

Southern Synod

Synod office • East Croydon URC • Addiscombe Grove • Croydon CRO 5LP

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To: All Ministers in a pastorate, Church representatives, Synod/United Area Leaders, Administrators and Treasurers, Local Church Leaders, Children and Youth representatives, Synod Staff, Co-opted members, Retired Ministers, Students and Observers.

22 February 2019

Dear Friend

2019 Spring Synod Together Meeting
Saturday 9 March 2019 10.30 am to 4.30 pm
at East Croydon URC, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon CRo 5LP

Grace, mercy and peace to you.

Moderator Nicola and I look forward to welcoming you to the 2019 Spring Synod Together Meeting at East Croydon URC once again. Your gracious presence and stay throughout the day both enriches the work in the Synod and the time of discerning together what the Spirit will say and lead us to do.

Here are some practical matters for your attention, please:

- 1. East Croydon URC is very close to East Croydon railway, tram and bus stations to which there are very good services from many parts of the Synod. As you exit the station you will come into the tram stop with the Bus station on your left, cross to the other side of the road, turn left and walk for about 150 metres; turn right into Addiscombe Grove and the Church is immediately on your left (just under 5 minutes' walk). Please note that building works are on going next to the church.
- 2. <u>Car parking on the Church site is now limited</u> but reserved parking spaces will be available for those who are "Blue Badge" holders or who really need it. If you wish to apply for one of these spaces, please let my PA Lauren Kane modpa@urcsouthern.org.uk know by Wednesday, 6 March at the latest, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for you.
- 3. Registration will be in the David Sweet Hall, which is at the back of the church and will be done in Synod/United Areas for Ministers, Local Church Leaders and church representatives. All others should please check the allocated tables.
- 4. Voting cards will be given at the registration desk.
- 5. A voluntary contribution of **at least £2** will be welcomed to assist with the cost of pre-meeting coffee, lunchtime soup and afternoon tea, biscuits and cakes at the close of Synod.
- 6. There will be <u>no Children's and Youth Event at this meeting</u>. Also, there will be no facilities for looking after young children.
- 7. All Ministers in active service, church representatives, Synod/United Area Leaders, Administrators and Treasurers, Local Church Leaders, Children and Youth representatives, Synod Staff, and co-opted members are voting members.
- 8. Retired Ministers, Students and Observers are welcome to speak but are not allowed to participate in decision-making.

- 9. We will continue with the theme of 'Walking the Way' at this meeting. Staff from the London Institute of Contemporary Christianity (LICC) will be coming to speak to us about how our Synod will engage with the URC's Walking the Way Pilot Accompanying Programme in the afternoon session.
- 10. Please let us know if you will **not** be able to attend by sending your **apologies** indicating clearly whether you are a minister, church representative etc. and your church to Lauren Kane on modpa@urcsouthern.org.uk
- 11. Finally, don't forget to bring your lunch!!! Soup, tea and coffee will be provided.

May I remind all attending that we rely on you to read the papers before coming and, whilst at the meeting to take note of information to relay back to your various areas, committees and local congregations, please.

Please keep praying for this meeting.

Yours in Christ

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Revd Derrick Sena Dzandu-Hedidor Synod Clerk