

GENERAL SYNOD

Saturday Seminars and Workshops

Summary

This paper sets out the arrangements for the Seminars taking place around York University Campus for General Synod members on the afternoon of Saturday 7th July 2018.

Introduction from the Chair of the Business Committee

1. The Business Committee has agreed that on Saturday afternoon the General Synod will not be in session. The purpose of the afternoon is that members of the Synod will have the opportunity to hear about and contribute to a number of pieces of ongoing work. For some time the Committee has pondered the desire of members to discuss matters in a less binary fashion than our debating structure allows. The sessions held at the Synod last year on various strands of national support for local churches were well received by members. So the Business Committee proposes to offer members a similar opportunity in this group of sessions, drawing together a number of different areas of work which may be of interest to members. This approach has enabled the Committee to accommodate a request to schedule a series of seminars for Synod members on the House of Bishops Teaching Document. We concluded that a seminar-style approach across a range of important issues would offer members an excellent opportunity for constructive engagement and influence.

2. It is in this spirit that the Committee concluded that Synod would be best served by the suspension of Standing Orders and the provision of a “conference style” afternoon offering a choice of seminars and workshops. Our aim for these seminars is that members will learn and talk together, have the opportunity to engage with members of different groups and departments as well as one another and to contribute to the ongoing work of the National Church with our own ideas and questions.

3. The programme for the afternoon comprises
 - four separate seminars and three workshops relating to the four strands of work contributing to the Episcopal Teaching Document on human identity, sexuality and marriage;
 - a seminar on the work of the Pastoral Advisory Group
 - a seminar on mission among children and young people;
 - a seminar on the Church’s environment programme
 - a seminar on digital evangelism; and
 - a seminar on the work of the Archbishops’ Evangelism Task Group

Practical arrangements

4. Each of the 9 seminars will run for a total of 3 times each, allowing members to attend more than one seminar on different subjects. The seating will be limited in some seminars and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.
5. The timings for each of the sessions are as follows:

2.30 – 3.30 p.m.	Seminars run for the first time
3.30 – 4.15 p.m.	Members have 45 minutes to switch between seminars
4.15 – 5.15 p.m.	Seminars run for a second time
5.15 – 6.00 p.m.	Members have 45 minutes to switch between seminars
6.00 – 7.00 p.m.	Seminars run for a third and final time
7.00 – 7.15 p.m.	Evening Prayer run in the seminars

6. The room designation for each of the **seminars** are as follows:

Seminar theme	Room number	Location on campus
Teaching Document: Biblical Studies	D/L/028	Derwent
Teaching Document: Theology	P/T005	Exhibition Centre
Teaching Document: Social & Biblical Sciences	P/T005A	Exhibition Centre
Teaching Document: History	P/T006	Exhibition Centre
Pastoral Advisory Group	James Hall	James College
Children & Young People	SLB/118	Spring Lane
Digital Evangelism	P/X001	Exhibition Centre
Environmental Matters	P/L002	Exhibition Centre
Evangelism Task Group	P/L001	Exhibition Centre

7. The **Teaching Document workshops** will all be located on the ground floor of the **Spring Lane Building**.
8. For **information on the seminars and workshops** – please refer to the attached annexes.

9. The **Prayer Space** dedicated to the work and impact of the Teaching Document will be open in the **Spring Lane Building** throughout the afternoon. The Chapel in the **Berrick Saul Building** will also be open throughout.
10. To help Members navigate the campus, there is a map at the back of this GS Misc paper. Staff will be located around the campus at key points to help guide members to whichever seminar or workshop they wish to attend. Water will be available throughout from the Central Hall and from a water cooler in the Exhibition Centre.

The Revd Canon Sue Booy
Chair of the Business Committee
June 2018

Engaging with... the work of the Teaching Document on human identity, sexuality and marriage



INTERACTIVE SEMINARS: An invitation to go deeper...

Four Thematic Working Groups have been meeting since autumn 2017. Meet the members of these groups, sample some of the work they have been doing, ask questions and engage in mutual learning and discovery.

How do the scriptures help us understand issues of human identity, sexuality and marriage?

BIBLICAL STUDIES



Rt Revd Dr Pete Wilcox
Revd Dr Andy Angel
Revd Dr Isabelle Hamley
Professor Judith Lieu
Dr Nathan MacDonald
Revd Professor Walter Moberly

How do we think theologically about human identity, sexuality and marriage?

THEOLOGY



Rt Revd Dr Martin Warner
Revd Dr Sean Doherty
Professor Mike Higton
Revd Canon Dr Jeremy Worthen

What perspectives do the social and biological sciences bring to our understanding?

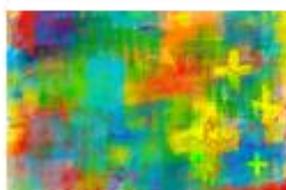
SOCIAL & BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES



Rt Revd Sarah Mullally
Revd Professor Chris Cook
Revd Canon Dr Jessica Martin
Revd Canon Dr Malcolm Brown

A look at issues of human identity, sexuality, marriage and the church through a historical lens.

HISTORY



Rt Revd Tim Dakin
Revd Dr Will Adam
Revd Dr Andrew Atherstone
Revd Professor Mark Chapman
Revd Dr Judith Maltby

PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOPS: An invitation to question & contribute...

These workshops are organised so that you can visit them at your own pace and in your own time throughout Saturday afternoon. Each workshop space will have information about aspects of the work of the Teaching Document and offer ways in which you can participate in shaping its work. One or more members of the Co-ordinating Group for the Teaching Document will be available to respond to your questions and tell you more about the work of the group. These workshops are as much for the benefit of the Teaching Document as to inform you about the project. **Thank you** for participating!



What questions do you, your family, friends, colleagues and people in your community have that you would like to see addressed in the teaching and learning resources we are producing?

Find out about the emerging vision for the Teaching Document and contribute your own thoughts and suggestions.



What is the plan for completing the project? Who else are we involving - how and why? Learn about this and other aspects of the work of the Teaching Document – and tell us what you think.

The following Co-ordinating Group members will be on hand to listen and talk:

Rt Revd Dr Christopher Cocksworth
Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam
Rt Revd Jonathan Baker

Revd Canon Giles Goddard
Revd Dr Jason Roach

Revd Dr Christina Beardsley
Dr Eeva John

Engaging with... the work of the Pastoral Advisory Group



AN INTERACTIVE SEMINAR: An invitation to be informed & to reflect ...

Why has the Pastoral Advisory Group been set up?

What has it been asked to do?

Who is on the group?

How and why will the group connect with churches and individuals?



Members of the group will describe its work and invite your reflections, as it seeks to gather and share good pastoral practice in the ministry and mission of worshipping communities and then open the floor to discussion and reflection.

The following Pastoral Advisory Group members will be on hand to listen and talk:

Rt Revd Christine Hardman
Rt Revd Robert Atwell
Rt Revd Pete Broadbent
Professor Helen Berry

Canon Dr Jamie Harrison
Ed Shaw
Ven Cherry Vann

A space for prayer ...

Please join us in prayer for this task. There will be stations for personal reflection, for praying for different aspects of the work and its impact, and an opportunity to commit to praying for the Teaching Document.



July 2018 General Synod: digital evangelism workshops

Come to July's digital team workshop to learn more about how digital and social media are being used at the Church of England to bring people to faith, grow people's faith and share the common good. We want to hear from General Synod members as we continue the journey and there will be an opportunity throughout to ask questions and feed into the draft plans.

Since the digital update to General Synod in February 2018, the Church of England's digital team has been busy working on several large strategic projects, working closely with colleagues in Church House Publishing and other teams across the National Church Institutions.

The session will be split into the following areas:

- **The official launch of the national Advent and Christmas 2018 campaign** – find out more about the theme and resources that will be made available to dioceses and local churches, both digitally and in print.
- **Lent/Easter 2018 campaign summary** – an overview of this year's campaign and sharing research on how it helped people to grow in their faith.
- **A Church Near You new features** – this key resource for the Church receives more than 13 million page views per year. Find out more about our plans to enable churches to turn their page into a website for free and the new campaigning and news functionality.
- **The development of audio resources for smart speakers such as Amazon's Alexa** – the Digital and Church House Publishing teams delivered the Church's first ever Amazon Alexa smart speaker skill in May 2018. This received a tremendous amount of positive coverage in the press, online, on the radio and TV, particularly as smart devices are now in a quarter of UK homes. Discover more about how the technology is now being used to connect people with prayer, discipleship resources and their local church.

Based on the first 18 months of initial digital work undertaken, which focused on transforming our websites and running compelling campaigns, it is clear there is a huge opportunity to share the good news of Jesus Christ through digital and social media.

We look forward to seeing you and hearing from you at the sessions.

Adrian Harris
Head of Digital
The Church of England

June 2018

GS Seminar

Mission among children and young people

Churches, Schools and Families

1. In Spring this year, our Archbishops asked Diocesan Bishops to discuss the Education and Mission paper with their Senior staff. The paper's aim was to start a conversation about how churches, schools and families might collaborate more effectively to promote mission and ministry with and among children and young people to help them grow and flourish as confident disciples of Jesus Christ.
2. This seminar seeks to broaden the conversation further by engaging Synod members in discussion around:
 - a. The changes required in attitudes and priorities to enable us to serve children and young people more effectively as a church
 - b. The opportunities to build on established practices in Church of England schools which could effectively support parents and churches in nurturing the faith of children and young people
 - c. Training and resources which might be useful to encourage children and young people's discipleship
 - d. The support, help and encouragement needed by parents to confidently live as households in which faith is central to family life.
3. Come and join the conversation. Hear examples of creative ways where ministry and mission among children and young people is happening and share your thoughts about how we can do more to develop this vital ministry.

Mary Hawes
National Going for Growth
(Children and Youth) Adviser

Nigel Genders
Chief Education Officer

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The Archbishops' Evangelism Task Group: Seminars July 2018

The Archbishops' Evangelism Task Group has spent 48 months reflecting together, learning together, and strategizing together to answer the question: "what might enable a cultural change in evangelism across the church?". We invite you to spend 48 minutes with ETG members so that you can share in this reflecting, learning and strategizing.

In a high-energy and highly participative seminar we will

- reflect together on the culture change that has occurred in the church – the signs of change, the reasons for that change and the particular changes yet to advocate for.
- share our learning, seeking to set out why we put energies and effort in our own specific priority areas, and in turn explore what further needs to be noted.
- set out the necessary ongoing commitments in Evangelism and Witness and explore where these will now be held and what responsibility each of us needs to take.

Above and through it all we seek to highlight the beautiful vocation that evangelising is, and the joy and freedom that this primary calling brings to the Church of Jesus Christ.

¹⁴ For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. ¹⁵ And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

2 Corinthians 5:14-15