

Booking form

Your details

Name(s)

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Postcode

Phone

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Dietary requirements

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Strangers in the world: Persevering in a culture that has rejected God

Bible readings – 1 Peter (Rob Wood)
For many Christians, the rapidly changing culture and the growth of false teaching within the church have pressed home a sense of being strangers in this world. Our Bible readings from 1 Peter will teach and train us, as God's treasured possession, to live holy lives in this hostile world.

Light in the darkness – biblical reflections on current moral philosophical trends (Kirsten Birkett)
Moral philosophy is the study of right and wrong, but is these days overshadowed by questions of identity, personhood and trends such as intersectionality. We need to reassert not just principles of biblical authority, but basic questions of what it is and how to respond to it.

The fiery trial – theological perspectives on Christian living, holiness and suffering (Keith Sinclair)
Christian living as fiery trial: not a great sales pitch! Can calls to holiness and suffering really go with an invitation to joy? Learning from 1 Peter 4 and others!

Living well in exile – lessons for today from sociological, biblical and historical perspectives (Neil Robbie)
It's increasingly common for Christians in the West to speak of our facing greater and greater degrees of exile. As we feel squeezed out to the margins of society and the church adopts a narrative of exile, we'll pause to ask 'What is exile?' and 'How can God's people live fruitfully in exile?'

The Fellowship of Word and Spirit conference is committed to reformed theology and its application to the whole of life, and we seek to encourage and help each other wrestle with its challenges. We aim for genuine fellowship, with plenty of time for spiritual encouragement and prayer, for cultivating friendships old and new, and for resting from the usual frantic pace of ministry.

More information is available at churchsociety.org or email admin@churchsociety.org



Fellowship of Word and Spirit Conference



Strangers in the world: Persevering in a culture that has rejected God

3rd – 5th February 2025
The Hayes, Derbyshire



Programme

Monday 3th February

12.30pm Arrival

12.45pm Lunch

2pm **Welcome**
Bible reading – 1 Peter Rob Wood

3.30pm Tea

4.30pm **Light in the darkness – biblical reflections on current moral philosophical trends**
Kirsten Birkett

6.45pm Dinner

7.45pm **Interview with speaker** George Crowder & Kirsten Birkett

Tuesday 4th February

8.30am Breakfast

9.30am **Bible reading – 1 Peter** Rob Wood
Communion

11am Coffee

11.30am **The fiery trial – theological perspectives on Christian living, holiness and suffering**
Keith Sinclair

12.45pm Lunch

4.30pm **Interview with speaker** George Crowder & Keith Sinclair

6.45pm Dinner

7.45pm **Living well in exile – lessons for today from sociological, biblical and historical perspectives** Neil Robbie

Wednesday 5th February

8.30am Breakfast

9.30am **Interview with speaker** George Crowder & Neil Robbie

10.45am Coffee

11.15am **Bible reading – 1 Peter** Rob Wood
Prayer & reflection

12.45pm Lunch

1.45pm **Pastoral Charge**

The Hayes Swanwick, Alfreton
Derbyshire DE55 1AU

Speakers



Revd Rob Wood served on the True Freedom Trust staff team for four years. He trained for ordination at St Mellitus East Midlands while serving at St John's Corby. He loves to chat theology and holds an MA in biblical interpretation and an MA in systematics. He is Assistant Curate of St Peter's Brackley.



Revd Dr Kirsten Birkett lectured in philosophy and ethics at Oak Hill College. She is the author of many books of Christian theology and biblical application.



Rt Revd Keith Sinclair was Bishop of Birkenhead 2007–2021 and national Director CEEC 20021–2023. Now retired, he serves as an Assistant Bishop in Manchester Diocese, worshipping at St Clement's Church Manchester. He is currently one of those commissioned by CEEC to offer alternative spiritual oversight in the Church of England.



Revd Neil Robbie's experience of church life in majority Muslim Malaysia and similarly multicultural contexts in Singapore and the West Midlands has caused him to think carefully about the complexities of life in exile. He has served as vicar of Holy Trinity West Bromwich since 2009.

One distinctive of the conference is that we make time to confer. Following each of the main sessions, there will be a seminar where **George Crowder** will interview the speaker and then give time for questions and discussion groups. We hope it will be a time of genuine spiritual and physical refreshment for both clergy and lay people.

Booking form

Residential

£265 per person

Day visitors

Monday £60 (includes lunch & evening meal)

Tuesday £65 (includes lunch & evening meal)

Wednesday £45 (includes lunch)

Total payment £

Please note that in many dioceses, the FWS conference will qualify for a ministerial development grant. Please contact us on the email below if you need any more information on this.

Payment options

Cheque to Church Society
or by bank transfer to
Sort code: 20-91-79
Account number: 80246913
Please use your name as reference.

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