

## B MINISTERIAL VACANCIES

### B7 Induction of Ministers

November 2014

1 The arrangements for an Induction are the responsibility of the Area Pastoral Committee on behalf of the Synod. Normally this responsibility will be carried out by the Interim Moderator.

2 The local church(es) and the minister-elect should be fully consulted. Both may make suggestions as to hymns, Bible readings, who should take part and other matters of content and procedure.

3 Particular care should be given as to who should be invited to:

- a) Preach the sermon;
- b) lead the prayer of induction;
- c) lead the intercessions.

It is advisable that the preacher should be a person of some maturity and with experience of Christian ministry.

4 In order further to recognise the Pastoral Committee's role in the provision of ministry, it is recommended that a statement on behalf of the Council be included in the service.

5 Greetings should be given by right hand of fellowship and a few brief words. See order of service for guidance as to who should take part.

6 In preparing the Order of Service, Worship from: the United Reformed Church (2003) should be consulted and material used as appropriate.

7 The responsive version of "Statement of Nature Faith and Order" is available in leaflet form from the Synod Office and copies may be obtained for use and return. Alternatively, the wording is to be found in 'Rejoice and Sing' (number 761).

8 The Moderator of Synod should be kept fully in the picture as arrangements are made and should, as the person appointed by the Area Pastoral Committee to preside, be consulted before the Service Paper is printed. When printing has been done, two copies should be forwarded to the Moderator.

9 **Draft Order of Service** A suggested outline follows. It may be varied to meet local requirements.

1	THE APPROACH	
	Call to Worship	Moderator
	Hymn of Praise	
	Prayer of Adoration and Confession	Representative of the Area
	Assurance of Pardon	
	Statement of Purpose	Moderator
2	THE WORD	
	Reading(s) from the Bible	perhaps read by member(s) of local church(es)
	Hymn of Preparation	
	Sermon	invited preacher
3	THE RESPONSE	
	Hymn of affirmation	
	Introduction to the act of Induction	Moderator
	Statement on behalf of Pastoral Committee	Convener or another
	Statement on behalf of the pastorate	Secretary or other representative

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Statement by the minister-elect  
Statement of the Nature, Faith and Order of the United Reformed Church      President of the Area

#### 4 THE ACT OF INDUCTION

Questions to the Minister-elect  
(Revised Schedule agreed by Assembly 1994 - see Guideline 2.9)      Moderator

Questions to the local church  
(to be printed - see URC Service Book 1989)      Moderator

Questions to the Area  
(to be printed - see URC Service Book 1989)      Moderator

Hymn of the Holy Spirit

Prayer of Induction      Moderator or invited person,  
perhaps known well to minister-elect

Declaration of Induction      Moderator

Greetings

Representatives of:  
pastorate  
Area Pastoral Committee  
churches of other denominations  
local community  
the Synod and the United Reformed Church (the Moderator)

#### 5 THE DEPARTURE

Prayers of Intercession      invited person

Hymn of praise and/or discipleship

The Blessing      Newly inducted minister

**Note:** It is usual to include the following rubrics:

a. at the beginning:      a request to the congregation to stand as those leading the worship enter.

b. at the end:      a request for the congregation to remain standing until those leading the worship have withdrawn.

c. also at the end:      an invitation to refreshments, if these are to be served, and an indication of where they can be found.

It is also usual for a retiring offering to be collected and forwarded to the Synod Office for the Ministerial Training Fund.