

'To Love and Serve the Lord'

'To Love and Serve the Lord' is the sort of course you can do just because you're interested, simply because you want to explore your faith or to be more confident in what you believe. Just for the fun of it! You can also use it as the foundation course for further training as an Authorised Lay Minister. ALMs are authorised to be pastoral visitors, to lead public worship, to be involved with children's and youth work and in evangelism. It's very much in line with the 'Time to Change Together' initiative.

This isn't the sort of course where you have to write essays, but there will be some 'homework': something to read, something to think about, something to discover . . .

Make it a date – Autumn 2024

We're offering the course again this autumn: Tuesday evenings, starting on Tuesday October 1st. Each session will begin promptly at 7.00pm and end by 9.00pm. There will be 10 sessions before Christmas, then we'll break and continue with the last 6 sessions in January.

The course is open to anyone in the Lafford and Graffoe deaneries. We're keen to offer the course in all three of our Local Mission Partnerships, so this time we're in the North West LMP. Provisionally we'll be based in Bassingham, but the location will depend partly on where the participants live.

The main course leaders will be Mr Richard Vickers, who is a Reader based at Ruskington and Lay Co-Lead of the North Kesteven Deanery Partnership, and Rev'd Lorna Brabin-Smith, Rector of Branston with Nocton and Potterhanworth, and Partnership Dean for the NKDP.

A big thumbs-up from previous participants

This is the fourth time we've run this course in recent years. There are no fees – it's all free. Here's what some of the previous participants have said about 'To Love and Serve the Lord':

- 'I started the course wondering if it was for me. What the Lord showed me was that I should trust in Him and have courage.' Val
- 'The course helped me to understand and grow in faith, discovering new ways to serve the Lord and his people.' Mike
- 'I was at a crossroad in my spiritual life, knowing I wanted to serve the Lord and needed guidance. The course gave me the knowledge and showed me the way.' Josie
- 'It was like a breath of fresh air, building confidence, collegiality and faith.' Eric
- 'Fellow members were supportive and non-judgemental. I gained a new perspective on the bible and by considering our own talents it helped me focus on the pathway ahead.' Sylvia

For more info or to book your place on the course please contact Rev'd Lorna on lorna.brabinsmith@btinternet.com or speak to your incumbent

Date	Topic
Oct 1 st	1 Your faith journey
Oct 8 th	2 Learning and development
Oct 15 th	3 The Bible
Oct 22 nd	4 Engaging with Scripture
Oct 29 th	5 Prayer
Nov 5 th	6 Basic issues of faith
Nov 12 th	7 Individuals and faith
Nov 19 th	8 Communities and faith
Nov 26 th	9 Anglicanism
Dec 3 rd	10 Faith and society: the context for ministry
Jan 14 th	11 Ministry
Jan 21 st	12 Intro to pastoral ministry
Jan 28 th	13 Intro to assisting in public worship
Feb 4 th	14 Intro to Common Worship
Feb 11 th	15 Mission and Evangelism
Feb 18 th	16 Going deeper; what next?