 25 (£500). In judging, the panel will be looking for essays that engage with the topic of ‘religion in the public sphere’ in a lively and original way. Essays should follow the usual conventions of academic style (referencing, avoidance of plagiarism, etc.), and (not including the bibliography) should not exceed 2,000 words for those 18 and under, and 4,000 words for those 19-25. Essays should be submitted in Word-compatible format by email to Suzanne Parkes, Ebor Lectures Coordinator: [s.parkes@yorks.ac.uk](mailto:s.parkes@yorks.ac.uk) by 1st July 2016. The result will be announced in August 2016, with the prizes awarded at the 10th Anniversary Ebor Lecture in autumn 2016. Applicants should also submit a covering letter including a brief biography (2-3 lines), date of birth, and contact details. In the interests of fairness essays will, however, be assessed anonymously. For any inquiry, please contact Suzanne Parkes, Ebor Lectures Coordinator: [s.parkes@yorks.ac.uk](mailto:s.parkes@yorks.ac.uk)

## **Help tackle climate change with ‘The Big Church Switch’**

Launched on Ash Wednesday, the Big Church Switch calls on all churches and individual Christians to switch their energy supply from fossil fuels to renewable energy. The joint initiative from Christian Aid and Tearfund, is supported by Parish Buying and church energy experts 2Buy2. The aim is to switch collectively, giving the Church significant buying power to secure the best renewable tariffs.

Climate change remains an ongoing concern. By using clean, renewable energy, churches will reduce their carbon footprint, sending out the message that the Church is committed to caring for our neighbours and the earth. Churches and individuals can simply register their interest online. Church energy experts 2buy2 begin negotiations with suppliers to find the most competitive prices before sending out a quote. For more information or to register your interest please visit [www.bigchurchswitch.org.uk](http://www.bigchurchswitch.org.uk) and also watch this short video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=15rNzWRnK4E>