

NEWS FROM THE NW SYNOD 2ND MAY 2018



Synod next meets on Saturday 13 October 2018 at Oasis, Salford

- 1: Launch of Missional Partnerships – 20th May 2018 Pentecost**
- 2: Moderators snapshot**
- 3: Service for the Mandarin Chaplaincy**
- 4: Elswick URC Church Anniversary**

1: Launch of Missional Partnerships – 20th May 2018 Pentecost In preparation for the launch of Missional Partnerships across the Synod on Sunday 20th May (Pentecost) worship materials are being made available to help those preparing to lead worship that day. The materials are offered so that worship leaders/preachers can draw on what is helpful in their preparation – and includes practical all-age suggestions as well as responsive pieces and suggestions of music. If you don't receive the materials either by email today, or by post later this week, then please contact the Synod Office and we will be delighted to send you a copy. For information: copies are being sent to all ministers, CRCWs, local leaders and lay preachers who are on the Synod data base.

An additional note: if you are looking at using windmills there are a variety of ready-prepared craft materials available from various sources. One such example is to be found at Baker Ross <https://www.bakerross.co.uk/windmill-kits-5> but a Google search will produce other outlets.

2: Moderators snapshot



This week most of the United Reformed Church's ministers and CRCWs have gathered together at Yarnfield Conference Centre near Stone, in Staffordshire. It is a unique event in over 40 years of the denomination's life. The focus is around our common theme of Walking the Way: Living the life of Jesus today. It has been exciting to look around at 300+ people who have responded to God in a particular way in the life of the Church and realise how blessed we are as the United Reformed Church in the gifts of ministry represented here.

The worship has been a highlight for me and a joyous and moving experience in such a large gathering. As part of the input into the week we have been enriched by the story-telling of the former Archbishop of Canterbury, the Revd Dr Rowan Williams through the challenging lives of 3 women (Maria Skobtsova, Dorothy Day and Madeline Delbrêl).

Please pray:

- with thanksgiving for the blessing and rich gift we have in the particular ministries of those gathered in Yarnfield this week
- for the increasing awareness among every member of the United Reformed Church that we have all been called to be Walking the Way: living the life of Jesus today
- that every member of the United Reformed Church will grow in discipleship which experiences Jesus as the centre of their being, and where that focus on the centre leads to an increasing witness at the edges of the church where it meets the world
- that our faithfulness in living out the call of Christ will lead us to engage with the world such that it is an easier place for all people to be good in.

3: Service for the Mandarin Chaplaincy Revd Shou-Hui Chung's appointment as Chaplain to Taiwanese and Mandarin Speaking Students ends after 12 years in July this year and the Mandarin Chaplaincy based in Manchester will take a different form. To mark the occasion a special service will be held at St Peter's House, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9GH on **Saturday 2 June 2018 at 2 00 pm**. The Moderator will preside and the guest preacher will be Revd Nigel Uden, Moderator Elect of the General Assembly. The Presbyterian Church in Taiwan will be sending representatives and those coming from Church House include Revd John Procter, Revd Dr Michael Jagessar and Revd Richard Church. The Mandarin Choir will be singing at the service.

During her ministry, Shou-Hui has visited many churches in the Synod and so we hope that as many people as possible will be able to attend.

Following the service there will be light refreshments in the Milk and Honey Café at St Peter's House. If you are intending to attend the service it would help for catering purposes if you would contact Angela Bogg, email angela.bogg@btopenworld.com or telephone 0161 881 3521. Angela can also give you more information about the location including car parking.

4: Elswick URC Church Anniversary We are looking forward to the 369th Anniversary Service of the formation of our Church.

This year the Revd. Dr. Michael Jagessar, Secretary for racial justice & multicultural ministry for URC will lead our celebration which will take place on Sunday 20th May at 2.30.

Afternoon teas will be available after the service please give me a ring or an email to add your name if you would like to join us in the commemoration of the occasion.

Thanks, Sam Kernohan Tel: 01995 670816 Email: kernohan@hotmail.com