

General Assembly

Friday 30 June to Monday 3 July 2023

Agenda

Friday 30 June

12:00 Arrivals and registration

14:00 Opening Worship: **A space of grace is a space of forming community**
Including the Constitution of Assembly and the Commissioning of Victoria James, Chief Operating Officer, the United Reformed Church.

16:00 *Break (and access to rooms)*

Session one

16:30 Welcome and Introductions

Z1 – Synod Moderators' Report

X1 – East Midlands: Resolutions for Ukraine

X3 – North West Synod: Illegal Migration Bill

18:30-20:00 *Dinner*

Session two

20:00 **N1 / N2a** – Church Life Review: Story & Principles

21:00 Evening Prayer: **A space of grace is a space of gratitude**
Including the commemoration of Ministers of the Word and Sacraments, Church Related Community Workers, Missionaries, Clerks of General Assembly and Moderators of General Assembly who have died and congregations which have closed since the last meeting of the General Assembly.

Saturday 1 July

7:45-9:00 *Breakfast*

9:00 Worship & Bible Study: **A space of grace is a space of transformation**
Bible study led by Dr Nicola Brady, General Secretary, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

9:50 Presentation of candidates for GA Moderator and vote

Session three

10:10 URC Treasure: Family Adventures for Children Together

H5 – Ministries Committee: Withdrawal of call

B1 – CYWC: Recognition of Children's, Youth and Family Ministry

11:00 *Coffee*

Session four

11:30 **C1** – Communications strategy

12:30 Community Awards

13:00 *Lunch*

Session five

14:15 **N1 / N2a** – Church Life Review

16:00 *Coffee*

Session six

16:30 URC Treasure: Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT)

Greetings from ecumenical and international guests

I4 – Mission Committee: Reinvigorating the ecumenical vision of the URC

I2 – Mission Committee: Poverty and inequality in the UK

I3 – Mission Committee: Legacies of Slavery – Proposals for Repairing Justice

18:30 *Dinner*

20:00

Parallel Sessions

One – I1 – Mission Committee Report

Two – G1 – Finance Committee Report

Three – H1 – Ministries Committee Report

& **K1** – Pastoral Reference and Welfare Committee Report

Four – E1 – Equalities Committee Report

& **T1** – Safeguarding Committee Report

21:00

Evening Prayer: **A space of grace is a space of journeying and growth**

Sunday 2 July

7:45-9:00

Breakfast

9:00

Worship with Bible Study: **A space of grace is a space of reconciliation and peacemaking**

Bible study led by Dr Nicola Brady, General Secretary, Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.

Session seven

9:50

N1 / N2a – Church Life Review Group

11:00

Coffee

11:30

Worship: **A space of grace is a space of connectedness to each other and the earth**

preacher the Rt Revd Sally Foster-Fulton (Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland)

13:00

Lunch

Session eight

14:00

URC Treasure: Stepwise

En Bloc:

A1 – Business Committee: MIND remit and name

A2 – Business Committee: Changes moving to one Moderator of GA

A3 – Business Committee: General Assembly and URC Trust

- A4** – Business Committee: Synod Moderator appointments
- A5** – Business Committee: Mediation and Reconciliation Resource
- D1** – Education and Learning: Recruitment of a Westminster College Principal
- G2** – Finance Committee: URC Trust Accounts 2022
- G4** – Finance Committee: Churches' Energy Crisis Fund
- G5** – Finance and Ministries: Stipendiary Ministers Target Numbers
- G6** – Finance Committee: URC Legacy Fund
- H2** – Ministries Committee: Core Competences for CRCW
- H3** – Ministries Committee: Pastoral Supervision Policy
- H4** – Ministries Committee: Extension of Retirement Age
- J1** – Nominations Committee: Report 2023
- P1** – Law and Polity: Simplifying Processes
- R1** – MIND: Redrafting Section O 5.2
- R2** – MIND: Amendment to Section O Appendix J
- R3** – MIND: Monitoring Cautions and Warnings
- R4** – MIND: Disciplinary Investigation Panel Increase
- R5** – MIND: Removal of Section P from The Manual
- T2** – Safeguarding Committee: Whistleblowing Policy
- X5** – South Western Synod: Bristol Korean Church
- X2** – North West Synod: yoURChurch
- X4** – North Western and Mersey Synods: Synod changes

Items removed from En Bloc

Welcoming new Churches: yoURChurch & Bristol Korean Church

Celebrating Jubilee Ministers and greeting newly ordained ministers.

15:30

Coffee Break

Session nine

- 16:00** URC Treasure: Vocation & Call
- E2** – Equalities Committee: Affirming the human dignity of transgender, non-binary and gender non-conforming people Items removed from En Bloc
- Remaindered Business
- 18:30-20:00** *Dinner*
- Remaindered Business
- 21:00** Evening Prayer: **A space of grace is a space of prayer and discernment.**

Monday 3 July

- 7:45-9:00** *Breakfast*
(Check out of rooms by 9:15)
- 9:15** Worship: **A space of grace is a space of belonging**

Session ten

- 9:35** Moderator Elect Acceptance Speech
- Miscellaneous Items
- G3** – Finance Committee: Retired Ministers Benevolent Fund
- Address to the throne
- Moderator's Reflection
- 10:45** Break
- 11:15** Closing worship: **A space of grace is a space of celebration**
Including induction of the Revd Dr Tessa Henry-Robinson.
- 13:00** *Lunch and Departures – Leave by 2pm*