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Western Synod, has won Churches Together in England (CTE's) inaugural MA in Mission prize. Daleen’s MA dissertation, entitled ‘A critical examination of the theological basis of a Christian Charity engaged in community ministry’, was deemed by the judges to be a robust and rigorous piece of work which "clearly engaged a community of practice out of deep relationship". CTE, alongside the Mission Research Network, set up the MA Mission Prize to draw out high-quality, recently passed MA theses to add to a small but growing repository of MAs and PhDs which will be made available on its new website. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15OH2E-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **JPIT new partnership** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Following a recent review of the partnership arrangements between the denominations in the Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT), the Church of Scotland will in future operate as an ‘Associate Partner’ of the team, which will allow it to be more flexible in how it approaches initiatives and projects around joint work. JPIT will now be described as a partnership of three denominations: the Baptist Union of Great Britain, the Methodist Church in Great Britain, and the URC. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15R9D7-1/c.aspx) | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **General Assembly 2021** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | The General Assembly of the URC takes place from 9-12 July. You can watch the business sessions on the URC website, on our Facebook page or YouTube channel. The Moderators of the URC General Assembly are warmly inviting members of the denomination to join General Assembly’s Sunday worship service on 11 July. The Revd Clare Downing will preach at the service which will be livestreamed from the URC’s national website and Facebook page from 11am. Find out how you can take part [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15OIOE-1/c.aspx) and download the Order of Service [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15UBD3-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  | | --- | | **Theology centre offers new chaplaincy MA course** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Luther King Centre for Theology and Ministry, of which the URC's Northern College is a part, has announced a new MA in Chaplaincy Studies. The MA, PgDip and PgCert in Chaplaincy Studies are open to everyone who qualifies, and as many chaplaincy positions now require a postgraduate qualification in Chaplaincy, are especially suitable for those working or volunteering in chaplaincy, or considering a new career or a more senior role. For more information about what the course covers and the application process, [**read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15PFYR-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Biden urged end Middle East conflict** |  |  | | --- | | The URC joined a global coalition of 682 leaders – from civil society through to academia, politics and Nobel laureates – in signing an open letter, published on 14 June, urging President Biden to help bring an end to Israel’s institutionalised domination and oppression of the Palestinian people and protect their fundamental human rights. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15QJOI-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **G7 urged for real climate progress** |  |  | | --- | | The [**URC General Assembly Moderators**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RAJL-1/c.aspx) joined dozens of faith leaders to urge the UK government to use its presidency of the G7 and of the UN climate talks to drive real progress on addressing the climate crisis. The G7 summit was held in Cornwall from 11-13 June where the G7 leaders pledged to phase out coal-fired power generation at home and to end funding for new coal-burning power plants in the developing world. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RAJM-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Lessons from lockdown** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Lockdown has been hard on many communities and households but as we move beyond our restricted lives, what needs to change and what needs to remain? Mal Breeze, a Church Related Community Worker from Blackburn, reflects on this question [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RAGT-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Charity wins award from Queen** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | David Jonathan, a Bury Park URC member, who serves as Director for Luton Council of Faiths (LCoF), has expressed his gratitude after the organisation became the only charity in the Bedfordshire county to win the Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service. Now in its 20th year, LCoF will receive the award later this summer. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15TYLG-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | **URC launches new podcast** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | The URC has launched a new fortnightly podcast series, that explores the denomination’s focus on Christian discipleship, mission and what it means to be Walking the Way of Jesus today. The United Reformed Church Podcast will explore what it means to be a disciple of Jesus across all aspects of our lives, as we respond to the concerns, issues and topics we encounter. New episodes will be published fortnightly. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15U0GM-1/c.aspx). | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Coronavirus: information and resources** |  |  | | --- | | **Changes to coronavirus job retention scheme** |  |  | | --- | | The UK government has announced changes to the furlough scheme from July. In brief, from 1 July employers will need to contribute 10% for hours not worked (up to £312.50 per month). The government will contribute the remaining 70%. From 1 August, employers will need to contribute 20% for hours not worked (up to £625 per month). The scheme is due to end on 30 September. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15PJCY-1/c.aspx). |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **URC Covid-19 advice** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Stay updated with the latest advice, updates and resources on the Covid-19 pandemic from the URC [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15PJE4-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Prayers during the pandemic** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Weekly prayers from the URC are available to help bring you comfort and spiritual support during the coronavirus pandemic. These devotions can be used in your private prayers, prayer groups or sermons. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15Q1NK-1/c.aspx). | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **This month in *Reform* magazine** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | ‘United’ is easy enough, but what does ‘Reformed’ meaning exactly? The summer edition of [***Reform***](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15TYNR-1/c.aspx) asks writers from the URC, and the wider Reformed family, to give us their take on what the word means ­the history, theology and faith behind it. Also in this month’s magazine: Faith through new eyes – what Muslim friends taught me about Christianity. How a plan to make corporations pay their tax provides the key to ending the pandemic. We hear from a Christian suffering for her faith in Cuba. And from a young person coping with a mental health crisis during lockdown. Want to get a free copy of *Reform* and find out if it’s worth the £29.50 subscription? Just [**email the team**](mailto:reform@urc.org.uk?subject=subscribe%20to%20reform) your address. | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Please order online using the URC Bookshop’s new easy-to-use website [**www.urcshop.co.uk**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15MZ4L-1/c.aspx) or by calling 020 7916 8629. | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**Pocket hugs from Heartistic**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15Q188-1/c.aspx) - For those who really missing being hugged, or to give to those missing contact with others – a hand-painted stone from Heartistic, featuring one of four heart designs, supplied in an organza bag with a message saying that you’re missing them and that you can’t wait to see them again. £6.60 +p&p. | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**Talking About End-of Life Wishes**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15Q18W-1/c.aspx): Not If, But When: If death is such a certainty, why do so many of us avoid talking about it? Articulating our wishes about the end of our lives is one way of ensuring that we take our leave of this world with hope in our hearts. This booklet encourages us to think and talk about our own inevitable death. Written by URC Minister the Revd Susan Walker. £3.95 +p&p. | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [***Sunflowers & Thistles***](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15Q1G2-1/c.aspx) - A5 booklet of praise songs and protest. A year after the murder of George Floyd, a new booklet of praise songs and protests has been published by the United Reformed Church. Sunflowers & Thistles is a collection of songs written by URC minister and hymn writer the Revd John Campbell, and focuses on the Black Lives Matter movement and the coronavirus pandemic. £1.49+p&p. | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | [**Noah's Ark Story Stone**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15Q1F9-1/c.aspx)**s** - A set of 11 hand-painted, varnished stones with elements of the Noah’s Ark bible story – Noah, the sun, the ark, a rainbow, elephants, lions, giraffes, snails, zebras, a dove and a stone with the phrase ‘Brighter days are on their way’. Supplied in a fabric bag. £22.00 +p&p. | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Synod news** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Mersey** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | A service to induct the Revd Geoff Felton as  the new Moderator of the URC Mersey Synod will be held on 4 September at Allerton URC. The service will be livestreamed. More details will be on Mersey Synod's website nearer the time. For more information, visit the [**synod website**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15UE4L-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Wessex** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Woking URC has found a creative way to ‘sing’ during worship despite Covid-19 restrictions currently preventing congregations singing. Since the first lockdown, the church established a ‘signing project’ with a Makaton expert who taught the congregation a sign a week during each service. At an all-age service filled with families on 13 June, the lessons paid off when the entire congregation used Makaton to sing with their hands. [**Read more.**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15PZK3-1/c.aspx) | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Yorkshire** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | The Revd Jamie Kissack has at last been able to move into his synod office. Since he took up the role of Yorkshire Synod Moderator in July 2020, he has been working, as most people have, from home. Jamie said: “It is a real joy to be in the office for the first time in my new role. This for me is the next step on a careful journey into a more normal way of working. I am really looking forward to being able to spend more time out and about around Yorkshire.” | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Eastern** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | A member of Water Lane United Reformed Church (URC), in Bishop's Stortford, has been made a dame in the Queen’s birthday honours. Elizabeth Gardiner, a solicitor who helped draft the government's coronavirus pandemic legislation, was honoured for her services to the government and the legislative process and is now a Dame Commander of the Order of the Bath (DCB). [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15R7G1-1/c.aspx).  Image: *Bishop's Stortford Independent* | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **What's On** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Youth Assembly 2022** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Bookings are now open for URC [**Youth Assembly 2022**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RR7J-1/c.aspx)**,** which will take place at Whitemoor Lakes, Alrewas, Staffs, from 28-30 January 2022. The Assembly will explore the theme of jubilee through three perspectives: commemorate the past; celebrate the now; create the future. It will be a weekend of fun, friendship and fellowship. The programme includes YOUth Decides discussions, worship, keynotes, workshops and a silent disco. Cost on or before 11 November is £115; and £145 from 12 November until bookings close on 1 January 2022. URC Youth Assembly is open to all young people with a connection to the URC from Year 10 or S3 up to 26-years-old (age limit extended for 2022 only due to cancellation of YA2021).  Creche available for children 0-five years old. |  |  | | --- | |  | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Hybrid church training** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | As URC Training, Children and Youth with Education and Learning is offering practical help for 'hybrid church' (where worship in person and online is combined) to help enhance worship for all. Three online sessions will be available: preaching with all ages; leading multi-sensory worship; praying and reading the Bible. The sessions will take place on the following Thursdays: 30 September, 14 October, 25 November from 7.30-8.45pm. URC Training is also offering those who attend grants of up to £200 from the Carmichael Montgomerie Bursary to help put learning into action. More information will be available over the summer. To keep up-to-date sign up to the Children's and Youth Work's bi-monthly update [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RRCO-1/c.aspx), or look out for news in the next edition of News Update. Previous URC Training sessions can be viewed [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RRCQ-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Church at the edge webinar** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | The next 'Church at the Edge' webinar by Church Action on Poverty and the URC takes place on 8 July from 2-3pm, and will be led by Eunice Attwood, Church at the Margins Officer for the Methodist Church. Eunice brings over 20 years’ experience of ordained diaconal ministry from a variety of contexts, including city and town-centred ministry among marginalised and vulnerable communities. For more information or to book your free place, **r**[**ead more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15T924-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Living faith conference** |  |  | | --- | | URC Children's and Youth Work's 'Living Faith with five to 11s' conference takes place over three evenings: 2, 4, 9 November from 7.15-9pm. The conference will consider how to engage children through supporting faith at home, children’s groups and all-age worship. To join in one, two or all three sessions book your place [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RS1I-1/c.aspx). All sessions in 2020's Faith with Under Five's conference, can be viewed [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RS1J-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Celebrate young people** |  |  | | --- | | Children’s and Youth Work Committee and URC Youth invite you to 'Let’s celebrate: children and young people in the URC' a General Assembly fringe event taking place on 21 July from  7.30-8.45pm. The event will focus on all that has been happening with 0-25s across the denomination, thanking God and praying for the next steps. Book your free place [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RVT3-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Action for Children Sunday** |  |  | | --- | | [**Worship materials**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15T90I-1/c.aspx) for this year's Action for Children Sunday, on 11 July, are now available to download. This year's theme is ‘Peace within, peace around’ and activities that children can do at home or in a church building can be downloaded [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15T90J-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Celebrate the Mayflower** |  |  | | --- | | The International Congregational Fellowship's virtual conference, 'The Voyage Continues', takes place from 23-25 July. The conference will celebrate the 400th year anniversary of the Mayflower landing in North America as well as the stories of how congregationalism has spread to countries around the world! For more information or to register, [**read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15T93K-1/c.aspx). | | | | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Social Justice** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Impact of Covid-19 on sex workers** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Research carried out by the Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) early in the pandemic indicated that women who sell sex or who are sexually exploited were likely to be a group that faced particular difficulties. Working alongside Beyond the Streets, a charity supporting women who sell sex or are sexually exploited, and their network of affiliated charities, JPIT used focus groups, interviews and surveys to look at the experiences of the women supported by these charities during the lockdown period. JPIT's report looks through the lens of poverty and the lens of trauma, and outlines some new policies that could make a difference in the lives of those affected. Read the report [**here.**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15R8ED-1/c.aspx) | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Reset the debt campaign update** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | JPIT partners at the Jubilee Debt Campaign have launched a national survey to gather the views of people in debt on what support they need in the face of rising debt levels. This survey is part of their Together Against Debt project, which aims to ensure that the voices of those in debt are heard in policy making and campaigning on the issue. Would you, or someone you know, be able to take part? For more information and to complete the survey, [**read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RA07-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **COP26 pilgrimage** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | You’re invited to be part of a pilgrimage for the planet which will stretch all the way from Cornwall to Glasgow. The relay kicked off with the closing of G7 and is due to arrive in Glasgow in time for COP26 in November. Would you like to join for a section, provide support or be part of ‘tributaries’ that meet en route? The Young Christian Climate Network has spearheaded this declaration of Christians’ concern about the climate, but all ages are welcome to get involved. [**Read more**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RYV9-1/c.aspx). | | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Climate Sunday** |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Congregations across the country have been holding Climate Sunday services, raising awareness of the issues facing our environment, promising to play their part in caring for creation and calling for action from our politicians. Let the team know when you had or will be having your Climate Sunday service by registering [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15RYVA-1/c.aspx). The collective action and commitments of churches this year will be presented to the UK government at the Nations Climate Sunday service in Glasgow on 5 September. | | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Police, crime and sentencing briefing** |  |  | | --- | | The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill is currently progressing through Parliament. It has been the subject of controversy, especially around proposed limitations on protests – but what is actually included in this wide-ranging piece of legislation? And what do Christians have to offer into the debate? Read a new briefing from JPIT [**here**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15TZFX-1/c.aspx). | | | | | | |  |  | | --- | | **Recruitment** |  |  | | --- | | **URC vacancies and beyond** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Children and Youth Worker, Woking URC**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15TZ85-1/c.aspx)  Term: Full time  Salary: £24,228 and £28,001 depending on experience and qualifications.  Closing date: 4 July.  For more information and an application form [**email**](mailto:office@wokingurc.org.uk?subject=Youth%20work%20vacancy) Woking URC. | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Children and Family Worker, Gosport URC St Columba  Term: Part-time 18.5 hours per week  Salary: £10k–£12k pa depending on experience  Closing date: 9 July  For more information and an application pack please email [**here**](mailto:secstcolumbas.gosport@gmail.com?subject=Children%20and%20family%20worker%20vacancy). | | | | | | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Academic Administrator, Luther King Centre for Theology and Ministry**  **Term: Part time**  **Closing date: 12 July**  **For information, email the** [**Registrar**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15Q0PZ-1/c.aspx)**.** | | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Project Coordinator - Lea Road Community**](https://urc-news.org.uk/2JB1-1R7II-7Z9F9S-15TZ86-1/c.aspx)  **Term: One-year contract extendable for a further two years following a successful one-year review / full time 37.5 hours per week Salary: £26,000-£28,000 pa Closing date: 11 July** | | | | | | | | |
| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | **The United Reformed Church**  **Church House, 86 Tavistock Place**  **London, WC1H 9RT**  **Tel: 020 7916 2020**  **Email:** [**urc@urc.org.uk**](mailto:urc@urc.org.uk) | | | | | | | | |