

## REPRESENTATIVE SESSION

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

09:15 Service of Holy Communion

10:30 Coffee Break

11:00 Administration

**Agenda Item 10: GOD IN LOVE UNITES US: The report of the Marriage and Relationships Task Group** (Agenda pages 58-124)  
Resolution 10/1 (page 121)

Report from the Faith and Order Committee (Order Paper pages 38-41)  
Resolution FO/1 (Order Paper page 41)

Resolutions 10/2, 10/3 (page 121)

Second Report from the Faith and Order Committee (Order Paper pages 38-41)  
Resolution FO/2 (Order Paper page 41)  
Resolution 10/4 (page 121)

Report from the Faith and Order Committee (Order Paper pages 38-41)  
Resolution FO/3 (Order Paper page 41)  
Resolution 10/5 (page 121)

Resolution 10/6 (pages 121-122)

Resolution 10/7 (pages 122-123) *[voting by ballot]*

13:00 Lunch

14:15 **Agenda Item 10: GOD IN LOVE UNITES US: The report of the Marriage and Relationships Task Group** (Agenda pages 58-124)

Amended Resolution 10/8 (Order Paper page 34) *[voting by ballot]*  
Resolutions 10/8A, 10/8B (Order Paper page 34)  
Memorial M35: Same sex marriage  
Memorial M36: Same sex marriage

Second Report of the Faith and Order Committee (Order Paper pages 38-41, 47)  
Resolution FO/4 (Order Paper page 41, 47) *[voting by ballot]*  
Notice of Motion 2019/102: Marriage and Relationships (Order Paper pages 48-49)  
*[voting by ballot]*  
Resolution 10/9 (pages 123-124) *[voting by ballot]*

Resolution 10/10 (page 124)  
Memorial M33: Same sex marriage  
Memorial M34: Votes on resolutions regarding Marriage and Human Relationships

Resolution 10/10A (Order Paper page 34)

Resolution 10/11 (Order Paper page 49)

Notice of Motion 2019/213: Other Churches and Marriage and Relationships

16:15 Tea Break

16:45 **Agenda Item 6: Joint Advisory Committee on the Ethics of Investment** (Agenda pages 42-49)  
Resolution 6/1 (page 48)

**Agenda Item 18: Methodist Joint Confirmation Guidelines** (Agenda pages 184-186)  
Resolutions 18/1, 18/2, 18/3 (page 186)

***Methodist Council, Part 2, Section M: The Unfinished Agenda (pages 219-222)***

Resolutions 20/17, 20/18 (page 222)

Notice of Motion 2019/206: Review of procedures following incidents of hate or unlawful discrimination

Notice of Motion 2019/207: EDI concerns in stationing

Notice of Motion 2019/211: The work of the EDI Committee

***Methodist Council, Part 2, Section S: Net Zero Emissions (pages 235-236)***

Resolutions 20/26, 20/27 (pages 236)

Memorial M54: Eco Church

Memorial M55: Declaration of Climate Emergency

Notice of Motion 2019/104: Amended reply to Memorial M55

Notice of Motion 2019/204: Reducing the Use of Plastic

18:30 Evening prayers

18:45 Adjourn

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### **Election of Members of the Conference Business Committee**

#### **\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**BC/1. The Conference suspends SO 136(1A) and resolves that the election of the lay member of the Business Committee be by a majority vote.**

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### **THIRD REPORT OF THE LAW AND POLITY CONFERENCE SUB-COMMITTEE**

#### **Draft Reply to Memorial M4**

The Law and Polity Conference Sub-Committee is of the view that there is a conflict between the current practice that the memorial describes and the terms of Standing Order 955(6)(b)(iii). The fact that there is a conflict is not fully reflected in the draft reply.

The draft reply does, however, identify the practical problem which arises when it is unknown how much of the proceeds of the disposition will be applied to the replacement project until some considerable time later. It follows that there is a policy question whether Standing Order

955(6)(b)(iii) should be followed or whether it should be amended in the light of the practical situation, and if so, how.

The committee therefore invites the Conference to refer the memorial to the Methodist Council to consider the policy issues and, if appropriate, to consult the Law and Polity Committee on any amendments to Standing Orders.

### **\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**LP/3. The Conference resolves that the second and third paragraphs of the draft reply to Memorial 4 are deleted and that the last paragraph is replaced by the following:**

**The Conference therefore refers the memorial to the Methodist Council to consider the policy issues raised and, if appropriate, to consult the Law and Polity Committee on any amendments to Standing Orders.**

### **Draft Reply to Memorial M5**

The Law and Polity Conference Sub-Committee is of the view that there is uncertainty as to the usual terms and conditions employed by parking enforcement companies, as a result of which the nature of the right to recover a penalty charge is at present unclear. It would be premature to formulate guidance until the legal position is clearer.

The committee therefore invites the Conference to refer the memorial to the Methodist Council for further consideration of the issues raised.

### **\*\*\*RESOLUTION**

**LP/4. The Conference resolves that the second and third paragraphs of the draft reply to Memorial 5 are deleted and are replaced by the following:**

**Given the current uncertainty as to aspects of the legal position, it would be premature to formulate the guidance which has been requested, but the Conference notes the significant practical difficulties facing churches in such circumstances and refers the memorial to the Methodist Council for further consideration of the issues raised.**

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## **ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE CONFERENCE AGENDA**

### **AGENDA ITEM 5: CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS (Pages 40-41)**

#### **Resolution 5/2**

*Amend list of overseas partner churches to read:*

#### *Europe:*

Northern: United Methodist Church in Northern Europe and Eurasia

Central/Southern: United Methodist Church in Central and Southern Europe

Germany: Evangelisch-methodistische Kirche

Italy: L'Opera per le Chiese Evangeliche Metodiste in Italia (OPCEMI)

Portugal: Igreja Evangelica Metodista Portuguesa

#### *Africa:*

Zambia: United Church of Zambia

Benin: Eglise Protestante Méthodiste du Bénin

Sierra Leone: Methodist Church Sierra Leone  
Gambia: Methodist Church The Gambia  
Rwanda: Free Methodist Church of Rwanda

*Asia/Pacific:*

Bangladesh: Church of Bangladesh  
Papua New Guinea: United Church in Papua New Guinea  
Church of North India: Church of North India  
Fiji: Methodist Church in Fiji  
Australia: Uniting Church in Australia

*Latin American and Caribbean:*

MCCA : Methodist Church in the Caribbean and Americas  
El Salvador: Iglesia Evangelica Metodista en El Salvador  
Bolivia: Iglesia Evangelica Metodista en Bolivia  
Venezuela: Comunidad Cristiana Metodista de Venezuela  
Guatemala: Iglesia Evangélica Nacional Metodista de Guatemala

**Resolution 5/7**

*Delete Channel Islands and Newcastle-upon-Tyne*

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**MATTERS RELATING TO AGENDA ITEM 10: GOD IN LOVE UNITES US**

**Report from the Faith and Order Committee (Order Paper page 41)**

*Amend second sentence at top of page to read:*

***Within the Methodist Church this is understood in two ways: that marriage can only be between a man and a woman; that marriage can be between any two people. The Methodist Church affirms both understandings and makes provision in its Standing Orders for them.***

*Amend last two sentences of Resolution FO/4 to read:*

***Within the Methodist Church this is understood in two ways: that marriage can only be between a man and a woman; that marriage can be between any two people. The Methodist Church affirms both understandings and makes provision in its Standing Orders for them.***

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**Resolution 10/8**

The Marriage and Relationships Task Group proposes to move resolution 10/8 in the amended form submitted by the Law and Polity Conference Sub-Committee, printed here for convenience:

**\*\*\*RESOLUTIONS**

- 10/8.** The Conference consents in principle to the marriage of same-sex couples on Methodist premises throughout the Connexion and by Methodist ministers, probationers or members in so far as the law of the relevant jurisdiction permits or requires and subject to compliance with such further requirements, if any, as that law imposes.
- 10/8A.** For the purposes of section 26A of the Marriage Act 1949 (as inserted by section 4(1) of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013) the Conference consents to the marriage of same sex couples and accordingly authorises the managing trustees or, if none, the trustees, of any Methodist building in England and Wales capable of registration under section 43A of the Marriage Act 1949 (as amended by paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013) to register that building under that section.

10/8B. For the purposes of the Marriage (Scotland) Act 1977 as amended by the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014, the Conference resolves that Methodist ministers, probationers or members may be nominated by the Methodist Church in Scotland to the Registrar General in Scotland to be registered to solemnise same sex marriage and that same-sex marriages may be solemnised on Methodist premises in Scotland if the managing trustees so permit and all other relevant legal requirements have been satisfied.

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Notice of Motion 2019/102: Marriage and Relationships  
(proposed Standing Order amendments revised after consultation with the Law and Polity Conference Sub-Committee)

Delete existing resolution 10/9 and replace it with new resolution 10/9 as follows:

10/9 The Conference amends Standing Orders as follows:

011A Marriage.

**(1) *The Methodist Church welcomes everyone, whether or not a member, who enquires about an intended marriage in any of its places of worship.***

~~(1) (2) The Methodist Church believes that marriage is a gift of God and that it is God's intention that a marriage should be~~ ***is given by God to be a particular channel of God's grace, and that it is in accord with God's purposes when a marriage is*** a life-long union in body, mind and spirit of one man and one woman ***who freely enter it.*** ~~The Methodist Church welcomes everyone, whether or not a member, who enquires about an intended marriage in any of its places of worship.~~

**(3) *The Methodist Church also acknowledges that some of its members believe that it is in accord with God's purposes when a marriage is a life-long union in body, mind and spirit of any two people who freely enter it.***

011B Divorce, Remarriage, Marriage of Same Sex Couples and Respect for Conscience

~~(2)(1)~~ Divorce ***in a court of the land*** does not of itself prevent a person being married in any Methodist place of worship.

~~(3)(2)~~ Under no circumstances does the Conference require any person authorised to conduct marriages who is subject to the discipline of the Church as a minister, probationer, ***officer*** or member to officiate at ***or participate in*** the marriage of a particular couple, should it be contrary to the dictates of his or her conscience to do so.

~~(4)(3)~~ ***When:***

(i) ~~A~~ a minister ~~or,~~ probationer ***is stationed in a new appointment;*** or

(ii) ***it is proposed that a member who is should become*** authorised to conduct marriages

~~but who~~ ***and he or she*** for reasons of conscience will never officiate at the marriages of couples in particular circumstances, ~~shall refer such couples to an authorised colleague who is not so prevented~~ ***the person concerned shall participate in a pastoral conversation on the matter with the District Chair and the Superintendent of the relevant Circuit (if he or she is not the Superintendent). Every effort shall be made to***

*ensure that no individual is placed under any pressure to act against the dictates of conscience.*

- (4) *Whether or not the law of the relevant jurisdiction requires that Methodist premises must be registered for same-sex marriages before such marriages can take place, no same-sex marriage may take place on Methodist premises unless the managing trustees or, if none, the trustees, have approved the use of the premises for that purpose and taken any steps which may be necessary under the applicable law.*
- (5) *A minister, probationer or member who is asked to officiate at the marriage of a mixed-sex couple in Methodist premises which are appropriately registered for the purpose (where registration is required) but who is prevented from officiating for reasons of conscience shall refer the couple to an authorised colleague who is not so prevented.*
- (6) *A minister, probationer or member who is asked to officiate at the marriage of a same-sex couple in Methodist premises which are appropriately registered for the purpose (where registration is required) but who is prevented from officiating for reasons of conscience shall notify the District Chair, who shall refer the couple to an authorised colleague who is not so prevented.*
- (7) *A couple who seek to be married in Methodist premises which are not appropriately registered for the purpose shall be referred, if registration is required, to the persons responsible for the conduct of marriages at premises which are so registered, preferably in the same circuit. If the person receiving the request is not willing for reasons of conscience to make such a reference, he or she shall soinform the District Chair, who shall make the reference in that person's place.*
- (8) *No minister, probationer or member may agree to conduct a same-sex wedding without first notifying the District Chair.*
- (9) *The managing trustees or, if none, the trustees of any Methodist premises which are registered for the solemnisation of the marriage of same-sex couples shall ensure that the District Chair is notified of such registration.*

~~(5)~~(10) The Methodist Church opposes discrimination on the basis of **sexuality**, gender or race. Accordingly, if a couple is seeking to be married in a Methodist place of worship no objection to the performance by a particular minister, probationer, **officer** or member of any duty in respect of their proposed marriage shall be entertained on such a ground. No minister, probationer, **officer** or member shall perform the relevant duty or duties in place of the other person concerned or otherwise assist the couple to make the objection effective.

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**\*\*\*ADDITIONAL RESOLUTION**

- 10/11. The Conference directs the Secretary to convene a group of persons representing the L&P Committee, the F&O Committee and the M&R Task Group, to receive the reports of the Synods and the L&P Committee and to report to the Conference of 2020 with appropriate resolutions, including a statement of the ecumenical implications as required under SO 121(2).
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## AGENDA ITEM 34: AUTHORISATIONS COMMITTEE (Pages 341-348)

### Page 343-344, List A

<i>Add</i>	5/24	Herefordshire (South and West)	Joyce Wayman	L
<i>Add</i>	6/3	Farnworth and Worsley	Sarah Knebel	P
<i>Add</i>	6/5	Wigan	Jim Whelan	L
<i>Add</i>	22/6	Derby	Calvin Cheung	P (M)
<i>Add</i>	27/21	Settle	Timothy Broughton	P
<i>Add</i>	28/2	Brownhills and Willenhall	Stuart Reed	P
<i>Add</i>	28/3	Shropshire and Marches	Vivienne Thomas	L
<i>Add</i>	34/4	South Bedfordshire	J Stephen Jones	L
<i>Add</i>	34/4	South Bedfordshire	Roger J Owers	L

### Page 345, List B

<i>Delete</i>	1/1	Cymru	Jonathan Miller	D
<i>Delete</i>	9/13	Kendal	Marc D Jackson	L
<i>Delete</i>	12/1	Camborne Redruth and Hayle	Morwenna Wills	P

### Page 346, List B

<i>Delete</i>	31/2	Strathclyde	Laurent R Vernet	P
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## AGENDA ITEM 40: COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS (Pages 366-375)

### Resolution 40/1.

(v) *for* The Revd Dr Andrew D Wood *read* The Revd Gillian M Newton

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**PRESBYTERS, DEACONS AND LAY PEOPLE  
WHO HAVE ENTERED INTO REST 2019**

*Presbyters*

John Michael Adams	Godfrey Kenyon
Maurice Malcolm Adams	Chris Kirkman
Michael Frank Ayden	Peter Anthony Knight
Charles Banks	James Derrick Leach
David Anthony Barker	Graham Leaman
George Samuel Beck	Christopher John Solven Lewis
Keith Beecroft	George Lovell
Shirley Jean Bench	Terence Robert Lovell
Eric William Blennerhassett	Shirley Ludlow
William Ralph Blow	William McLarnon Lynn
John David Bridge	Kenneth Mondon Marsh
Margaret Gwynne Brindley	Eileen Mason
Gerald Stanley Broadbent	Francis Vernon May
Linda Joanne Brock	Dorothy Heather McGivern
Ruth Mary Carter	Michael Sidney Robert Meech
Peter Egerton Coates	Arthur Charles Tourgis Mignot
Kathleen Corkish	Harry Mills
Edwin Paul Coupland	John Charles Neal
Amos Samuel Cresswell	Isaac Blenkinsop Nixon
Linda Day	Raymond Henry Norgate
Paul Dickinson	John Allan Ogden
Jack Dowson	Daniel Bramwell Booth Parry
Brian David Earley	William Henry Pittam
Reginald Charles Edmonds	Bernard William Price
Paul Ellingworth	David Adam Proud
Kenneth Francis Elworthy	Ronald Roper
Owen Ellis Evans	William Millar Ross
Denis Egerton Gardiner	David Rushton
Pamela Susan Garrud	Alan Skipsey
John Beverley Glover	Christopher Hughes Smith
Colin Norman Gooch	John Gwynne Snaith
Marjorie Grantham	Robert Michael Speed
George Graham	John Spratt Stephens
Barbara Halstead	William Peter Stephens
Derek Hancock	Roger John Steward
Trevor Lewis Hancock	David Stringer
Alan Edward Davidson Harvey	Tom Summersby
Murray John Hasler	Alan Taplin
Geoffrey Bertie Hawkrigde	Ronald Lang Thomas
Alan Frederick Herrick	Derek Thorpe
William Hewison	Raymond Francis Trudgian
Edward Heyes	John Munsey Turner
Ronald James Hockley	Victor Edward Vine
Brian Holliday	Arthur William Wainwright
Deborah Anne Hopkinson	David Stansby Watkinson
Allan James Hughes	Charles Ambrose Watson
Edith Patricia Hunter	Stephen Watts
Peter Jarvis	George Brian Westwood
Keith Roy Jefferies	Herbert W White
Ieuan Alfred Johnston	

*Deacons*

Irene Nora Fowler  
Roger Keith Hensman

Joyce Rawkins  
Patricia Sanders

*Lay People*

Cliff Broad MAYC President, served on connexional bodies for MAYC and the Division of Education and Youth and on the organising committee for London Weekend

Maggie Costen MBE Formerly a member of the connexional Candidates' Selection Committee.

Rosemary Harrison Former chair of the Diaconal Candidates' and Probationers' Oversight Committee, former member of the Diaconal Pastoral Oversight Committee, former member of the Reinstatements Panel

Yvonne Neblett A former member of the Methodist Council, and much involved with the work of the former Committee for Racial Justice. Also a member of the Ministerial Candidates' Selection Committee

Derek Robson Formerly Secretary of the Board of Management for Methodist Residential Schools

*Those who have served as Mission Partners and have died since the last Conference:*

Mrs Vera Atkinson	Jamaica
The Revd Keith Beecroft	Zimbabwe
The Revd William Ralph Blow	India
The Revd Ruth Carter	Sri Lanka
The Revd Reginald Edmonds	Eastern Nigeria
The Revd Dr Paul Ellingworth	Cameroon
The Revd Trevor Hancock	Malaysia
The Revd Alan Harvey	Ghana
The Revd Alan Herrick	India
The Revd Ronald Hockley	India
The Revd Christopher Lewis	The Gambia
The Revd Eileen Mason	Bahamas
The Revd Harry Mills	Kenya
The Revd John Neal	St Kitts, St Eustatius, Virgin Islands, Guyana and Jamaica
The Revd Daniel Parry	Côte d'Ivoire
The Revd William Ross	Bahamas
Professor Lamin Sanneh	Sierra Leone and Ghana
The Revd John Snaith	Nigeria
The Revd Robert Michael Speed	Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands
The Revd Prof William Peter Stephens	The Gambia
The Revd David Stringer	Bolivia
The Revd Raymond Trudgian	Zimbabwe
Miss Edna Whewell	China and Nepal

**235 accredited Local Preachers; the names reported by the Districts are recorded in a Book of Thanksgiving held at Methodist Church House.**

**And many others whose service is known to others and to God.**

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

God our Father, fountain of goodness,  
creator of all that is,  
you have made us in your own image.  
You have given us life and reason,  
and love for one another,  
setting in our hearts a hunger for you.

In darkness you are our light,  
in adversity and temptation our strength.  
You bear patiently with our folly and sin,  
granting us your law to guide us  
and your prophets to renew our faith.

In the fullness of time  
you came to us in love and mercy  
in Jesus Christ, your living Word,  
full of grace and truth.  
He lived among us,  
declaring your forgiveness  
and revealing your wisdom  
in works of mercy and in his word of power.  
For us he suffered and died upon the cross,  
by death destroying death.  
You raised him from the dead  
and exalted him to your right hand on high.  
Through him you sent your Holy Spirit  
to be the life and light of your people,  
gathered together in every time and place  
to glorify your holy name.

With them and all the company of heaven  
we join in the unending hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy God, pour out your Spirit  
that these gifts of bread and wine  
may be for us the body and blood

of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who, on the night in which he was betrayed,  
took bread, gave thanks, broke it,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
'Take this and eat it.  
This is my body given for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.'

In the same way, after supper,  
he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it to them, saying,

'Drink from it, all of you.  
This is my blood of the new covenant,  
poured out for you and for many,  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, whenever you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.'

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

And so, Lord, we obey his command  
with this bread and this cup,  
by which we recall his death and resurrection,  
the source of our life and salvation.  
Grant that we, who share in this holy sacrament,  
may be united by your Spirit  
and grow into perfect love.

Bring us,  
with those who have done your will in every age,  
into the light of your presence  
and the joy of your kingdom.

**Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
we worship you in songs of everlasting praise.  
Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

We say together the prayer that Jesus taught us:  
**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

The things of God for God's holy people.  
**Jesus Christ is holy;  
Jesus Christ is Lord.  
Glory to God the Father.**

A time of silence is held

#### THE SHARING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

The presiding minister, those assisting with the distribution, and the people receive, during which the band sing

Jesus said: 'I am the bread of life.  
Those who come to me shall not hunger  
and those who believe in me shall never thirst.'

Draw near with faith

#### **The Distribution**

#### PRAYERS AND DISMISSAL

Silence

Let us pray.  
**Faithful God,  
with these holy gifts  
you have fed and strengthened us  
in Jesus Christ your Son.  
Guide us on our way,  
that with all your faithful people  
we may come to share the feast  
of your eternal kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**