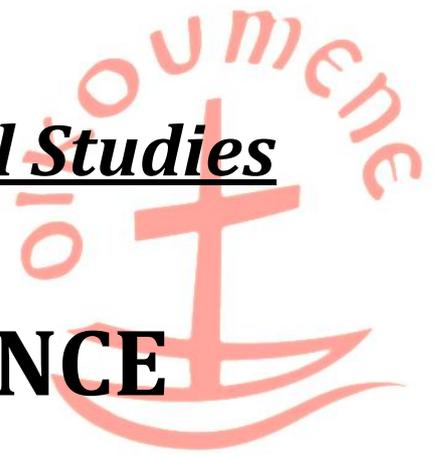


**Society for Ecumenical Studies**



## **DAY CONFERENCE**

***Saturday, 8 February 2020***  
***10 a.m. – 4 p.m.***

**Cheyneygates,**  
**at Westminster Abbey,**  
**London SW1P 3PA**

Nearest underground station: Westminster

***Speakers:***

**Revd. Dr. Susan Durber**

***The Church:***

***Towards a Common Vision***

**&**

**Revd. Dr. Paul Goodliff**

***Principles of Christian Law***

**Cost (including a light lunch): SfES members £10; non-members £20**

To register please go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/society-for-ecumenical-studies-day-conference-tickets-82645363507>

**Revd Dr Susan Durber (United Reformed Minister and Moderator of the World Council of Churches Faith and Order Commission)** will be telling us about the process of analysing the churches' responses to the Faith and Order text *The Church: Towards a Common Vision*. The process of analysis reflection is not yet complete, but Susan will reflect on the work she is doing as one of those receiving the responses and on the key themes that are emerging. After the recent publication of the Roman Catholic response we are probably at the end of receiving responses and it is possible to begin to draw some tentative conclusions. There are things to say about mission, about how we might now understand 'visible unity', about steps forward and about the many steps still to take, and even some newly difficult challenges as we seek the unity for which Christ prayed.

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For the past six years an ecumenical group of canon lawyers has been working on a new ecumenical venture, 'Juridical Ecumenism', attempting to find common ground in the canon laws, rules, norms and principles in each of a number of different church traditions — among them Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Anglican, Reformed, Lutheran, Baptist and Pentecostal. The fruit of their work has been a document 'Principles of Christian Law', published as a paper in *The Ecclesiastical Law Journal*, with further work on its reception soon to be published in book form. A remarkable degree of conformity has been discovered in this cutting-edge approach to ecumenism, and this has opened up a new pathway in ecumenical studies and development. The results were offered to the World Council of Churches' process of reception of *The Church: Towards a Common Vision*, a process that will, itself, report to the next WCC Assembly in Germany in 2021. The response was warmly welcomed by the WCC Faith and Order Commission. The Panel of Law Experts, which drafted the Principles, will present a workshop at the Assembly, and is currently running a number of seminars throughout Europe. The Panel is chaired by Professor Mark Hill QC and Professor Norman Doe (Professor of Law at Cardiff University) and includes as its Baptist Panel member **Revd Dr Paul Goodliff, General Secretary of Churches Together in England.**

The event will start with refreshments at 10 a.m. and finish at 4.00 p.m.

For more information, email [sfes.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:sfes.secretary@gmail.com)