

Nominations for the President of the Baptist Union of Great Britain

Our current President is the Revd Ken Benjamin, and he will be succeeded by the Revd Yinka Oyekan in May 2020. Please do look at Ken's Presidential pages on his theme of 'Where do we grow from here?' (www.baptist.org.uk/president).

We are now inviting nominations for the person who will serve as Baptist Union President in 2021-22.

The President may be female or male, lay or ordained, and will be chosen because of gifts and experience which will help to communicate our Baptists Together vision and mission priorities.

The President should bring their own unique insights and experience into their leadership, and may feel led to bring a particular emphasis within the overall strategy. They will be expected to work closely with the Baptist Steering Group (BSG) and General Secretary in informing and communicating the agreed vision, culture and priorities of Baptists Together.

The person elected will serve as Vice-President during 2020-21, and will become a member of the BSG Accompanying Group in order to begin to familiarise themselves with our Baptists Together vision, culture and priorities before taking up the lead role during their presidential year.

The Role of the President

The President's main role is as a **communicator/facilitator** of our Baptists Together vision and mission. They will need to undertake to travel around our Union, engaging with local churches, regional Associations and Colleges as appropriate.

A key part of their role will be in leading the **BSG Accompanying Group**, which provides prayer support and shares in spiritual and missional reflection with BSG. The Accompanying Group act as 'critical friends' bringing perspectives from beyond the BSG. The President's role as part of this group will be in bringing insights from their presidential travels as well as their own particular experience and expertise. The group will not meet separately from the BSG, but will share with them in sustained times of prayer and reflection on their work, and will covenant routinely to hold them in prayer before God. As leader of the group, the President will be expected to coordinate the other members of the Accompanying Group, and their contact with BSG.

There will also be occasions when the President will provide a symbol or **focus for unity** of Baptists Together, and as such will represent our Union at various civic and ecumenical events. There may be some involvement in the annual Assembly, and the

President may be invited by BMS World Mission to visit some of their work overseas.

The President is considered one of the Officers of the Union, and is a member of Council. Expenses for attending meetings and events will be covered, as will travel expenses to preaching engagements unless covered by the hosting church or a preaching fee.

Nominations

Nominations for the Presidency must be sent to the General Secretary and can be made by:

- An Association in membership of our Union
- Twenty-five members of Assembly acting jointly

The consent of the nominee must be sought before nomination.

Nominations must be received by 31 December.

If you would like to nominate someone for the Presidency, please complete and submit the online form at www.baptist.org.uk/president.

Privacy statement

Before making a nomination please note that the names of those making a nomination will be published on our website. In the case of an Association nomination, the name of the Association will be published. In the case of a nomination by 25 members of the Assembly, the names of those individuals acting jointly to put forward a nomination will be published, together with their category of Assembly membership (see below for details of who is a member of Assembly). Please make sure you have the permission of those on whose behalf you are making a nomination, as well as the permission of the person you are nominating. Please see our Privacy policy (www.baptist.org.uk/privacy) for more information.

Membership of the Assembly

An extract from the constitution of the Baptist Union of Great Britain:

7 THE ASSEMBLY

7.1 The Assembly shall consist of Representative, Personal and Associate Members;

7.2 Representative members shall consist of:

7.2.1 all Ministers on the Register of Covenanted Persons Accredited for Ministry in categories 1, 2 and 3 and Ministers and Assistant Ministers of Baptist Churches in membership with the Union;

7.2.2 the Council and Officers of the Union;

7.2.3 delegates from Churches, Associations of Churches, and Colleges in membership with the Baptist Union. Churches not exceeding 100 members may appoint one delegate; more than 100, two delegates; and more than 200, three delegates. Associations and Colleges may appoint two delegates each.

Delegates shall be appointed for each meeting of the Assembly, and their appointment duly notified to the General Secretary before 31 March in each year; and

7.2.4 two ministerial students of each College, to be elected by the students of the College to which they belong.

7.3 Personal Members shall be Baptists or members of Baptist Churches who shall have been duly accredited in writing by at least three members of the Assembly, and accepted by the Council prior to Assembly 2007.

Baptist Union of Great Britain
September 2019