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In a letter, the signatories accused the government of abandoning its legal and moral obligations towards refugees. [**Read the letter**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BMRCV-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151485932348%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VVA2tr4IOLwrnhWD%2FlRxXN11G4gvvZLGh6lw0znlfnY%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **Become a URC minister** |  |  | | --- | | A group of women smiling  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | The submissions window for applications from ministers who would like to transfer to the United Reformed Church is open. Applications for a Certificate of Eligibility are welcome from ministers who are members of churches that belong to certain organisations. For full details, [**learn how to apply for a Certificate of Eligibility**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BMRCW-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151485932348%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GMc5PtwNWpIx1gmdHibeQScQQPIjnojHJtJqH8KkCB4%3D&reserved=0). | | |  |  | | --- | | **URC visual identity resources** |  |  | | --- | | Find a range of downloads, resources and links associated with the visual identity and branding of the URC. The contents will help you with any print or online materials that you put together. You'll find a range of templates, letterheads, banners, postcards and bookmarks, including a range of welcoming and safeguarding posters and much more. You can download the posters and resources from the URC's website. [**Access the URC's visual identity downloads**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BJNPE-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151485932348%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9w8vemgeYRtQ0VZ2rxj%2BpFSNjVkidSJ5Yxjmcj43mpc%3D&reserved=0). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A colorful text on a cell phone screen  Description automatically generatedA close-up of hands holding each other  Description automatically generatedA blue purple and white striped background with white text  Description automatically generated | | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Download or print News Update** |  |  | | --- | | A downloadable version of News Update, formatted for print, and for churches to copy and paste into church newsletters or magazines will be available within a week of this edition being published. [**Download News Update**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BOT8Z-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151485932348%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=99i%2F9xhY4vXe2X6QYwV4bA5fDtBXoYu1ktyFgFTF1R8%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **Share your good news** |  |  | | --- | | If you have a good news story that can inspire, raise hope or show God's work in action then please let URC Communications know. We would love to help share your news across the denomination and in local news outlets. [**Email the team here**](mailto:pressoffice@urc.org.uk)or call 07976 753 250. | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **The Revd Alan Gaunt, 1935-2023** |  |  | | --- | | A person in a suit and tie  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | The Revd Alan Gaunt, a URC minister and an internationally renowned hymn writer, has died at the age of 88. His hymns, 18 of which are in *Rejoice and Sing*, reached beyond the URC and many Christians sing his words. The Revd Dr Susan Durber, World Council of Churches President for Europe, for whom Alan was a long-standing mentor and friend, said: “Alan was one of our deepest thinkers and finest poets, convinced that finding words to express faith should be difficult and demanding because God’s mystery cannot be contained." [**Learn more about Alan**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BMRRH-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151485932348%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6sX86dCwcwBTUkE5zYGpZ2iDHXENnQSO6x9n4Dr9LGE%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **EM2 summer retreat** |  |  | | --- | | A group of people posing for a photo  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | Education for Ministry Phase 2 (EM2) ministers and CRCWs enjoyed a summer retreat at Westminster College in Cambridge as part of the programme for their first three years of ministry. The focus of this year's retreat was on ‘vulnerability in ministry’, based on Psalm 32, and personal experiences. The aim of the retreat is to offer space for reflection and to  provide time to build relationships and reconnect with friends. [**Learn more about Education for Ministry**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BN0VY-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lJ1I1goSHByAHzLPsoqniUgH%2BPsY2GgNQrQQKEkBzBM%3D&reserved=0). | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Become a Pastoral Supervisor** |  |  | | --- | | More people, particularly ministers and lay people, are invited to train as pastoral supervisors. The Ministries Department is offering two opportunities to train for a certificate in pastoral supervision at Westminster College in Cambridge on 20-24 November or on 4-8 March. To apply, [**please email Ministries**](mailto:ministries.pa@urc.org.uk?subject=Pastoral%20Supervision). | | | |  | | --- | | **UCB Radio** |  |  | | --- | | The Revd Dr Tessa Henry-Robinson, General Assembly Moderator 2023-2024, recently appeared on *UCB Radio*'s 'My Story' to tell listeners about her faith journey and her role within the denomination. [**Listen to the interview on the My Story catch up service**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BNPGB-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nhtqizFy1cauQqnBlCCDQQpBar1iymt7woZKmZ6pzXI%3D&reserved=0) and scroll to the interview on 25 July. | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **2023 Advent resources** |  |  | | --- | | A group of animals around a baby  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | Coming soon – ‘God in the ordinary’ – the URC Advent resource for local churches to give away to families. Following the success of the 2022 resource, we are producing an Advent pack with a huge poster, four mini-books and things to make and do to help families find God in ordinary, everyday life. As previously, this will come in an unsealed envelope so churches can add an invitation to their Christmas services and events. [**Please pre-order by emailing the Children's and youth Work Team**](mailto:children.youth@urc.org.uk) with the quantity you would like to ensure you don’t miss out. Cost £2.50 per pack +p&p. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Digital church receives new members** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | A group of people smiling  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | yoURChurch, a digital URC congregation, received its first members at a Communion service in July. At the service, led by the Revd Clare Downing, Moderator of the North Western Synod, 11 members were received. General Assembly received yoURChurch as a local church at its 2023 meeting. Services takes place on Sundays at 6.30pm. [**Learn more about yoURChurch**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BOM66-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nbdOSTj9O0CnnLb4cBzmVJcrcX4U3eCyHyLCAC1FqEc%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **Youth Moderator pilgrimage** |  |  | | --- | | A group of people posing for a photo in front of a building  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | URC Youth Moderator, Philippa Osei, recently joined a group of young leaders aged 18-35 from around the world at a conference in Jerusalem. Organised by Sabeel, the annual young adults conference was held from 18-27 July. The young leaders predominantly engaged with a group of young adult Palestinians on an “alternative pilgrimage” to gain a fuller understanding of the situation in Israel and Palestine. Philippa called the trip "life changing". | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **This month in *Reform* magazine** |  |  | | --- | | A magazine cover with a couple of people talking  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | You can play 'Top Trumps' with the September edition of *Reform* as A Good Question asks: ‘Who is your favourite disciple?’ Our four contributors come up with a surprising group of personal favourites. Who is yours? Elsewhere, Editor Steve Tomkins talks to therapist Kathryn Mannix about talking, and regular contributor Paul Kerensa wants to keep reading bedtime stories. The Revd Dr Susan Durber celebrates the 75th anniversary of the World Council of Churches and the Revd Pek Muan Cuang shares his firsthand experience of life for Christians in Myanmar. Alongside our other regular columns, Laurence Wareing introduces a local project supporting asylum seekers in Lancashire – the first of the 2023 URC Community Project Award winners. [**Subscribe to *Reform***](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BO77U-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2FObcr%2BtmB8KJkWoBt4GKNqLDzf73C6sB3IWXMrF5lX0%3D&reserved=0), alternatively for a free sample copy, [**please email the team**](mailto:reform@urc.org.uk?subject=Free%20sample%20copy). | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A blue background with white text  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | Please order online using the URC Bookshop’s easy-to-use website [**www.urcshop.co.uk**](http://www.urcshop.co.uk/) or by calling 020 7916 8629. | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A book with a picture of a person  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**Free Theos Report – The URC: A Paradoxical Church At A Crossroads**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BKZ0B-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=iAMjA14oSTNb%2FeQNNX7MO46lXJeE%2Fb5hmxAwG%2BEImhA%3D&reserved=0) available from the URC Bookshop. In 2022, Theos and the URC entered a partnership to undertake an in-depth study. The hope is that this report will help inform and shape its discernment of how the URC's resources are best used to enable local flourishing. Free | | | |  | | --- | | A collage of images of wine and bread  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [***Full To The Brim – The 2024 URC Prayer Handbook***](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BQ9BY-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xpNrdvgOfH08WBWyxtW5UNQFGK3OCpF6%2FUBNP4%2BpND0%3D&reserved=0)*.*Themes of fullness and emptiness run throughout the Bible. The prayers gathered in this book speak of different kinds of fullness – fullness of blessing, fullness of being too busy – and of the need, sometimes, to empty ourselves in order to be filled afresh. £5.99-£11.99 +p&p. | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A group of colorful notebooks  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**The 2024 URC Diary**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BQ9D1-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SkmlDeQghT0fgt5gPANJZ7dVecTWj8Q%2FUP%2FkhdXFGAc%3D&reserved=0) includes the following: calendars to 2026, year planners to 2026, notable dates for the URC and the wider Church, metric measures, Assembly officers and URC staff, useful addresses, Assembly committee details, Synod information, 2023 diary one week to a page, 2024 diary one week over two pages, 2025 diary one week to a page, year planner 2025-2026 for advanced engagement and various maps. Pocket and A5 sizes. £7.99 – £9.99 +p&p. | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A group of pens on a white surface  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**URC logo pen**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BNPMC-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=8CSnC9MPmCBqPNUa2b7tU%2Bl14eWlUE3ntiarC1Cmfj8%3D&reserved=0) in light blue, dark blue or orange pen with the URC logo and website address.  A perfect gift and resource for your church to give to anyone connected to the church and for meetings. 39p each +p&p. | | | |  | | --- | | A group of pencils in different colors  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | [**URC logo pencil**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BNPMB-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=9cWSqWyeMLbHjo4D05qu%2Fc4zLHwDbi0q5eV7GtqFUtw%3D&reserved=0) with eraser made from recycled newspapers. An eco-friendly resource for your church and its groups. Available in four new colours – green, red, light blue and green. 25p each +p&p. | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Synod news** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **West Midlands** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | A group of people wearing reflective vests  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | An award-winning school uniform swap shop run from St Columba’s URC in Wolverhampton has for the third year helped cash-strapped parents save thousands of pounds. So successful is the swap shop which began in 2019 and won a URC Community Project Award last year, it teamed up with Wolverhampton Council over the summer to help even more families. [**Learn more about the swap shop**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BMT3H-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=e8zKLvMqqOll7jsHcOA3s3aP1Gnazvs%2FFHZzqimNC9w%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **Mersey** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | A group of people posing for a photo  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | The outcome of a survey has ensured that the unique alliance between The Uniting Church in Garden Lane and its community, ongoing for more than 120 years, continues to be a thriving partnership fit for the future. It all started back in 2020 when the church began reimagining how it will be an expression of church in the future. [**Learn more about The Uniting Church in Garden Lane**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BO6R4-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ajVWrZLXN6a43U5pKuwnn4SfxjsJY2SJaxZewDfPwxw%3D&reserved=0). | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Yorkshire** |  |  | | --- | | A person holding a certificate  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | Congratulations to David Figures who recently celebrated 60 years of service, firstly as a Deacon at Roundhay Congregational Church and then as an Elder when the church became St Andrews Roundhay URC in 1972. To mark the anniversary, David was presented with a certificate of long service and a URC Elder's badge. | | | |  | | --- | | **East Midlands** |  |  | | --- | | A person smiling for a picture  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | The Board of Milton Keynes Christian Foundation has announced the appointment of Simon Rudiger as its New Director. Most recently Chief Executive of Aylesbury Youth Action, Simon’s previous roles include youth work development roles in the URC, Milton Keynes College, Milton Keynes Council and One YMCA. Simon started his new role at the end of July. | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **What's On** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Joint Liturgical Group** |  |  | | --- | | Spend a day with the Joint Liturgical Group of Great Britain exploring liturgy and worship as a way that many people hear the Good News and deepen their journey of Christian discipleship. The event takes place on 28 September from 11am to 5pm at Llandaff Cathedral in Cardiff. The Keynote speaker is Dr Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury. [**Learn more about the event and how to book**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BMZNY-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HeATEpkhCiDiDSCR9hCot1S3uKiLVXJTsXdZ4CSzGto%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **Safeguarding symposium** |  |  | | --- | | URC Safeguarding's 2023 symposium takes place on 12 October from 1.30-4pm via Zoom. At the event, *Good Practice 6*, the URC's manual for policy and good practice guidance in safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk, will be launched and Dr Leroy Logan MBE, a former superintendent in the Metropolitan Police and founding member of the Black Police Association, will be the keynote speaker. Tickets are free and spaces are limited. [**Book your safeguarding symposium ticket**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BN0IM-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=KES0gFd0oZoOyU%2B14TWmc3klp7DR8zc8QnCf2LI3exM%3D&reserved=0). | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Buildings Forum** |  |  | | --- | | The next Buildings Forum Conference takes place on 26 September from 8-9.30pm along the topic of 'working towards net zero'. You'll be hearing from the URC’s Net Zero Task Group and from churches who are on the journey. For further information and to register your interest please [**email the mission team**](mailto:mission@urc.org.uk?subject=Buildings%20Forum%20Conference), including your name and email address and which church you belong to or are representing. Learn more about the [**URC Buildings Forum**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BNPB4-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0%2Fp0Hr7F9NAbRTCLaexDSykLqJbbxNjDY8xQX9Cpzrw%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **Season of Creation** |  |  | | --- | | The Season of Creation takes place from 1 September - 1 October and is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. During the Season of Creation, we can join our ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home. [**Learn more and find resources on the Season of Creation**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BNPIO-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=%2B1tLc%2BDr%2BdLplnj4wDN9itxyPm%2FDlHFBYBYeUcW2tS8%3D&reserved=0). | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Celebrate young people** |  |  | | --- | | Join the URC Children’s and Youth Work team online on 14 September from 7.30-8.45pm for an evening of updates, previews, sharing and prayer and worship focussing on the URC’s engagement with 0-25-year-olds. [**For joining details, register on Eventbrite**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BO780-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486089011%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=z9%2Bl7zxTwC7kHbYX9IU%2BWhxRhY%2F5vjYPxa%2BEEUS7csM%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **CRE** |  |  | | --- | | The Christian Resources Exhibition (CRE) Midlands takes place from 8-9 Nov 2023 at Cranmore Park in Birmingham. As well as the URC's stand, Members of the URC's Children's and Youth Work Team, Lorraine Webb and Dr Sam Richards, will be running two sessions on 'running a holiday club' on the 8 from 11.30-11.55am and on 'where are the young people?' on the 9 from 3.30-3.55pm both in talk area two. [**Book a free CRE ticket**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BO7HM-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486245232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=n9G8iGN3X4tnqsbXGfCMBkweZVdcWuefF6oQcpbx4e0%3D&reserved=0). | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Social Justice** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Voter ID: the consequences** |  |  | | --- | | A polling station sign on a door  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | At the local elections in May, voters were required to present photo ID for the first time in England. The changes to the law were introduced by the Conservative Government in the Elections Act 2022. The change was criticised by opposition parties, charities and journalists who said the legislation was targeting a problem that didn’t exist, with “not a single proven case of in-person voter impersonation last year”. Many people were concerned that the change would lead to a mass disenfranchisement of vulnerable groups. Just what were the consequences? JPIT's latest blog explores the impact and who it most affected.  [**Read the blog**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BNPT0-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486245232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=38BglFmvF1HmAmMO7lKyEO3MUjTX1zzAP4Fm9tApEQg%3D&reserved=0). | | | |  | | --- | | **Constituency Action Network** |  |  | | --- | | A logo for a church  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | JPIT is creating a network of churches that will develop meaningful relationships with their local MP, share successes and seek real change for the people in their neighbourhoods. It will enable the voices of churches and the communities they serve to be amplified throughout the country and in the UK Parliament as we seek justice together. The network, currently in a pilot phase with a small group of churches, will go live on 1 November. To be among the first in the know, [**please add your contact details to the Constituency Action Network mailing list**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BO7QL-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486245232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Yy0NZrVb1BIH7qDi9U9Q%2BBdrrdTYXPuv0G10SYQja2U%3D&reserved=0). | | | | |  |  | | --- | | **Recruitment** |  |  | | --- | | **URC vacancies and beyond** |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Disciplinary Investigation Panel**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BO7EJ-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486245232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SItE9lSUmX7x3Xx0hhL9PH0fQOSroDp%2FGxkoV0BC0mI%3D&reserved=0)  Do you have an analytical mind, experience with workplace disciplinary investigations, Human Resources, the police or other investigation work?  If so, we need you! If you feel you have the gifts, graces, and skills – and are willing to undergo a safer recruitment process – [**please email Andy Braunston,**](https://eur01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furc-news.org.uk%2F2JB1-1YQC7-6ZACU1-1BO6SF-1%2Fc.aspx&data=05%7C01%7Claura.taylor%40urc.org.uk%7C907683eed36b4fa7a10108dbb29b19ed%7C3fd368e1f1d74a1e8e4045a843b55e89%7C0%7C0%7C638300151486245232%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=FKUMKPmeV06Eion2%2BZcuiD5S2hK6HVYFQUPfztNv6iI%3D&reserved=0)setting out your skills and experience. | | | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Corrections** |  |  | | --- | | In the July/August edition of News Update, the Revd Dr Tessa Henry-Robinson was referred to as the URC's first black and ethnically-minoritised (BAME) General Assembly Moderator. To clarify the Revd Dr Michael Jaggesar was the first BAME General Assembly Moderator, and Dr Henry-Robinson is the first BAME woman inducted into the role. Also, Nye Bevan (not Bevin) was the founder of the NHS. | | | | | |