

# The United Reformed Church Press Pack



[www.urc.org.uk](http://www.urc.org.uk)



[www.urc.org.uk](http://www.urc.org.uk)  
[pressoffice@urc.org.uk](mailto:pressoffice@urc.org.uk)  
[@UnitedReformed](https://www.instagram.com/UnitedReformed)



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# THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

## Andy Jackson

Head of Communications

Tel: 020 7691 9865

[andy.jackson@urc.org.uk](mailto:andy.jackson@urc.org.uk)

## Ann-Marie Nye

Communications Officer

(Public Issues and Global  
& Intercultural Church)

Tel: 07576 753 950

[ann-marie.nye@urc.org.uk](mailto:ann-marie.nye@urc.org.uk)

## Laurence Wareing

Communications Officer

(Children, Youth &  
Intergenerational Discipleship,  
Evangelism & Ecumenism)

Tel: 07342 883 954

[laurence.wareing@urc.org.uk](mailto:laurence.wareing@urc.org.uk)

## Neil Hunter

Digital Content Manager

[neil.hunter@urc.org.uk](mailto:neil.hunter@urc.org.uk)

## Louise Ault

Communications

Administrator

[louise.ault@urc.org.uk](mailto:louise.ault@urc.org.uk)

## Steve Tomkins

Editor

[steve.tomkins@urc.org.uk](mailto:steve.tomkins@urc.org.uk)

## USEFUL LINKS

For news about the United Reformed Church [www.urc.org.uk/news](http://www.urc.org.uk/news)

United Reformed Church General Assembly [www.urc.org.uk/general-assembly](http://www.urc.org.uk/general-assembly)

United Reformed Church Assembly Executive [www.urc.org.uk/assembly-executive](http://www.urc.org.uk/assembly-executive)

### Find the URC on social media

- Facebook @TheUnitedReformedChurch
- Instagram @unitedreformed
- YouTube @URCUK
- LinkedIn bit.ly/URCLinkedIn
- Flickr unitedreformedchurch
- Blue Sky @unitedreformed

### URC Bookshop

[www.urcshop.co.uk](http://www.urcshop.co.uk)

### Daily Devotions

Follow for daily  
digital Bible reflections  
[www.urc.org.uk/devotions](http://www.urc.org.uk/devotions)

### Newsletter

Keep up-to-date with news from the URC by signing up to our monthly e-newsletter News Update: [bit.ly/URCNUsignup](http://bit.ly/URCNUsignup)

# ABOUT THE URC

The URC is a family of Christians who meet in local churches across England, Scotland and Wales, part of the worldwide family of Reformed Churches, a group of more than 70 million Christians.

The URC has around 37,000 members in about 1,250 congregations with more than 600 ministers. More than 50,000 people worship in our churches each week, and many more take part in the weekday activities of the churches.

We believe that each and every one of us can find contentment through loving and serving Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

A lack of hierarchy, and a respect for individual principles, means that the URC is not rigid in the expression of its beliefs, and embraces a wide variety of opinions.

At the same time, in the words of the URC's Statement of Nature, Faith and Order, together we are committed to 'God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit – the living God, the only God, ever to be praised.



## Our roots

Being reformed sets us in a stream of tradition that goes back 500 years to the Protestant Reformation that began in 1517 when Martin Luther launched a movement of challenge in the Church.

## History of the URC

The creation of the United Reformed Church in 1972 formally merged the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church in England and Wales. One Member of Parliament at the time described this merger as: "one of the most historic measures in the history of the Christian churches in this country."

The denomination expanded when Churches of Christ joined it in 1981, followed by Scottish Congregationalists in 2000.

The URC is a nonconformist Church. Put most simply, this means that we are not an 'established' Church, with a formal link to civil authority like, for example, the Church of England has.

However, the URC is committed to working closely with Churches of all traditions, in prayer and social action, and many of our local churches are now united with local churches from other traditions (Baptist, Church of England, or Methodist to name a few).

# CHURCH STRUCTURE

The URC has a three-tier structure, which is open for everyone to participate in.

Local churches have an Elders' Meeting, in which the Ministers and Elders share pastoral and spiritual oversight and leadership, and a Church Meeting, where all members gather to seek God's will and to discuss the life and work of the church.

At a wider level, the URC has 13 Synods: the national Synods of Scotland and Wales plus eleven regional Synods across England. Each provides oversight of about 100 local churches and is led by a Synod Moderator.

The General Assembly of the URC is its ultimate decision-making body. It meets every year to celebrate, discuss and make decisions about the life and work of the church.

## General Assembly Moderators

Every year, General Assembly appoints a new General Assembly Moderator and a General Assembly Moderator-Elect to serve the following year.

The General Assembly Moderator travels around the denomination and abroad, representing the denomination and speaks out on a range of social justice issues.



# GLOBAL RELATIONSHIPS

The URC has ecumenism rooted at the heart of its very existence. At local, national and international level, the contact and understanding between the wide variety of Christian traditions, representing the diversity of the body of Christ, lies at the heart of our mission. As such the URC is a member of:

- Council for World Mission;  
Council for World Mission UK
- World Communion of  
Reformed Churches;  
World Council of Churches
- Conference of European Churches
- Churches Commission for  
Migrants Europe
- Community of Protestant  
Churches in Europe
- Churches Together in Britain  
and Ireland
- Churches Together in England
- The Free Churches Group
- Action of Churches Together  
in Scotland
- Churches Together in Wales
- The Commission of Covenanted  
Churches in Wales
- Disciples Ecumenical  
Consultative Council

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The URC has international links with churches in Africa, Asia, North America and the Pacific. Our partners are:

- Presbyterian Church in Taiwan
- Presbyterian Church in Korea
- Presbyterian Church in the  
Republic of Korea
- Presbyterian Church of Ghana
- Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
of Ghana
- Uniting Congregational Church  
of Southern Africa
- Uniting Presbyterian Church  
of Southern Africa
- Church of Jesus Christ  
in Madagascar
- United Church of Zambia
- Church of North India
- Church of South India
- United Church of Christ in the USA
- United Church of Canada
- Presbyterian Church in the USA
- United Church of Australia
- Protestant Church in  
the Netherlands



# KEY PEOPLE

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## **Ann-Marie Nye**

Communications Officer

(Public Issues and Global & Intercultural Church)

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Ann-Marie has worked for the URC since 2017 and serves as Communications Officer (Public Issues and Global & Intercultural Church). Ann-Marie is a main point of contact for all media queries, in and out-of-hours, and for all reputation management matters. Ann-Marie is also responsible for promoting and sharing news about the URC, with a focus on Public Issues and Global & Intercultural Church. Please contact Ann-Marie to arrange media interviews with any of the key people or in relation to Public Issues and Global & Intercultural Church.



## **Laurence Wareing**

Communications Officer (Children, Youth &

Intergenerational Discipleship, Evangelism & Ecumenism)

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Laurence Wareing has worked for the URC since 2021 and serves as Communications Officer (Children, Youth & Intergenerational Discipleship, Evangelism & Ecumenism). Laurence is a main point of contact for all media queries, in and out-of-hours, and for all reputation management matters. Laurence is also responsible for promoting and sharing news about the URC, with a focus on Children, Youth & Intergenerational Discipleship, Evangelism & Ecumenism. Please contact Laurence to arrange media interviews with any of the key people or in relation to Children, Youth & Intergenerational Discipleship, Evangelism & Ecumenism.



## **Catriona Wheeler**

**General Assembly Moderator 2025-2026**

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Catriona was brought up in Barnard Castle a market town in Teesdale in County Durham. She has been a member of the URC since she was 16 and became an Elder when she was 30. She has lived in Lincoln for 30 years where she is an Elder and Church Secretary of Trinity URC and practises as a solicitor and notary public. Her areas of law cover commercial property and corporate law, but her particular interest is charity law. She has been legal adviser to the East Midlands Synod since 1997. Catriona has held membership in churches across three synods, Northern, Yorkshire and East Midlands and serves as a director of East Midlands Synod Trust and Chair of the United Reformed Church Trust.



## **The Revd Dr John Bradbury**

**General Secretary**

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In 2020 at the age of 43, John became one of the youngest people to be leading a mainstream Christian denomination. He has been heavily involved in ecumenism and has served on various groups for the Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE). In 2019, John was elected as one of three presidents of the CPCE. Prior to these roles, he served as a minister of churches in Liverpool and Cambridgeshire and was appointed to teach Systematic Theology and Church History at Westminster College, where he ultimately served as Vice-Principal and Acting Principal. Along with his current duties, John is leading a review into the life of the United Reformed Church to help the denomination be more healthy and fruitful. John is available to speak on the Reformed tradition, European Protestantism, Theologies of Marriage and questions around sexuality and same-sex marriage, church reform and renewal, church-state relations from an English non-conformist perspective.





## **Sarah Moore**

### General Assembly Clerk

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Sarah was ordained in 2005 and has served as Transition Minister in the National Synod of Scotland since 2020 following local church ministry in East Lancashire and then in Cumbria as URC Area President developing an ecumenical covenant with partners in the county developing close links in mission, ministry and use of buildings. She also represents the URC at the World Council of Churches Central Committee. Sarah has interests in developing creative and flexible ways of being Church and living out the Christian life as well as supporting congregations, synods, the URC as a whole and those who have leadership roles in all these places with the legal and procedural tools they need for their work and vocation.



## **The Revd Dr Alex Clare-Young**

### Campaigns and Church Engagement Officer for the Joint Public Issues Team and Assistant General Assembly Clerk

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Alex is an ordained minister in a pioneering role in the URC in Cambridge City Centre and identifies as they/them. Alex has a PhD in queer theology, having researched the experiences, identities and faith understandings of trans and non-binary Christians. Alex is a diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) expert and is at the forefront of creating new expressions of church in partnership with young adults and millennials, and particularly with people who have experienced religious trauma. Alex is also co-chair of the Open Table Network – a network of communities which create safer faith spaces for LGBTQ+ Christians. Alex's first book, *Transgender. Christian. Human.*, was published in 2019 by Wild Goose.



## **Maya Withall**

### URC Youth Assembly Moderator

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Maya is currently at college studying English, Product Design and Geography. She plans to study law at university with the aspiration to becoming an environmental lawyer. She became a Christian through her local Pilots Company, and has been part of the URC since she was 7. Maya has been Wessex Synod Rep on the Youth Executive for the last three years and the Green Apostle, engaging with the URC Net Zero task group and other environmental projects. Maya has a particular passion for children and youth work as this is how she came to be a part of the URC and found religion. When not at school or college Maya enjoys to read, watch TV and always has at least three crochet projects on the go.



## **The Revd Dr Susan Durber**

### President of the European Region of the World Council of Churches

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Susan is a minister of the United Reformed Church, now retired after serving in pastorates, as Principal of Westminster College and as Theology Advisor at Christian Aid. Since 1993 she has been involved with the work of the World Council of Churches, and particularly with Faith and Order. In 2022 she was elected as one of Presidents of the WCC and can be called on to provide comment about the global ecumenical movement and about ecumenism more generally. She is committed to the WCC as a place of dialogue and conversation, and to continuing conversations even when there is profound disagreement.



## The Revd Neil Thorogood

General Assembly Moderator-elect

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Neil was born in Sydney, Australia whilst his parents were serving as missionaries in the Cook Islands, returning to the UK in 1970. Following ordination training at Mansfield College, Oxford, Neil has served the URC within the Halifax Group of Churches (1992–1999) and Welwyn Garden City URC and Panshanger Ecumenical Church (2000–2005). He was then called to Westminster College, Cambridge where he served first as Director of Pastoral Studies (2005–2013) and then as Principal until July 2020. He returned to pastoral ministry, serving now as minister of Trinity-Henleaze URC in Bristol and Thornbury URC. Neil has convened several URC General Assembly and Synod committees. He is active as a visual artist and writer, regularly contributing to the URC's Daily Devotions, annual *Prayer Handbook*, and *Reform*. During the Covid lockdown period, he made small sketches each day and published them on Twitter (now X). These pictures were the basis of his book *Talking Pictures*, published by the URC in 2023. Neil is married to Jenny, and they have two boys. Neil's topics of interests are: the theology of the visual arts and use of the arts in general as modes for theological reflection and spirituality; missiology; ecumenism; worship and liturgy (both inherited and in fresh forms and styles); preaching; film as a source and mode of reflection; pastoral care and practice.



The  
United  
Reformed  
Church Youth

# FAITH IN ACTION



## Jenny Mills

Deputy General Secretary (Faith in Action)

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Jenny has been in ministry for 17 years serving in local church pastorates, as Secretary for Education and Learning, and now as Deputy General Secretary (Faith in Action). For 21 years prior to coming into ordained ministry she was a Primary School teacher. Jenny has been part of the URC since 1972 (and previously part of a Congregational Church), spending her formative years in Sunday School at the mother church of nonconformity in Wales: Tabernacle, Llanvaches. Jenny has been a long time member, and Chair of the Board, of an alternative education provider for young people failed by school which enables learning through social enterprises. She brings a heart for access to learning for all, the importance of flexibility and adaptability, and a desire to see inclusion and equity as priorities. Jenny has completed training in Enabling Skills and Pastoral Supervision, appreciating the need for good communication, and open and honest conversations. Jenny brings an enthusiasm for life, ministry and learning, a desire to keep growing and learning herself, and a love of meeting people.

*“Being reformed is part of our DNA. It reflects our continual aim of reforming ourselves to be a Church for the present day.”*



## **Andy Jackson**

### Head of Communications

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Andy is the part-time Head of Communications and works three days a week. Andy's father was a URC Minister so he grew up in the denomination, being only two years of age when the URC came into being in 1972. Andy worked as a local newspaper journalist before editing several commercial and charity sector titles. A website creator since 1995, Andy has also worked for Christian Aid as Managing Editor and as Director of Publishing and Communications for The Methodist Church. In 2018, he joined the URC as Head of Communications. He is an ordained Elder of the URC and is a member of Woking URC.



## **Steve Tomkins**

### Editor of *Reform* magazine

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Stephen has edited *Reform*, the URC magazine, since 2013. Before that he was a freelance religious journalist, author and broadcaster for the Guardian, BBC and others. He has a PhD in church history and has written nine books on the subject, including biographies.



## **Lindsey Brown**

### Head of Evangelism and Ecumenism

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Lindsey represents the URC in ecumenical spaces such as Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and Churches Together England and provides training and support for URC Ecumenical Officers at local and Synod levels. Lindsey is also a point of contact for Mission Enablers, local churches and Synods on evangelism and hosts twice-yearly evangelism webinars called FaithTalk. She is part of a working group building a proposal for encouraging new Christian communities.



## **Dr Sam Richards**

Head of Children Youth and Intergenerational Discipleship

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Sam, whose doctoral studies were on lay vocation, was previously Director of Oxford Youth Works, an innovative mission project among young people in Oxford, for more than 20 years and one of the founders of CYM (Institute for Children, Youth and Mission) which developed groundbreaking training including degrees, and masters programmes for Christian youth and children's workers. Sam champions children's and young people's participation in church life and mission, intergenerational practices, and new ways of being church and can be called on to speak on these issues.



## **Karen Campbell**

Head of Global & Intercultural Church

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Karen is proudly Black – born in Tottenham, North London, to Jamaican parents. In 2010 she became the first Black, British-born minister to be trained by the URC and served for 10 years as a Church Related Community Worker in the multicultural, multi-faith context of Luton. Karen was appointed to her present role in April 2020, with COVID, George Floyd's murder, and Black Lives Matter heavily influencing her ministry. Karen's particular areas of focus include 'being intercultural', the legacies of transatlantic slavery – including naming and addressing the continuing impacts today and spearheading the URC's commitment to becoming an actively Anti-racist Church. She is a thinker, a challenger, and a poet.

***"We try to run our churches in ways that take everyone's insight and contribution seriously."***





**Roo Stewart**  
Head of Public Issues

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Roo has worked with the URC since 2018, enabling the Church to respond to the challenges facing our society, including poverty, war, refugees, the environment, the economy and politics, with an emphasis on advocacy, prayer and action as part of the ecumenical Joint Public Issues Team. A former teacher, Roo draws from experiences of fractured communities in both Belfast and London, as well as ten years working full time in local Anglican and Baptist church contexts.



**Kevin Snyman**  
Head of World Justice & Outreach

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As part of the Faith in Action Team at the URC's Offices of General Assembly, Kevin has a particular focus on world justice and inter faith. Currently, Kevin's theological interests are centred on how the assumptions and principles that underpin Empire tend to shape Christian ideas of God and church, leading to inevitable inequality and violence. This is especially true when Christians attempt to use Empire's monetary system for 'good purposes' rather than subverting it like Jesus did. Kevin finds the odd bit of time to explore the beautiful British countryside 'armed' with his camera, drone, and motorcycle, preferably with his wife Nadene in the pillion seat.



# MINISTRIES

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## **The Revd Nicola Furley-Smith**

Deputy General Secretary (Ministries)

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Ordained in 1987, Nicola has experience in local churches, as a Synod Moderator, as Secretary for Ministries and now as Deputy General Secretary [Ministries]. She has a passion for working to promote the processes and policies of the United Reformed Church which ensure best practice in supporting the formal ministries of the church. She has a good understanding of life within the conciliar structures of the denomination often dealing with government agencies when required. She has the ability to advocate on behalf of the URC and inspire people both inside and outside the denominational structures. The breadth of her role extends into areas of safeguarding, questions of church order and disciplinary. She also enjoys being able to reflect theologically on issues relating to discipleship and the service of the church.

*“We believe that each and every one of us can find contentment through loving and serving Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”*



## **The Revd Andy Braunston**

Minister for Digital Worship

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As Minister for Digital Worship, Andy curates resources which local churches can download to enhance their Sunday services and edits the Daily Devotions – reflections which are sent out every morning via email. Andy has over 25 years' experience ministering in primarily LGBT congregations and with a particular emphasis on LGBT asylum seekers. He served as a Justice of the Peace for over 10 years and now lives in Orkney.



## **Sharon Barr**

Head of Safeguarding

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Sharon Barr started working for the URC in 2018, a qualified Social Worker with more than two decades of experience of working with vulnerable groups. Sharon is passionate about her role as Head of Safeguarding and is committed to drawing together her desire for everyone to be safe, to be responded to appropriately if they feel at risk and to show Jesus' heart in all areas of safeguarding. This is a collective responsibility and as such Sharon is committed to working collaboratively with people across all areas of the Church.



# SYNODS

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## **The Revd Kim Money**

Moderator of Northern Synod

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Kim currently serves as the Moderator of the Northern Synod of the United Reformed Church, a role she began in August 2023. Prior to this, she ministered in churches across Surrey following her ordination in 2010. With a rich background in various denominational settings, Kim brings a deep commitment to ecumenical partnership and collaborative ministry. She has a particular passion for nurturing pastoral relationships and exploring what it means to live as the body of Christ within our communities.



## **The Revd Geoff Felton**

Moderator of Mersey Synod

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Before his calling into full time ministry Geoff served as a geologist in the oil industry spending much of his time working offshore in the North Sea. Geoff has been a serving minister in the United Reformed Church for 25 years. He currently serves as Moderator of Mersey Synod. Geoff's specific interests include theology and contemporary culture, the global church and growing disciples. He loves the city of Liverpool and the North West of England describing it as a land of resilience and opportunity. He has been a lifelong Tranmere Rovers fan and despite that setback he remains hopeful and optimistic about the future.



## **The Revd Jamie Kissack**

Moderator of Yorkshire Synod

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Jamie has been in ministry in the United Reformed Church since 1992 and has served in Yorkshire Synod in both East and South Yorkshire since 1997. He has served as Synod Moderator since 2020. In his role as Moderator Jamie enjoys visiting local churches, where he encourages the local churches in exploring their mission. He is passionate about ecumenism, and enjoys building relationship with ecumenical colleagues, and supporting the local churches in their ecumenical engagement.



## **The Revd Geoffrey Clarke**

Moderator of East Midlands Synod

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Geoffrey grew up in East Anglia and was trained for ministry at Northern College (Manchester), being ordained in 1992. From 2008 to 2013 he served as North Western Synod Clerk. Geoffrey has served as Moderator of East Midlands Synod since 2020 and gives particular focus to relational encouragement, ministers' wellbeing, ecumenism, worship and preaching as areas of ministry which he is passionate about. Geoffrey also has a longstanding commitment to and advocacy for Methodist/United Reformed Church cooperation. All three of his local church ministries were served in URC/ Methodist LEPs – in Seaton Delaval (1992-2002), Cheadle (2002-2013) and Worksop (2013- 2020). He is currently co-chair of the Methodist/URC Liaison Committee and is the URC's representative to the Methodist Conference.



## **The Revd Steve Faber**

### Moderator of West Midlands Synod

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Steve was ordained in 1998 and served in churches in North London and Lincolnshire before being appointed as Moderator of the West Midlands Synod in 2015. He has a particular interest in church leadership and church growth within the URC context. He has been involved in the denominational Church Life Review process since its inception and currently chairs the Phase II Steering Group.



## **The Revd Lythan Nevard**

### Moderator of Eastern Synod

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Lythan was ordained in 1992, having trained at Mansfield College Oxford alongside her husband Phil. They met on the URC Ginger Group – a youth project in the 1980's and married prior to training for ministry. Lythan's ministry has spanned URCs in the North East, the London borough of Havering, the Devon coast and, just prior to becoming Moderator of Eastern Synod, was an ecumenical pioneer minister in the new town of Cranbrook, Devon. She is passionate about mission and discipleship and encouraging people to think about being church differently.



## **The Revd David Downing**

### Moderator of South Western Synod

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David trained at Westminster College and then served the United Reformed churches in Stoke Newington and Angel (NE London). His ministry led him then to Derby where he served several churches before focusing on Central URC and the chaplaincy at Derby University. In 2016 he moved to Maidenhead and Marlow United Reformed churches, until 2024 when was called to serve as Moderator of South Western Synod.





## **The Revd Dr Michael Hopkins**

Moderator of the Wessex Synod, Secretary to the History Society

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Michael Hopkins is Moderator of the Wessex Synod, which covers the central part of the south of England. He is responsible for oversight and leadership across just over 100 churches, served by 29 ministers. Michael has been a minister since 2002, mostly working in a variety of local churches, and very strongly sees his role as to be minister of ministers and friend of churches. He also serves as Secretary to the URC History Society.



## **The Revd George Watt**

Moderator of Thames North Synod

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George was ordained in 1992 having previously worked in computing. He has served in churches in Southampton, South London and Surrey before being appointed as Moderator of Thames North Synod in 2021. He seeks to celebrate the diversity in the Synod. He sees as one of the biggest challenges as being to support local churches because of the shortage of ministers. He has been encouraging the Synod to think creatively in appointing lay leaders as well as using pioneer ministers to grow new Christian communities, particularly in areas of social need.



## **The Revd David Salsbury**

Moderator of the National Synod of Wales

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David has been a minister for more than 25 years, having served churches in Swansea and North Wales and in education and learning roles for the Synod and the wider denomination. He became Synod Moderator for Wales in April 2024. David also serves as secretary to the URC's Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging sub-committee.



## **The Revd Lindsey Sanderson**

Moderator of the National Synod of Scotland

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Lindsey has served as Moderator of the National Synod of Scotland since January 2024. Lindsey trained for ministry in the Congregational Union of Scotland (CUS) and was ordained in January 1997. She has served as the Mission Enabler for the CUS/Synod of Scotland, the Assistant General Secretary of Action of Churches Together in Scotland, and as minister of East Mains and Righead URCs in East Kilbride and Hamilton URC. She has particular interests in ecumenism, mindfulness, liturgy and singing.



## **The Revd Clare Downing**

Moderator of North Western Synod (until June 2026)

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The Revd Clare Downing Moderator of North Western Synod and a former Moderator of General Assembly Clare has been a minister for 25 years, with experience in local churches, interfaith issues, as a Synod Moderator, and as Moderator of General Assembly from 2020 to 2022. She has previous experience in social work, and worked for the Diocese of Manchester on a project around disability and church. She has a breadth of experience about the life of the URC and is passionate about making the church a place where the widest variety of voices can be heard. Other emphases of her work are to encourage Christians to explore vocation in its widest sense, and to make the good news of Jesus known through individuals and local churches, in words and in action.

# ADDITIONAL KEY PEOPLE

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## **The Revd David Thompson DD**

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The Revd Professor David Thompson is a retired nonstipendiary minister in Cambridge and Emeritus Professor of Modern Church History in the University of Cambridge. He was Moderator of the General Assembly in 1996-97. A former member of Churches of Christ, he was an Observer of the Congregational-Presbyterian Joint Committee of 1963-72 and Secretary of the URC-Churches of Christ Joint Committee of 1972-80. He has extensive ecumenical experience internationally, nationally, regionally and locally, and was Ecumenical Officer for the Eastern Synod, 1999-2015, as well as being a member of the International Dialogue between the Roman Catholic Church and Disciples of Christ, 1979-2019. His specialism is modern Church History, especially Church & State, Church & Society, and Christian Missions, particularly current affairs.



## **The Revd Anne Sardeson**

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Anne Sardeson is a minister in the URC and has ministered in multi-cultural London before moving to rural Essex. She trained for ministry many years ago in Manchester and then studied for an MA in Pastoral Theology at Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge. She is fascinated by all things worship, and in particular hymns and prayers: the process of writing them and their place in worship. She's also committed to LGBTQI+ issues from the inside out and has an interest in faith and mental health. Before returning to pastoral work she was a trainer for the URC and appears to have no fear of large groups of people. Anne is the author of *50 Hymns for 50 years*.



## **The Revd Dr Elizabeth Welch**

Former General Assembly Moderator

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Elizabeth is a URC minister within the URC Thames North Synod. Her father served as a Congregational minister in South Africa where she grew up, in a family that campaigned against apartheid. She was ordained in the UK in 1976, served for 20 years in local ecumenical partnerships, and then moved on to serve as West Midlands Synod Moderator from 1996-2008. During this time, Elizabeth also served as Moderator of the URC General Assembly. In 2008, she moved to Hackney to serve the church part-time while writing a PhD on the Holy Spirit and worship with the other half of her time. Elizabeth has chaired national and international ecumenical and theological groups and is interested in digging deeper into ecumenism, the Holy Spirit and the nature of worship when looking at the role of the church in the world today.



## **The Revd David Coleman**

EcoChaplain

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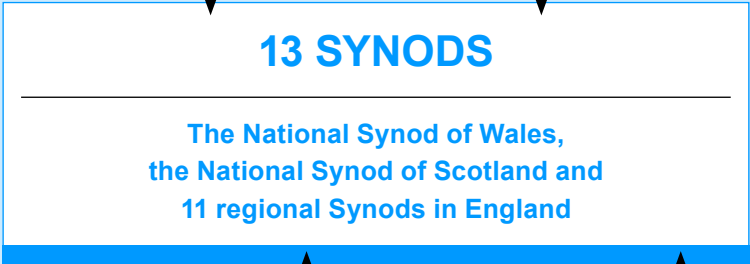
Ordained 1995, and a member of the Iona Community, the Revd David Coleman is EcoChaplain for EcoCongregation Scotland, the movement of Scottish churches committed to partnership with Creation. The chaplaincy is a special category ministry, working ecumenically, visiting grassroots congregations from the Borders to Shetland, and in conversation with training institutions. David curates the annual “Season of Creation” resource. The remit includes availability to the wider URC too. Having attended COP26, David has been confronted by the rapid and alarming changes which affect life on Earth, and works to help churches repurpose language, prayer and action, accordingly, building spiritual resilience. Qualified in digital graphics; since lockdown, his reflective video resources have enriched contact with congregations and other groups.

# STRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION DIAGRAM

LEVEL 1

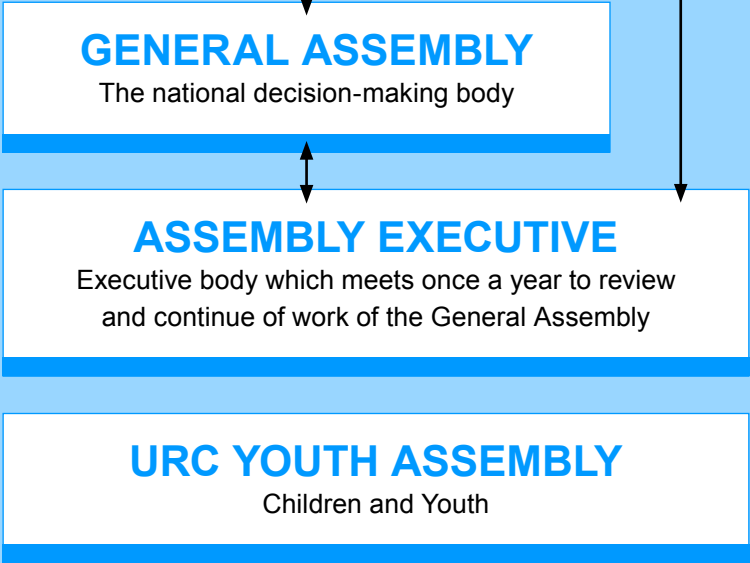


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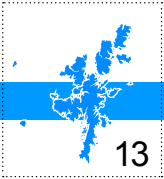


LEVEL 3

ECUMENICAL LINKS



# URC SYNOD MAP



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- 6 West Midlands
- 7 Eastern
- 8 South Western
- 9 Wessex
- 10 Thames North
- 11 Southern
- 12 National Synod of Wales
- 13 National Synod of Scotland

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