

Modern Church Conference booking form for full attendance 16-18 July 2018

Where there is an asterisk (*) please circle your requirement

Name & title:

Name preferred for name badge:

Address:

Telephone:

Email (only if you wish us to use this):
.....

Are you vegetarian? **Yes / No ***

Other special dietary requirements:

I should like lunch on Day 1 **Yes/No***

I wish to book an **en-suite** room at £240/ a **standard** room at £185

I would prefer a **single / twin / double** room (NB there are no standard doubles)

If sharing, I wish to share a room with:

Are you a member of Modern Church? **Yes / No ***

I am happy for my name and other details to be included on a list circulated to other attendees to encourage car-sharing. **Yes / No***

Is there any other information we should consider when allocating your room?
.....

I enclose a cheque, payable to 'Modern Church'

for the deposit of £40 per person £ **OR** the full fee of £

(deduct £15 from the full fee if a member of Modern Church and the booking is made before 31 March 2018)

PLUS I would like to donate £ to sponsor a student.

OR I wish to pay by tel/internet bank transfer: please send me details of the account (please tick here)

Signature: Date:

2018 Annual Conference of Modern Church

Ritual, Worship and Culture



16 July 2018 (arrive from midday, lunch 1.00pm)

to 18 July 2018 (end with tea at 3.00pm)

at High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Herts

www.cct.org.uk

Conference Chair:
Canon Jo Spreadbury

Conference Chaplain:
Revd Ian Mobsby

Speakers include Professor Douglas Davies (Keynote), Canon Angela Tilby, Dr Meg Warner, Canon Sandra Millar and Revd Steve Hollinghurst

Introduction to the conference

Is there a basic instinct to worship?

Church attendance is declining, but more and more people express an interest in what is spiritual. Everywhere we see evidence of people needing to ritualise their allegiance to something greater than themselves, whether in celebrity culture, politics or group identity. Enthusiasm (*en-theos*) appears to be one of the most important drivers of human happiness and fulfilment.

We all have our rituals, whether private and domestic, or public and shared. The Christian faith does not endorse this uncritically: 'thou shalt have none other gods before me' is scored into Christian memory. Yet Christians too have produced many different kinds of worship and ritual, reflecting the churches' engagement with different cultures and contexts.

In this conference, with its timely and relevant theme, we will explore new age rituals and traditional practices alike. What can we learn from the secular instinct to ritualise and memorialise? Which forms of ritual are shared and which are distinct between different approaches to faith and different cultural contexts? Can there ever be truly 'common worship' or should we rejoice in the variety of expressions across all cultures and incarnations that can never be controlled fully by ecclesiastical prescription?

With workshops and discussion groups, as well as plenary sessions and keynote addresses, this conference will enable us all to reflect on the habits and traditions we hold dear in our own faith practice, and gain some new insights into the common, if not universal, instinct for worship that we share with others.



High Leigh Conference Centre

Modern Church Conference 2018: Booking Details

High Leigh Conference Centre, Lord Street, Hoddesdon, Herts, EN11 8SG (www.cct.org.uk) is comfortable, well-equipped, and easily accessible by car and public transport. The Centre offers a choice of:

- Standard room with washbasin; there is a tea bar in the corridor; these rooms have single or twin, but not double beds
- En suite room with a shower or bath and tea/coffee making facilities in the room; they have single, twin or double beds

Conference fees:

- Full residence in an en suite room per person £240
- Full residence in a standard room per person £185

Modern Church member's discount if booking pre 31 March 2018: £15

A non-refundable deposit of £40 will secure a place; full payment is requested by 31 May 2018. However, payment in full with your booking would save time for you and for us. If you have to cancel within 4 weeks of the conference, we may need to retain the full booking fee if we cannot re-allocate your room.

Places can be booked online at www.modernchurch.org.uk

Part time attendance:

It may be possible to offer places on a part-time and non-resident basis, depending on the demand for full time places. Contact the Modern Church Administrator for further information.

Reduced fees:

A reduction in fees may be available for those on very low incomes. Please contact the Modern Church Administrator for an application form.

Sponsor a student:

Modern Church is keen to encourage students to attend this conference and where possible offer them free places. A contribution towards the cost would be appreciated. There is an option for this on the booking form.

Please return the completed booking form to:

Diane Kutar, Modern Church Administrator, 22 The Kiln, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 0LU