

## MOTIONS FOR THE 2020 ANNUAL MEETINGS

### 1. FROM KENDAL UNITARIANS

This General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian churches has deep concerns regarding the misuse of alcohol in society and the consequent diminution in the quality of life for all of those affected.

We request the Executive Committee of the General Assembly to itemise this as priority for our national Movement and to take measures to advise congregations on feasible ways in which they may offer support to affected individuals known to them, and co-operate with specialist organisations dedicated to helping reduce the problem of alcohol addiction in the UK.

### 2. FROM GOLDERS GREEN UNITARIANS & 12 FULL MEMBERS

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches expresses its solidarity with the peace witness of the Israeli-Palestinian peace village of Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam (the 'Oasis of Peace') and its associated School for Peace and also that of Physicians for Human Rights – Israel, Rabbis for Human Rights and other Israeli and Palestinian peace makers and bridge builders courageously struggling and witnessing for an enduring peace built on genuine reconciliation, empathy and mutual respect.

This General Assembly therefore:

urges Unitarian congregations and individuals to give moral and financial support to the British Friends of the 'Oasis of Peace', the interfaith peace work of the IARF Peace Commission in Israel and the Palestinian Territories and to other initiatives promoting reconciliation and peaceful mutual understanding between Palestinians and Israelis;

resolves to send messages of goodwill and support to the School for Peace at the Oasis of Peace (Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam), to Physicians for Human Rights - Israel and to Rabbis for Human Rights;

and encourages fellow Unitarians to respond generously to urgent charitable appeals of the Red Cross/Red Crescent, UNICEF, Medical Aid for Palestinians, Christian Aid and other humanitarian organisations ministering to the victims of war and violence in the West Bank and Gaza and to Palestinian refugees living in Lebanon, Syria and other neighbouring countries.

### 3. FROM CARDIFF UNITARIANS

That this General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches, mindful of the climate crisis, and of its object to "promote... the service of humanity and respect for all creation" requests that the Executive Committee:

a) not invest General Assembly funds in companies whose total turnover is more than 10% derived from the extraction and/or supply of fossil fuels, including thermal coal, natural gas and oil;

b) complete the divestment required to fulfil this decision by the time of the General Assembly Annual Meetings in 2025 at the latest;

c) strongly encourage and support all Unitarian congregations and funds to do the same.

#### 4. FROM STOCKTON UNITARIANS

This General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches, mindful that Junior Weekends formerly known as WMYUs (Weekend Meetings for Young Unitarians) have been the much-loved bedrock of the Unitarian Youth Programme for over 50 years:

1. Regrets the abrupt cancellation of Junior Weekends without consultation or communication.
2. Calls upon the Executive Committee to reinstate the Junior Weekend programme pending thorough communication and consultation with churches, districts, regular participants and other interested parties about any changes proposed and the rationale for them.

**As per the Resolution at the 2018 Annual Meetings, the following motions would not be considered to be part of the maximum 4 ordinary motions. The process to select ordinary motions will therefore not be required this year.**

#### FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

5. That the Report of the General Assembly Executive Committee and the Accounts of the General Assembly be received and adopted.
6. That James Cowper Kreston LLP be appointed as Auditors.
7. That Peter Hanley be appointed Honorary Treasurer for the year 2020-2021.
8. That the thanks of the Assembly be given to Peter Hanley for his service as Treasurer during the year 2019-2020, and to district association and local officers for their invaluable services.
9. That greetings be sent to kindred churches and societies abroad.
10. That the thanks of the Assembly be given to Rev Bridget Spain for preaching the Assembly Sermon.
11. That the thanks of the Assembly be given to Rev Mike O'Sullivan, worship leader for the Anniversary Service, and to all those who provided music and other content for the Anniversary Service and on other worship occasions during these Meetings.
12. That the thanks of the Assembly be given to the members of the General Assembly staff and to all volunteers for their inestimable help in organising the Meetings.
13. That Anne Mills be appointed President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches for the year 2020-2021.
14. That Rev Sue Woolley be appointed Vice-President of the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches for the year 2020-2021.
15. That this ninety-second General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches expresses its gratitude for the services provided by Rev Celia Cartwright as President during the year 2019-2020.