

2026

# THE LATIMER TRUST CONFERENCE

Resilience in Ministry

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June - 9:30 to 15:30

Session 1- The resilient psalmist

Session 2- The resilient pastor

Session 3- The resilient preacher

Session 4- The resilient pastor's networks



St. Alkmund's Church, Duffield, Church Dr, Belper DE56 4BA

## THE DAY

- 9:30** Registration
- 10:00** Welcome
- 10:15** **Session 1 The Resilient Psalmist - Jules Beauchamp**  
**Focusing on Psalm 73** and referring to other psalms, we will examine some of the typical strategies the psalmists used to avoid despair and build hope in affliction. We'll be considering the argumentative and persistent nature of their prayers, how they bring God's character and various means of grace to bear on their situation, what expectations they have, and the ultimate goal of their prayers. Julian's prayer is that these strategies will help us develop the resilience and relationship with God we need in our life and ministry.
- 11:15** Break
- 11:30** **Session 2 The Resilient Pastor - Kirsty Birkett**  
**The Puritans** were intensely interested in having the right attitude towards God, and were prepared to discipline themselves to achieve interior change. This would have the effect of providing strong inner resources to stay faithful to God, and rejoicing in his service, despite exterior hardship. A key scriptural attitude to life is contentment, so we will look at the work of Jeremiah Burroughs (1599 - 1646) and other Puritans on this important topic.
- 12:30** Lunch
- 13:15** **Session 3 The Resilient Preacher - (a panel of pastors)**  
What **keeps preachers going in preaching**, once the craft of preaching has been learned, and when relying on adrenaline might be replaced by relying on experience? In this session a panel of three preachers, all with over 20 years experience of ordained ministry, will explore how their preaching has changed and developed over time. We'll look at perspectives on preparation, application, perseverance and the long-term impact of preaching.
- 14:15** Break
- 14:30** **Session 4 The Resilient Pastor's Networks - George Crowder**  
What is the essential role the relationship between church leaders plays in their resilience? In this session, George will tackle this by indrawing on the life and work of Richard Baxter and his oversight of the Worcester Association. He will also share practical experience and examples of pastor's networks such as the Chester Association.
- 15:30** Closing

### OUR SPEAKERS



**Jules Beauchamp** has degrees in Classics and in Theological and Pastoral Studies. He taught Classics in Cheltenham for 4 years before moving into Christian ministry. He has been Rector of Waverton with Aldford and Bruera for 18 years in the Diocese of Chester.



**Kirsty Birkett** taught at Oak Hill Theological College and now works as Publications Manager for Church Society. She has written various books and articles. Some of those published by the Latimer Trust are *Resilience* and *Spells, Sorcerers and Spirits, Magic and the Occult in the Bible*.



**James Hughes** is Vicar of St Alkmund's Duffield. Before that he was a minister in Cheshire for nine years, and a curate in Guildford diocese. He has a PhD in NT looking at relationships between churches in Paul's letters, published in 2019 & is currently writing a commentary on Jonah and Micah for the Hodder Bible Commentary series.



**Ed Moll** is Vicar of St George's Wembdon in Somerset. Ed worked in the chemical industry before moving to full-time church work and Bible teaching, and served churches in Newcastle and Basingstoke before settling in Wembdon. He has written books on parenting and leadership. Those published by the Latimer Trust are *Anglican Elders* and *The Ascension of Christ*.



**Peter Breckwoldt** retired last summer as Vicar of St John's Wimborne, where he served for 14 years. Prior to his time in Wimborne, he spent 19 years ministering in Moulton near Northampton and previously held a position in St John's Knutsford, Cheshire. He makes regular visits to Carlisle College in Nairobi, contributing to the development of local church leadership in the region through international partnerships with Church Army Africa.



**George Crowder** has been Rector of Cheadle since 2024, and before that he was vicar of St John Over in Winsford, a church that had no previous evangelical ministry. He served his curacy at St John's Hartford and is chair of The Chester Association, the Fellowship of Word and Spirit and set up a network of Revitalisation ministries (NoRM). He is member of the CCEC and author of *Reforming Church: How God is at work in Revitalisation Ministry* (Church Society)

**Thank you for attending this conference.**

We hope our seminars and conversations you have had throughout the day have equipped and encouraged you in your Ministry.



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I can do all this through him who gives me strength. Philippians 4:13