

Paper D2

Report of URC Mission committee held 10-11 October 2024.

Currently I represent Thames North Synod on the Mission Committee. Here are a few items which we hope will be of interest to you from the committee's current agenda and discussions. Please do feed these into your local church and LAG and respond as appropriate.

1. There is a new page on the URC Website about Evangelism with useful links and resources. Find out more at <https://urc.org.uk/your-faith/evangelism-in-the-urc>.
2. Karen Campbell, Secretary for Global and Intercultural Ministries is not sure that she knows about all the partnerships churches have with churches around the world. If you would like to email brief info on this to her at Karen.campbell@urc.org.uk she would be very grateful.
3. Similarly, Kevin Snyman Global and Intercultural Ministries Programme Officer would be interested to know of any contacts churches have with Lebanon or anything you are doing around the issue or praying for it. Contact him at kevin.snyman@urc.org.uk .
4. Constituency Action Network (CAN): We are part of this via our Joint Public Issues Team (JPIT) <https://jpit.uk/constituencyactionnetwork/can> is creating a network of congregations that are committed to developing a meaningful relationship with their MP. Please promote CAN and sign up! Roo Stewart, our Head of Public Issues would love to hear from you if your church has connected in any way with your MP locally and you can do so via Roo.stewart@urc.org.uk. A new parliament is always a good time to connect with your MP.
5. Mission Enablers Network will meet on 22 October. The agenda will include looking at various evangelism resources, including Shine Your Light, an initiative for Christmas outreach events <https://www.shineyourlight.org.uk>.
6. Following the General Assembly resolution on poverty work continues to establish a Community Enabling Fund. More to follow later.
7. The Mission team is continuing to map URC Christian communities outside of traditional models of church and you can pass on details of these to Lindsey Brown, Evangelism and Ecumenical officer at lindsey.brown@urc.org.uk
8. Planning for the Joint Mission / Discipleship residential conference 'Conversations at the Crossroads' in January 2025 is well under way.
9. A new process for Synod reporting NetZero progress is being developed.
10. The next Buildings for Mission Forum Webinar, on Tuesday 12 November 11.30 – 1pm with a theme of 'Transforming your church building and its land'.
11. There is some discussions taking place with the Open Table Network (OTN) about possible training about LGBTQIA+ issues.

Eddie Boon October 2024