Church & Society
Synod Update Autumn 2022

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/csupdateppt

Don't send refugees to Rwanda

Earlier this year, the UK government announced plans to deny people the opportunity to seek asylum in the UK, and instead take them to Rwanda if they arrive here by an 'unofficial' route.

The Revd Clare Downing, speaking as Moderator of the General Assembly, called the policy 'disgraceful and dishonourable' (bit.ly/csupdate01), and in July, General Assembly passed a resolution urging all churches and members to write to their MPs about the issue. We have an example message you can use as a starting point, with advice on how to contact your MP: bit.ly/csupdate02.

Cost of Living

As living costs continue to rise, millions of households in the UK are struggling to make ends meet. A report by Professor Donald Hirsch

concludes that many face going without food or heating, because the support they've been given simply doesn't stretch far enough.

The Revd Fiona Bennett, Moderator of the General Assembly, was a signatory of a letter to the UK government issued by 60 faith groups, charities and political leaders, appealing for appropriate measures to help those on the lowest incomes have enough to live. You can read the report and the letter here: jpit.uk/enoughtolive.

URC Environmental Policy

The General Assembly gave its support to an updated Environmental Policy, which will be implemented from January 2023.

The purpose of the policy is to enable us to respond in faith to the climate emergency. It sets out an ambition for the URC to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2030 and to put in place plans to achieve this.

It requires everyone to take action. You can read the updated policy here: bit.ly/csupdate03

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