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# Modern Church

An international society  
promoting liberal Christian theology

### Please return to:

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## Who we are and how to join

Registered Charity no. 281573  
President: Prof. Linda Woodhead

## About Modern Church

Modern Church is a membership organisation that promotes liberal theology. It encourages open, respectful debate and discussion of matters relating to Christian faith.

It was founded at the end of the 19th century as a Church of England society. Now it welcomes all who share its ethos. The back page of this leaflet explains how to join.

### We take an open-minded and thoughtful approach to Christian faith. We understand that:

- genuine faith is committed to the search for truth, wherever it comes from
- it is possible to think and talk about God in ways that make sense in our time and culture
- we never have absolute certainty.

### We expect our theology to be:

- public: using the language of ordinary people, not that of a religious club
- relevant: engaging with what is going on in society, informing our faith and how we live
- respectful: willing to learn from others, since we accept that we don't have all the answers.

When Modern Church began it was part of a movement that defended new scientific findings and biblical scholarship against fundamentalism. We believe, though the specific issues may change, that our approach is needed today as much as ever.

## Modern Church offers:

- **Modern Believing:** the journal of theological liberalism, published by Liverpool University Press with papers and book reviews in the areas of modern theology, practical theology and theological ethics. It has a century-long record of contributions from both church leaders and established theologians and seeks to create a critical, creative and constructive spirit in theological enquiry.
- **Signs of the Times:** a quarterly members' newsletter which provides regular opportunities for members to exchange ideas and engage with other points of view. We welcome articles, poems, suggestions and comments for consideration
- **Conferences:** including the annual event in July for members and others to hear and discuss leading edge thinking on a topic of interest. Conference allows space for reflection and encouragement away from regular routines.
- **Online resources:** our website has the most complete and up-to-date information about Modern Church. It also offers convenient access to articles from our print publications, links to other sites, and new features and services as they become available: [modernchurch.org.uk](http://modernchurch.org.uk)
- **Occasional publications:** including the *Making Sense* series published by SPCK and *Together In Hope*, produced jointly with Progressive Christianity Network Britain, Free to Believe, and St Mark's Centre for Radical Christianity.

