

8<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Friends,

### **MEETING AGAIN - THE DISSENTING DEPUTIES 2021**

After an enforced hiatus, we very much hope that members of your church will join us here at 6.00 pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October. Our distinguished speaker will be the **Rev. Dr Robert Pope, Vice Principal and Director of Studies in Church History and Doctrine at Westminster College, Cambridge** with the intriguing title for these days of **“The Greatest Terror of Mankind”: Contagion, the Church and the Providence of God”**

**The “Dissenting Deputies”** were established as elected lay people, working with a body of Ministers, in 1732 to fight for the removal of restrictions which excluded the churches and people we now call in the “Free Church” tradition from many areas of public life. We maintain this annual society to honour their work. Free speech can never be taken for granted, enabling us to sustain our life, worship and witness. The body also keeps alive our historic right of direct approach to the Monarch.

**Today, the Free Churches Group** carries out the Deputies’ functions relating to government, as we will hear during our very brief formal proceedings.

**This is an open invitation to your members and Minister.** It would be really helpful to know in advance of the numbers attending. Please return the attached form by post or email. Respecting our historical structure, it would be appropriate to nominate two “Deputies”, but all are welcome. Please display the poster. Our income is limited and a contribution would be very welcome to help cover our meeting costs.

We know that Robert will give us a stimulating evening. Do come.

Yours faithfully,



Paul Rochester



Keith Salway

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Moderator: Revd Dr Hugh Osgood

General Secretary: Revd Paul Rochester

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Assemblies of God - Baptist Union of Great Britain - Baptist Union of Wales - Churches in Communities International - Church of God of Prophecy - Church of the Nazarene - Congregational Federation - Council of African & Caribbean Churches UK - Christ Apostolic Church - Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion - Fellowship of Churches of Christ - Free Church of England - Free Methodist Church - Independent Methodist Churches - Joint Council of Churches for All Nations - Methodist Church - Moravian Church - New Testament Assembly - New Testament Church of God - Old Baptist Union - Order of St Leonard - Presbyterian Church of Wales - Salvation Army - Union of Welsh Independents - United Reformed Church - Wesleyan Reform Union

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