

1/1 The Conference in its Presbyteral Session assembled in Leeds at 14.15, The Revd Gillian M Newton, the President of the Conference, in the Chair.

1/2 **HOLY COMMUNION**

The Conference shared in a service of Holy Communion, during which The Revd Ruth M Gee, Past President of the Conference, preached.

1/3 The Conference adjourned at 15.28.

1/4 The Conference reassembled at 16.15.

1/5 **MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONFERENCE**

The Conference adopted the membership of this Session of the Conference, being those presbyters who are listed in the Agenda (pp 737-742) as members of the Representative Session, with any substitutions duly made, together with the officers of this session appointed by the last Conference, associate members, and those presbyters listed in the Agenda (p 743) who have received the permission of their Synods or, where appropriate, the President to attend this Session by their own arrangement, with the following notes, substitutions and corrections:

Conference Secretariat and other Officers

11 The Revd Catherine Dixon is unable to attend the Conference

Wales Synod Cymru

66 The Revd Janet Park is unable to attend the Presbyteral Session of the Conference

Bolton and Rochdale

80 The Revd Faith Nyota *vice* The Revd Wilfred W Robinson

PRESBYTERS ATTENDING THE PRESBYTERAL SESSION UNDER THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS

deleting The Revd Dr Valentin Dedji

deleting The Revd Pauline M Salter

adding The Revd Wendy Kilworth-Mason

deleting The Revd Rosemarie E G Clarke, but noting that as the Assistant Record Secretary of the Presbyteral Session of the Conference, Ms Clarke is a full member of the Session by virtue of Clause 14(2)(iv) of the Deed of Union and Standing Order 101(3)

1/6 **LETTERS**

The Conference directed that letters of greeting be sent to presbyters with more than 70 years of service:

The Revd Trevor S Bates (1953)

The Revd W Graeme Butler (1954)

The Revd Joseph F Collinson (1951)

The Revd John H S Crossley (1951)
 The Revd Kenneth Cupit (1954)
 The Revd Ralph E Fennell (1953)
 The Revd Harry W Gillespie (1949)
 The Revd Stephen J Grieves-Smith (1952)
 The Revd Antony M Hearle (1947)
 The Revd Ivan R Homer (1954)
 The Revd Peter G Jarvis (1951)
 The Revd Rowland G Joiner (1954)
 The Revd Roy Kilner (1953)
 The Revd George W S Knowles (1949)
 The Revd Frederick G J Manuell (1954)
 The Revd John L Mitchell (1952)
 The Revd Dr Albert W Mosley (1948)
 The Revd J Clive Pugh (1953)
 The Revd Eric J Renouf (1954)
 The Revd Colin G Rowe (1951)
 The Revd Frank W Smith (1953)
 The Revd John E Stanfield (1948)
 The Revd Alan M Thompson (1954)
 The Revd Dr John J Vincent (1953)
 The Revd E Raymond Watker (1954)

1/7 HOURS OF SESSION

The Conference agreed that these should be 14.15-15.45 and 16.15-18.30 on Thursday, 27 June; 09.15-10.45, 11.15-12.15, 12.30-13.00, 14.15-16.15 and 16.45-18.30 on Friday, 28 June.

1/8 APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

The Conference appointed the Scrutineers as follows:

The Revd R Margaret K Mwailu (Chief Scrutineer)	The Revd Leigh A Maydew
The Revd Iris R Bray	The Revd Stephen J Radford
The Revd Julie Hassall	The Revd Julia Skitt
	The Revd Luke G S Smith

1/9 APPOINTMENT OF ATTESTORS

The Revds Calvin Cheung and Andrew C Moffoot were appointed to attest the 'written portion' of the Daily Record of the Presbyteral Session.

1/10 4. REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERAL SESSION BUSINESS COMMITTEE

The Conference adopted Resolution 4/1.

1/11 5. CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS

1/11/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 5/3 in the form:

The Presbyteral Session of the Conference resolves that whenever it goes into closed session its membership, except when Standing Order 1145(7) applies, or the Conference otherwise resolves, shall be confined to presbyters who are entitled to vote on the business under consideration.

1/11/2 The Conference adopted Resolutions 5/4, 5/5 and 5/6.

- 1/12 The President of the Conference facilitated a discussion on the theme ***Doing Things Right or Doing the Right Thing?*** in which The Revds Etleva Walker, Andrew C Moffoot, Julia Skitt and Stephen J Charman made contributions.
- 1/13 The Conference shared in worship, and adjourned at 18.31.

- 2/1 The Conference assembled at 9.15, and shared in worship.
- 2/2 **PASTORAL ADDRESS**
The President addressed the Conference.
- 2/3 The Conference adjourned at 10.40.
- 2/4 The Conference reassembled at 11.15.
- 2/5 The Conference engaged in discussion of **Agenda item 32. Review of Part 11 of Standing Orders.**
- 2/6 **OBITUARIES**
The Conference adopted the Obituaries as printed and circulated to the Conference, and the Obituaries below,

for 'Lionel Edward Osborn' reading 'Lionel Edwin Osborn',

and directing that if, after checks have been carried out in the Conference library, it is necessary to correct inaccuracies in these Obituaries, the Secretary of the Conference be authorised to make such corrections before the Obituaries are published in the Minutes of the Conference.

Cesar Anibal Guidi: Born in Buenos Aires, Argentina on 28 May 1944, and spent the first twenty-three years of his life there. After completing secondary education, Cesar entered the Faculty of Theology in Buenos Aires. From there he decided to become a volunteer for the World Council of Churches and was sent to Sicily for a year where he worked in a children's home in Palermo. It was with the 'Italian Team' and their regular retreats that he met Gill. In 1970 Cesar and Gill were married in Gill's home town of Harrow, and began their life together. The next year they were able to make their way to Argentina by ship, taking as many belongings as they were allowed. Cesar's first ministerial appointment was in Patagonia where he worked amongst the Welsh community. He was then moved a thousand miles north to minister to a small church community near the River de la Plata. When their first son Pablo was born the new family decided to travel back to England to visit Gill's relatives. It was about this time that the military government was in power in Argentina and things were very unsettled. Cesar decided to stay in England and spent several years working in non-church jobs. Their second son Robert was born in 1975. In 1982 Cesar applied to Wesley College to complete his ministerial training. He served in the following Circuits: Bristol (Frome Valley), Oxford, Newquay, Perranporth and St. Agnes, and Watford. He retired to Amersham but eventually moved with Gill to Ormskirk to live near their oldest son, Pablo. In his retirement amongst his hobbies he enjoyed singing with the local community choir, cooking and running the local U3A Philosophy Group. He was much missed by family in the UK and in Argentina with whom he kept close contact. An Argentinian hymn was sung at his funeral: "Heaven is singing for joy Hallelujah, for in your life and mine is shining the love of our God". Cesar died on 27 February 2024 in the eightieth year of his age and the forty-third year of his presbyteral ministry.

Martin Howard Wray: Born in Halifax on 21 July 1946. His father died when he was young and his mother and aunt helped to bring him up. He went to catering college and subsequently worked in the kitchens at Leeds University, and pubs in the Yorkshire Dales. His uncle Tom was a Methodist local preacher and Martin followed in his footsteps, eventually candidating for the ministry and, after acceptance, being sent for training at Wesley College, Bristol. Forming part of his studies was a period of two years at The Methodist Theological School in Delaware, Ohio with a placement in a local church there. Martin served in the following Circuits: Tonbridge, Grays, Otley and Aireborough, Middlewich, Chorley, where he was superintendent minister, and Bolton. In 1998 he was given permission by the Methodist Conference to move into ministry in the sectors, giving him the freedom to develop his interest in spiritual direction, particularly drawing on the insights of St Teresa of Avila and St Ignatius Loyola. In 2010 Martin was invited to give an ecumenical perspective of St Teresa in a lecture to the International Teresian Conference in Avila, Spain. More locally, this next part of his ministry led to significant involvement at the Tabor Retreat Centre in Preston and Loyola Hall, Rainhill, Merseyside. Those post-1998 years opened a door, literally, Martin and Anne's house door, to many ministers and lay people from within the Methodist Church and beyond who came to benefit from Martin's wide reading, his profound sensitivity to the ebbs and flows of the human soul and his reminding them of the everlasting and unfailing mercies of God. For Martin, the joys of family were special. His wife Anne, children Laura, Tom and Melanie, and his grandchildren were held high in affection. At the time of Martin's death, Anne had been running for over thirty years a financial advisory service which proved helpful to many clergy. In his final years Martin became involved in the life of the parish church of Chorley and so it was fitting that Methodist, Anglican and Roman Catholic clergy took part in his funeral. Martin died on 23 April 2024 in the seventy-eighth year of his age and the fifty-second year of his presbyteral ministry.

2/7 The Conference adjourned at 12.03.

2/8 The Conference reassembled at 12.30.

2/9 **MEMORIAL SERVICE**

A solemn Memorial Service was held during which the Secretary of the Conference read the names of those presbyters who had died during the year, as follows:

Crispian Thomas Acher**
 Frances Anne Ballantyne**
 Goh Peng Beh
 Margaret Mary Bethel
 David Blanchflower
 John David Bland
 Richard Martin Broadbent*
 Peter Brooks
 Vernon Thomas Bullock
 Keith Burchell
 Jack Robert Burton
 Elizabeth Alice Childs**
 Norma Beryl Couldwell
 David Stanbury Cruise**
 Derek Hubert Alfred Davidson*
 William Rhys Davies**
 John Edward Davis
 Douglas Allan Dennis
 Harry Alan Dodd

Stephen Richard Donoghue*
 Donald McNaughton Eadie*
 Roy Sidney Everitt
 John Farrimond
 Geoffrey Norman Kay Gee
 Robert Drummond Gillespie
 John Goatley
 Margaret Winifred Graham
 Peter Charles Graves**
 David John Griffiths*
 Dennis Griffiths**
 Cesar Anibal Guidi
 Terence Harris**
 John Barrie Hirst
 Keith Angus Horton
 James Housman Hunkin
 Derek Richard Illsley
 Keith Jump*
 Alfred Lawson

David Wilfred Le Poidevin*
 David Lee
 Kenneth Mankin
 Robert Arthur Marsh*
 Ian Mason
 Robert Brian Mavers
 John Brian McCarthy
 Roger Lionel Moore
 Irene Elizabeth Morrow
 Ian Wesley Mutton
 James Needham
 Brian Newbold**
 Lionel Edwin Osborn
 Daniel James Reid Paterson*
 Marcus Alwyn Pattern
 Julia Mabel Pellett*
 Stanley Ralph Pipe
 Terence William Porter
 Antony Howard Price
 John Edward Pullen*
 Janet Elizabeth Roe*
 Geoffrey William Scarlett

William Frederick Seymour*
 Brian Norman Shackleton**
 Gordon Shaw
 John Brian Sherrington*
 John Basil Siddons*
 Barrie David Snook
 Martine Keala Stemerick
 Mary Stott**
 Albert Juan Thompson
 Clifford Topping
 Ioane Tupou
 Laurence John Turner
 Joan Margaret Verity
 Marion Isabella Enid Warren
 Paul Trevor Waterfield
 Stanley Maurice Weary*
 Robert White
 John Mark White
 Donald Morley Wilkes
 Thomas Mercer Witham**
 Martin Howard Wray
 Maurice Harold Wright

* Presbyters who had died before or during the previous Conference but whose Obituaries are presented to this Conference.

** Obituaries for these presbyters will be presented to the next Conference.

- 2/10 The Conference adjourned at 13.06.
- 2/11 The Conference reassembled at 14.15.
- 2/12 The Revd Michaela A Youngson facilitated the Conference in a discussion about ***The Stationing Review***.
- 2/13 The Conference went into closed session at 15.15.
- 2/14 **41. MINISTERIAL CANDIDATES' AND PROBATIONERS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**
2. Candidates for Presbyteral Ministry
- 2/14/1 The Conference concurred with the recommendation of the Candidates' Appeals Committee.
- 2/14/2 The Conference, with the required majority, recommended acceptance by the Representative Session of the following candidates, to proceed unconditionally into pre-ordination training:

Kieran Matthew Bohan
 Thomas Richard Clayton
 Paul Michael Coleman
 Samantha Ashley Cree
 Thomas Ferguson
 Susan Elinor Groves
 Kerry Louise Halliday
 Jonathan Hood
 Hayley Anne James

Ka Fai Stephen Lau
 Mwadzipaura Magaisa
 Luke Rhys McLeod
 Genevieve Mawufemor Musey
 Claire Louise Nott
 Sophia Jemima Odoom
 Joanne Rose Peek
 Sarah Jane Reed
 Aqeela Tanveer

Louisa Joanne Taylor

Marc Alexander Stuart
Williamson

2/14/3 The Conference, with the required majority, recommended acceptance by the Representative Session of the following candidate, to proceed into pre-ordination training upon fulfilment of a stated condition:

Sue Ann Mak

2/14/4 The Conference, with the required majority, adopted Resolution 41/2.

2/15 **1. Special Reports**

2/15/1 The Conference received a report that the following conditionally accepted candidate has still to fulfil the stated condition:

Olive Ruvimbo Ruzvidzo

2/15/2 The Conference agreed the following changes in expected date of Reception into Full Connexion:

To a later date:

Chi Lok (Rocky) Chan 2027 (from 2026)

Rachel Read 2027 (from 2026)

2/15/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 41/1.

2/16 **3. Preachers Recommended for Continuance on Trial**

The Conference adopted Resolution 41/4,

<i>for</i>	* Chan	Chi Lok (Rocky)	2026
<i>reading</i>	* Chan	Chi Lok (Rocky)	2027

<i>for</i>	Read	Rachel	2026
<i>reading</i>	* Read	Rachel	2027

2/17 **4. Preachers on Trial presented to the Conference for Reception into Full Connexion**

2/17/1 The Conference accepted the recommendation of the Candidates' and Probationers' Oversight Committee that the following are fit to be admitted into Full Connexion with the Conference as presbyters:

Jonathan Bell
Evelyn Bhajan
Sarah Louise Caddell
Rachel Irene Collins
Tiras Philip Dainty-Share
Anne Mary Day
Steven David Donnison
Rebecca Elizabeth Fugill
Catharine Hughes
Juliet Aritey Kisob
Joyce Mayisiri
Alexandra Dagmar Middleton-Laing

Rachel Moss
Rosemary Mutopo
Michelle Onyett
James Alan Patterson
Philip Robinson
Matthew Barrie Smith
Steven Sutton
Marcia Yvonne Tull
Wendy Walker
Fiona Weir
Blayze Kyle White

- 2/17/2 The Conference, by a Standing Vote, adopted Resolution 41/5.
- 2/18 **38. PRESBYTERAL TRANSFERS AND REINSTATEMENTS**
- 1. Recommendations of the Committee for the Discernment of Ordained Vocation acting as a Transfer Committee (under S.O.730)**
- 2/18/1 The Conference, with the required majority, recommended acceptance by the Representative Session of the following applicants for transfer to be received into Full Connexion:
- Quophie Anochie Ababio (Methodist Church Ghana)
 Kim Leslie Alexander (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
 Tokunbo Ezekiel Olusegun Asogbon (Methodist Church Nigeria)
 Fiona Marie Calverey (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
 Kennedy Gondongwe (Methodist Church Zimbabwe)
 Helen Lawson (Church of the Nazarene)
 Allen Moyo (Methodist Church Zimbabwe)
 Peggy Mulambya-Kabonde (United Church of Zambia)
 Adrian Trevor Roux (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
 Bethany Marie Willers (United Methodist Church, Iowa Annual Conference)
- 2/18/2 The Conference, with the required majority, recommended acceptance by the Representative Session of the following former presbyter of another church to be received into Full Connexion:
- Steven Granville Jones (ex Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
- 2/18/3 The Conference accepted the recommendation of the Transfer Committee that the following be recognised and regarded as presbyters in Full Connexion with the Conference under Standing Order 732(2) and (3):
- Christopher Nyarko Andam (Methodist Church Ghana)
 Opeyemi Olufemi Awe (Methodist Church Nigeria)
 Donna Lynne Fowler-Marchant (United Methodist Church, North Carolina Conference)
 Jacqueline Anne (Rivas) Jones (Methodist Church of Southern Africa)
 Sean Colin Turner (United Methodist Church, Western North Carolina Conference)
- 2/18/4 The Conference adopted Resolution 38/1,
- pp 455-456, *moving* those listed under 1.5 to 1.3 and the person listed under 1.7(b) to 1.7(a)
- 2/18/5 The Conference, by a Standing Vote, adopted Resolution 38/2.
- 2/19 **37. PERMISSIONS TO SERVE**
- The Conference adopted Resolution 37/1,
- p 454, **2. Transfer to other Conferences and Denominations**
for No case
reading Darren J Holland (United Reformed Church)
 Robert D Lewis (United Methodist Church, Virginia Conference)

2/20 **RESIGNATIONS**

The Conference received a report that the President had accepted the resignation of the following presbyters in Full Connexion, according them the status indicated:

J Andrew M Clark	no status
Edwin T Myers	no status
Mervyn P Oliver	no status
Fidelio R Patron	no status
Peter J Pillinger	no status
Judith M Satchell	no status
Christine Taylor	member

2/21 **REPORT OF CONNEXIONAL DISCIPLINE AND APPEAL COMMITTEES**

2/21/1 A report was presented to the Conference on behalf of the Convenors of Connexional Discipline, Pastoral and Appeal Committees.

2/21/2 The Conference noted that Andrew M Emison and Christopher J Collins had ceased to be presbyters in Full Connexion with the Conference.

2/22 The Conference adjourned at 16.03.

2/23 The Conference reassembled in open session at 16.47.

2/24 The Revd Dr Mark Rowland and the Revd Kerry W Tankard introduced **Agenda Item 28: The Role of the District Chair**. The Conference engaged in discussion.

2/25 **44. PRESBYTERS BECOMING SUPERNUMERARY OR RETURNING TO THE ACTIVE WORK**

2/25/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 44/1,

p 501, in **1. Recommended to return to the active work**
for No case
reading Hee Gon Moon
Ernest Grimshaw

p 501, in **4. Presbyters requesting permission to become supernumerary**
adding Sally Binymin (16)

2/25/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 44/2, noting the correction under **4.** above.

2/26 **ANNUAL INQUIRY**

The Chairs of the Districts gave to the Conference the assurances as to the character and discipline of the presbyters and presbyteral probationers required by Standing Order 154, noting the number of those who had not been able to answer in the affirmative this year.

2/27 The Conference shared in worship.

2/28 The Conference resolved by a Standing Vote to adjourn to 14.15 on Saturday 29 June for the Representative Session.

2/29 The Conference adjourned at 17.40.

2/30

LETTERS

Letters of thanks were sent in the name of the Conference to the musicians who had played for the worship during the session.

3/1 The Conference in its Representative Session assembled in Leeds at 14.15, The Revd Gillian M Newton, the President of the Conference, in the Chair.

3/2 **PRAYERS**

The Conference shared in worship, during which the President of the Methodist Church in Ireland, The Revd Dr John Alderdice, led prayers.

3/3 **MEMBERSHIP OF THE CONFERENCE**

The Conference adopted the membership of this session of the Conference as set out in the Agenda (pp 737-742), as amended by Daily Record 1/5, with the following notes, substitutions and corrections:

Bristol

89 Ingram Rose *vice* Mr Michael C Pryke

East Anglia

109 The Revd Jacqueline S Goddard is unable to attend the Conference

Nottingham and Derby

141 Deacon Ruth Richey *vice* Deacon Helen Snowball

Yorkshire North and East

187 Mrs Lydia Harrison is unable to attend the Conference

Bedfordshire, Essex and Hertfordshire

199 Angela Brydon *vice* Ms Pauline Jackson

South East

221 *for* Mr Henry Cheung *reading* Mr Henry Chung

Associate Members

231 *for* 'to be confirmed' *reading* Prelate his Eminence Revd Dr Oliver Ali Aba

234 *for* The Revd Emmanuel Mollick *reading* 'not attending'

3/4 **APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS**

The Conference appointed the Scrutineers as follows:

Anna Malnutt (Chief Scrutineer)

The Revd R Margaret K Mwilu

Deacon Stephen F Roe

3/5 **PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE**

3/5/1 The Revd Helen Dixon Cameron, having been nominated according to rule at the preceding Conference, was duly elected by a Standing Vote as President of the Conference (Resolution 1/1).

- 3/5/2 Carolyn Jayne Godfrey, having been nominated according to rule at the preceding Conference, was duly elected by a Standing Vote as Vice-President of the Conference (Resolution 1/2).
- 3/5/3 The Induction of the President and the Vice-President took place.
- 3/6 **THE LOYAL ADDRESS**
The Conference directed that a letter of greeting be sent to His Majesty the King.
- 3/7 **WORLD CHURCH AND ECUMENICAL REPRESENTATIVES AND INTERFAITH GUESTS**
- 3/7/1 The Conference welcomed full members and associate members of the Conference from The Methodist Church in Ireland, The United Methodist Church, The Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma, The Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas, Methodist Church The Gambia, Methodist Church Nigeria, The Methodist Church of Southern Africa, United Church in Papua New Guinea, L'Église Protestante Unie de France, L'Opera per le Chiese Evangeliche Metodiste in Italia, United Methodist Church Nordic, Baltic & Ukraine Area, Iglesia Evangélica Metodista en Bolivia, Iglesia Evangélica Metodista en El Salvador, Iglesia Metodista del Perú and from among our Mission Partners.
- 3/7/2 Bishop Pumla Nzimande of The Methodist Church of Southern Africa responded on behalf of the World Church guests.
- 3/7/3 The Conference welcomed the ecumenical associate members of the Conference from The Church of England, The Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, The United Reformed Church and The Scottish Episcopal Church, and the General Secretary of Churches Together in England.
- 3/7/4 The Revd Father Jan Nowotnik of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales responded on behalf of the ecumenical guests.
- 3/8 **PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**
The President of the Conference delivered her inaugural address.
- 3/9 The Conference adjourned at 16.09.
- 3/10 The Conference reassembled at 17.00.
- 3/11 **VICE-PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**
The Vice-President of the Conference delivered her inaugural address.
- 3/12 **2. FIRST REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**
- 3/12/1 The Conference adopted Resolution 2/1.
- 3/12/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 2/2,
p 15, third paragraph
sixth line, *for* 'This provision includes any Memorials' *reading* 'This provision does not include any memorials'
- 3/12/3 The Conference received the following additional report:

The Methodist Council nominates Dr Daleep Mukarji to the Conference as Chair for the Conference Business Committee for the Conferences of 2025, 2026 and 2027.

Daleep Mukarji is a past Vice-President of the Conference (2013-14). Daleep has also served as Chair of the Strategy and Resources Committee since 2019. This has meant that Daleep has also had positions on various connexional committees such as the Council, the CLF and the Oversight and Trusteeship Task Group. Daleep has a wide knowledge and experience of the Church and the Conference which he will be able to bring to the role to support the work of the Business Committee.

3/12/4 The Conference adopted as Resolution 2/3:

The Conference appoints Dr Daleep Mukarji as the Chair for the Conference Business Committee for the Conferences of 2025, 2026 and 2027.

3/13 **36. SECOND REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

The Conference adopted Resolution 36/1.

3/14 **THIRD REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

3/14/1 The Business Committee brings this update to its Reports printed in volumes 1 and 2 of the Agenda (items 2 and 36).

1. As set out in paragraph 7 of the first report (page 13), the Conference is required to elect one member of the Business Committee, a minister, to serve on the Committee for three years (the Conferences of 2025, 2026 and 2027). Nomination forms have been circulated by email and are available from the Helpdesk; they should be placed in the ballot boxes by 17:30 on Monday 1 July, with voting taking place on Tuesday 2 July.
2. Paragraph 9 of the First Report sets out the criteria and procedure for requesting that a letter be sent on behalf of the Conference. Members of the Conference are asked, if possible, to email conferenceletterwriter@methodistchurch.org.uk with the details of the request. Where that is not possible, please contact the Help Desk.
3. The schedule of business has been available on the Conference website and regularly updated. It now shows the current situation. Any Conference member wishing to have a hard copy can obtain one from the Helpdesk.
4. The Committee recommends the use of an electronic voting system for any counted votes.
5. The ballots for the President and Vice-President of the Conference of 2025 and a member of the Conference Business Committee will be distributed via email and the elections conducted via an online voting system.
6. Nominees for President and Vice-President of the Conference for 2025 are kindly asked to have their photographs taken, for use in the visual projection during breaks. Nominees are asked to see June Howard-Norman in the Conference Arrangements Team office as soon as possible and no later than the closing times for nominations given in the Agenda page 14. In the event that nominees are not present at the Conference, it would be most helpful if

those making the nominations could arrange for nominees' photos to be sent electronically to asc@methodistchurch.org.uk.

7. There are two ballot boxes on each side of the hall. These can all be used at any time on Saturday until 19:00 and from Monday morning onwards for all nomination papers, strictly observing the deadlines given on page 14 of the Agenda.

8. Memorials will be taken as shown in the table below:

Number	Title	Business
M1	The Theology of Artificial Intelligence (AI)	<i>En bloc</i>
M2	Disciplinary Process	32. Review of Part 11 of Standing Orders
M3	Telling our story	20. God For All
M4	Heritage Sites	<i>En bloc</i>
M5	Resourcing	<i>En bloc</i>
M6	Nassar Family	with a presentation from the Tent of Nations
M7	Nassar Family and Israel/ Palestine	22. Methodist Council, part 2: Section M
M8	Responding to the Conflict in Gaza	<i>En bloc</i>
M9	Israel and Gaza	<i>En bloc</i>
M10	Methodist Conference and Defence and Security Convention	<i>En bloc</i>
M11	Report of the Independent Commission	<i>En bloc</i>
M12	Mission Partners	22. Methodist Council Part 2 Section G
M13	Mission Partners	22. Methodist Council Part 2 Section G
M14	Connexional Financial Support	22. Methodist Council Part 2 Section K
M15	Connexionalism and Expense Cost	22. Methodist Council Part 2 Section K
M16	Ministers' Housing Allowance	<i>En bloc</i>
M17	Prolonged Ministers Suspension	22. Methodist Council Part 2 Section K
M18	Ministerial Stress	<i>En bloc</i>
M19	Mandatory Training Requirements	<i>En bloc</i>
M20	Mandatory Training Requirements	<i>En bloc</i>
M21	Modified Constitutions	20. God For All
M22	Modified Constitutions	20. God For All

Any recommended reply to a memorial which is the subject of an amending notice of motion will automatically be removed from the *en bloc* list. A memorial can only be removed from the *en bloc* list if an alternative reply is proposed by way of a notice of motion.

9. The list of *en bloc* items of business (page 453) is now as printed below:

3. Methodist Council part one sections A, B, D

6. Trustees for the Bailiwick of Guernsey Methodist Church Purposes
7. Trustees for Jersey Methodist Church Purposes
10. New Room
11. Forces Board
12. Relief and Extension Fund for Methodism in Scotland
13. Revision to MIST Articles
15. Methodist Schools appointments
22. Methodist Council part two sections F, I, N, O, Q, S
23. Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes
27. Methodist Homes
30. Stationing Committee
31. Referred Memorials and Notices of Motion
33. Managing Trustees of Central Hall Westminster
34. Methodist Ministers' Housing Society
39. Ecumenical Report
40. Central Finance Board
53. Methodist Diaconal Order General Report
56. Trustees for Manx Methodist Church Purposes

Memorials to the Conference as listed in paragraph 8 above.

Under the terms of SO 134A, if Notices of Motion are received about items in the en bloc list (including memorials), those items will automatically be removed from the above list. In addition, by giving notice to the Secretary of the Conference (via Jane Bates at batesj@methodistchurch.org.uk), any six members of the Conference may, without proposing an amendment, require that any item, except a recommended reply to a memorial, be removed from the list and debated. Such notice must be given before the close of business on Monday 1 July (SO 134A(1)(c)).

10. As part of the Conference's commitment to inclusion and to ensuring accessibility, the committee has discussed how it might monitor the diversity of those participating in the conversations and debates at the Conference. Members of the Conference will be aware that every member of the Conference is asked to complete an EDI monitoring form. The Record Office therefore has statistical data which show the proportions of the Conference members who have declared protected characteristics. Those forms are anonymised. The Conference is therefore recommended to authorise that in future years members of the Conference will be asked to give permission for some of the information included on the form to be held confidentially by those who will monitor the diversity of the Conference.
11. Members of the Conference also indicate for the purposes of their badges their preferred pronouns. It is therefore possible for the gender diversity of contributors to debates to be monitored. It is also possible to note whether a speaker is lay or ordained. The Business Committee recommends that the Conference authorises this monitoring this year (enabling a pilot for more extensive monitoring in future years) and that a brief statistical report on the previous day's debates be presented to the Conference each morning.

3/14/2 The Conference adopted as Resolution B/1:

The Conference adopts the Report.

- 3/14/3 The Conference adopted as Resolution B/2:
 The Conference adopts the recommendation of the Business Committee in paragraph 10.
- 3/14/4 The Conference adopted as Resolution B/3:
 The Conference adopts the recommendation of the Business Committee in paragraph 11.
- 3/15 **54. REPORT TO THE REPRESENTATIVE SESSION OF BUSINESS CONDUCTED BY THE CONFERENCE DIACONAL COMMITTEE**
 The Conference adopted Resolutions 54/1 and 54/3,
 p 673,
 paragraph 4.11, *deleting* Dorice Williams
 paragraph 4.12(a) *for* No case *reading* Dorice Williams
 p 674,
 in the chart *deleting* Williams Dorice 2026
 p 676, at the end of the report *adding*:
Transfers to other Conferences and Denominations
 Bryanell Rop (United Methodist Church)
- 3/16 **ORDINATION SERVICES: SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT FROM THE FAITH AND ORDER COMMITTEE**
- 3/16/1 The Conference received the following report:
1. Ordination services are one of the highlights of the meeting of the Conference and are both solemn and joyful occasions as we celebrate God's gift of new presbyters and deacons to the Church. Ordinations in the Methodist Church take place on the Conference's behalf, at its direction and with its authorisation: no one else in the life of the Methodist Church holds such authority. This is an outworking of the corporate oversight of the Conference over all our ministry. As a result, the leadership of ordination services is different from leading any other act of Methodist worship. Our usual practice is that much is committed to those who lead our worship and preach: generally speaking, provided that what is done is not contrary to our doctrines those who preach and lead worship enjoy considerable creative freedom. However, because ordinations are acts of worship conducted on behalf of the Conference, those who take leadership roles within them do so in a particular representative capacity which signals the relation of what is taking place to the Conference. It is, therefore, expected that those who lead these services do not make alterations to their authorised texts.
 2. In the preparations for this year's Conference, it was suggested that the address to the congregation 'Sisters and Brothers' (no. 12 in both the ordination of presbyters and the ordination of deacons) be amended to provide for a gender-neutral form. The ordination services are authorised liturgies and there is not time for authorising a new form before the ordination services take place. Further, if amendments are to be formally made, there may be other matters also worthy of consideration. It is

appropriate that proper time and attention be given to this as part of the overall process of revising the *Methodist Worship Book*.

3. Nevertheless, the amendment suggested is in line with the Conference's strategy on *Justice, Dignity and Solidarity*. The words in question address the whole congregation gathered for an ordination service and a gender-neutral form would indicate more clearly the intention that it include all people, of all genders. The Faith and Order Committee therefore proposes, as an interim measure, that the Conference give permission for the President, or the President's deputy, presiding at any given service of ordination, at that person's discretion, to use an alternative form of words. The Committee proposes 'People of God'. This maintains a distinction from the form 'Beloved in Christ' at no. 13 which addresses the ordinands specifically.

3/16/2 The Conference adopted as Resolution FO/1:

The Conference receives the Report.

3/16/3 The Conference adopted as Resolution FO/2:

The Conference gives its permission, in connection with any given service of ordination, for the President, or a presbyter deputising for the President, at that person's discretion, to use the form 'People of God' in place of 'Sisters and Brothers' at no. 12 in the services as printed in the *Methodist Worship Book*.

3/17 **25. CONNEXIONAL CENTRAL SERVICES BUDGET 2024/2025**

3/17/1 The budget was presented.

3/17/2 The Conference adopted Resolution 25/1,

Table 3 (p 310) and Table 4 (pp 311-312)
for 'Methodist Council & Governance' reading 'Governance and Oversight'

3/17/3 The Conference adopted Resolution 25/2.

3/18 **PRESBYTERAL SESSION BUSINESS COMMITTEE ELECTION**

The Conference elected the following to serve on the Presbyteral Session Business Committee at the Conferences of 2025-2027:

The Revd Kevin R Highfield

3/19 The Conference shared in worship, and adjourned at 18.12.

- 4/1 The Conference assembled at 10.45.
- 4/2 The Conference shared in worship, during which the President preached. The following business was transacted.
- 4/3 **RECEPTION INTO FULL CONNEXION AS PRESBYTERS**
The following persons were presented for admission into Full Connexion, the Presbyteral Session having judged that they were fit for such admission and, if not already ordained, for ordination:
- 4/3/1 The preachers on trial:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Jonathan Bell | Rachel Moss |
| Evelyn Bhajan | Rosemary Mutopo |
| Sarah Louise Caddell | Michelle Onyett |
| Rachel Irene Collins | James Alan Patterson |
| Tiras Philip Dainty-Share | Philip Robinson |
| Anne Mary Day | Matthew Barrie Smith |
| Steven David Donnison | Steven Sutton |
| Rebecca Elizabeth Fugill | Marcia Yvonne Tull |
| Catharine Hughes | Wendy Walker |
| Juliet Aritey Kisob | Fiona Weir |
| Joyce Mayisiri | Blayze Kyle White |
| Alexandra Dagmar Middleton-Laing | |
- 4/3/2 The following persons to be received by transfer:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Quophie Anochie Ababio | Helen Lawson |
| Kim Leslie Alexander | Allen Moyo |
| Tokunbo Ezekiel Olusegun Asogbon | Peggy Mulambya-Kabonde |
| Fiona Marie Calverey | Adrian Trevor Roux |
| Kennedy Gondongwe | Bethany Marie Willers |
- 4/3/3 One person to be received by reinstatement and transfer:
- Steven Granville Jones
- 4/3/4 The Conference resolved by a Standing Vote that those persons whose names had been read to the Conference and are printed in the Agenda and Daily Record be now received into Full Connexion with the Conference as presbyters, and that those not already ordained be ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands on the afternoon of this day, the thirtieth day of June 2024, at:
- Batley Central Methodist Church
Bradford Cathedral
Brighouse Central Methodist Church
Wesley Chapel, Harrogate

(Resolution 41/6)

4/4 **RECEPTION INTO FULL CONNEXION AS DEACONS**

4/4/1 The following persons were presented for admission into Full Connexion and as full members of the Methodist Diaconal Order, the Conference Diaconal Committee having judged that they were fit for such admission and, if appropriate, for ordination:

Janet Amey
Margaret Chipandambira
Douw Gerbrand Grobler
Marie Poole
Clare Purfit
Suzanne Marie Sale
Vicky Ann Welsh

4/4/2 The Conference resolved by a Standing Vote that those persons whose names had been read to the Conference and are printed in the Agenda be now received into Full Connexion with the Conference as deacons and into full membership of the Methodist Diaconal Order, and if not already ordained, be ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands on the afternoon of this day, the thirtieth day of June 2024, at Morley Central Methodist Church.

(Resolution 54/4)

4/5 The Conference adjourned at 12.06.