

General Assembly

Friday 3 July to Monday 6 July 2026

Agenda



Friday 3 July

12:00 Arrivals and registration

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

14:00 Welcome and Constitution of Assembly
Opening Worship (including Holy Communion)

Session one

15:15 Introductions and Greeting of Ecumenical Guests

Mock Resolution

Administration

En bloc:

(Extra) Ordinary Hope – Synod Moderator’s Report

Senior Leadership Team Report

A1 – Business Committee Report

AD1- Business/Resources - Church Life Fund Progress Update

B1 – Faith in Action Committee Report

B4 – Faith in Action - Future of Greenbelt

B5 – Faith in Action – Net-Zero Task Group Report

B6 – Faith in Action - Net-Zero Terms of Reference

C4 – Ministries - Active Ministers Policy

C5 – Ministries - Inactive Ministers Policy

C6 – Ministries - Review of Ministers Retirement Age

C7 – Ministries - Process for ill-health early retirement

C8 – Ministries - Competencies and Expected Standards

C9 – Ministries - Reasonable Adjustments

C10 – Ministries - Sickness and Ill-health

C11 – Ministries - Accreditations Sub-Committee Terms of Reference

CD1 – Ministries/Resources - Ministry & Mission Review Task Group
update

CH1 – Ministries/ Pastoral Reference and Welfare - Creation of a
Ministries Support & Wellbeing Sub-committee

- G1 – Nominations Committee Report
- H1 – Pastoral References and Welfare Committee Report
- I1 – Safeguarding Committee Report
- J1 – Worship Faith and Order Committee Report
- J4 – Worship Faith and Order - Assisted Dying
- J5 – Worship Faith and Order – Permission to Co-opt members
- P1 – Wessex Synod - New Synod Name

Nominations - Individual Appointments:
 Greeting on Reappointment to the Role

16:00 *Break (access to bedrooms)*

16:30 **Keynote:** Dr Krish Kandiah - "The Surprising Power of Hospitality - how to respond to the rise of Christian Nationalism with grace and truth"

- 17:30 B3 – Faith in Action - Inter Faith
- B2 – Faith in Action - Five Marks of Faith in Action
- P6 – Mersey Synod - Evangelism

18:30 *Dinner*

Session two

19:30 Presentation and Group discussions on B7 – Faith in Action - Legacies of Slavery

21:00 Evening prayer

Saturday 4 July

7:45 - 9:00 *Breakfast*

8:30 A Time of Prayer for General Assembly hosted by GEAR (Chapel)

9:00 Worship & Bible Study Introduction with Revd Dr Peter Green

Session three

09:45 A3 – Business Committee - EM1 Resource Centers for Learning Review

10:45 *Break*

Session four

11.15 A2 – Business Committee - Fitness to Practice Process –
 Presentation by guest speaker Ed Morgan

12.30 Community Awards

13.00 - 14.00 *Lunch*

Session five

14:00 Presentation of candidates for General Assembly Moderator
for 2027-2028 and vote
C1 – Ministries Committee Report
C2 – Ministries - Sustainability of Stipendiary Ministers in the URC
C3 – Ministries - Three-year review and Strategic Framework for Ministry
P3 – Thames North - The URC's treatment of ministers arrested for
theologically motivated peaceful civil disobedience
Papers removed from En Bloc:
I2 – Safeguarding – Synod Safeguarding Reviews

16:00 *Break*

Session six

16:30 B7 – Faith in Action - Legacies of Slavery
K1 – URC Youth - Gendered language in the Basis of Union
K2 – URC Youth - The Future Identity, Purpose, and Development of URC
Youth
K3 – URC Youth - Welcome Directory
P2 – Wessex Synod - Keeping Trans people safe
Q1 – GA Members - Response to the impact of single-sex court rulings on
transgender people and their communities

18:30 *Dinner*

Session seven

19:30 Parallel Sessions:
A. Faith in Action, Nominations, Equality, Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging
B. Ministries, Worship Faith and Order, and Safeguarding
C. Resources and Church Life Fund
21:00 Evening prayer

Sunday 5 July

7:45-9:00 *Breakfast*

8:30 A Time of Prayer for General Assembly hosted by GEAR (Chapel)

9:00 Prayer – with Bible Study by Revd Dr Peter Green

Session eight

9:30 Nominations Committee Update
Remaindered Business

10:00 *Break*

10:30 Worship Service

Session nine

11.45 AB1 – Business/Faith in Action Committees - URC/Methodist Liaison
P5 – West Midlands Synod - Clarifying "pastoral necessity" for lay presidency at
the Sacraments

13:00-14:00 *Lunch*

Session ten

14:00 A3 – Business - EM1 Resources Centers for Learning Review
(continued)

Items removed from En bloc:

D1 – Resources Committee Report

D2 - Resources - Investment Committee becoming a Sub-committee of
Resources Committee

15:30 *Break*

16:00 Memorial for Deceased Ministers and CRCWs
Giving Thanks for the Life of Churches that have Closed

Moderator's Address

Celebrating Jubilee Ministers

Greeting ministers and CRCWs newly received onto the roll

18:30 *Dinner*

Session eleven

20:00 (Extra) Ordinary Hope – Presentation and Discussion

Items removed from En bloc:

J2 – Worship Faith and Order – Celebration of Creationtide

J3 – Worship Faith and Order - “Nature Faith and Order” - third version

Remaindered business

21:00 Evening prayer

Monday 6 July

7:45-9:00 *Breakfast (check out of rooms by 9:00)*

8:30 A Time of Prayer for General Assembly hosted by GEAR (Chapel)

9:15 Prayer and Bible Study with Revd Jane Wade

Session twelve

9:45 Moderator Elect 2026-2027 Acceptance Speech

Remaindered business

Miscellaneous Items

Address to the throne

10:45 *Break*

11:15 Closing Worship - Including the Induction of The Reverend Neil Thorogood as
Moderator

13:00-14:00 *Lunch and departures*