



Church and Society

Synod Update Autumn 2023

Church and Society helps the URC to engage with the most pressing issues facing society

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Please share these items with your congregations. Each item is designed for easy insertion into a church bulletin or webpage. You can find PowerPoint slides to accompany each item at bit.ly/casupdate.

Let's End Poverty

Be part of a new movement of faith groups and charities who are united in calling for an end to poverty in the UK. Individuals and organisations are welcome to sign up to find out more: letsendpoverty.co.uk/



Let's End Poverty Founding Assembly

Saturday 14 October, 11am-1pm

Online or in Cambridge, Cardiff, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle and Nottingham

Everyone who is passionate about seeing an end to poverty in the UK is invited to come. Whether your motivation to take action comes from your personal experience of poverty, volunteering to support your community or working as part of a charity committed to tackling UK poverty, we need you to be part of shaping how we build the movement together.

letsendpoverty.co.uk/assembly/

Just Economics

What should the goal of the economy be?
Why isn't our current system enabling people to flourish, especially as the cost of living continues to rise? Could a change in approach help us solve the climate crisis?
What does our Christian faith have to say about the economy?



'Just Economics' is a six-week, Bible-based course written by the Joint Public Issues Team, using non-technical language to help individuals or small groups explore how the economy might be re-shaped to enable the wellbeing of all people and the planet. jpit.uk/justeconomics

Ukraine Briefing

The conflict in Ukraine after Russia's invasion in February 2022 is a tragedy that continues to devastate the lives of millions of people.



The Joint Public Issues Team has produced this briefing and supporting resources to help churches engage with the challenging questions posed by the ongoing war. jpit.uk/ukraine

Politics in the Pulpit

Preaching 'with the Bible in one hand and a newspaper in the other' gets a lot easier with JPIT's 'Politics in the Pulpit' podcast.

Released every Tuesday morning during term-time, guests and our host unpack the Revised Common Lectionary readings for the coming Sunday, reflecting on how they relate to contemporary justice issues, news and current affairs.

It's a great launching point for ministers, lay preachers and worship leaders. Available as an audio podcast or a YouTube video.

jpit.uk/politicsinthepulpit



10 minutes on...

Hear Christian responses to major news items, topical issues and current affairs affecting our society on the *Ten Minutes on...* podcast from the Joint Public Issues Team.

To listen, search for 'Ten Minutes on' in your podcast app, or go to our website to listen directly: jpit.uk/podcast.



Greening your church

The URC's Environmental Policy has set a target of the Church being net-zero in our carbon emissions by 2030, as part of our commitment to caring for God's creation.



There are lots of ways that your church can move towards this goal. Our 5-minute video gives advice on starting and continuing your eco journey.

linktr.ee/ecovideo

We have a **second video** now available to watch or download, where Simeon Mitchell, Secretary for Church & Society, introduces the URC's Environmental Policy.

We're delighted that 35% of URC congregations, including LEPS, have registered with Eco Church (or Eco-Congregation in Scotland), but we'd like that to be 100%, and for all congregations to be working towards their 'Bronze' award or beyond.

The most recent recipients of a Bronze award are Ashton on Mersey URC, Denholme Shared Church, Primley Church, Southernhay URC and Taunton URC – congratulations! We have 66 churches that have reached Silver and four have received their Gold award.