

Discipleship and Ministry

*Events and Courses from
Southwark Diocese*

Autumn 2024

**Christ
Centred**

**Outward
Focused**



The Diocese of
Southwark

The Autumn 2024 events and courses brochure

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:6-7



Trinity House is the office of the Diocese of Southwark and can be found at
4 Chapel Court, Borough High Street, London, SE1 1HW.
The telephone number is 020 7939 9400.

Welcome!

Autumn approaches, and with it a new term full of fresh possibilities. We are delighted to share our September-December programme of events and courses to help deepen your knowledge and love of God and encourage you to share the Good News with others.

This Autumn's programme has a special focus on worship and music, with workshops on leading worship using the Book of Common Prayer (p. 15), choosing hymns and music for worship (p. 9), worship in Fresh Expressions (p. 8), and using the RSCM's Hymnpact! resource with children and young people (p. 16). These workshops are open to anyone who is involved or interested in leading worship, so do come along to learn something new!

Our popular series of Ground Floor Guides also continues with introductions to spiritual reflection, the life of medieval anchorites, body theology, and the life and writing of Martin Luther.

There are also sessions exploring AI through a Christian lens, Godly Play, ministry with the elderly and marginalised, Fresh Expressions, estates ministry, and much more. These free events are open to everyone, and are easy to book. We look forward to welcoming you this term.

Subscribing to Discipleship News - our monthly email newsletter containing prayers, news, events listings, and much more - is the very best way to keep yourself informed about what is on offer from Southwark Diocese and beyond. To subscribe, email learning@southwark.anglican.org with the word 'Subscribe to Discipleship News' in the subject line.

Do share this brochure with friends, family, and anyone else who might be interested in attending our events. The more the merrier!

The Revd Canon Wendy Robins
Director of Discipleship, Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Education
wendy.robins@southwark.anglican.org

The Venerable Carol Coslett
Assistant Director - Lay Ministry
carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org

Charlotte Gauthier
Assistant Director - Discipleship
charlotte.gauthier@southwark.anglican.org

Helen Medland and David Woods
Discipleship and Lay Ministry Administrators
helen.medland@southwark.anglican.org
david.woods@southwark.anglican.org

Sept

onwards

The Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship

The Bishop's Certificate is a ten-month course exploring the Christian faith, taking place between September 2024 and June 2025. It has six modules covering the Bible, church history, what Christians believe, living as a follower of Jesus Christ, and putting your future into God's hands. Those who complete the course are awarded the Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship.

The course is for anybody who wants to be more informed and confident in their faith, read the Bible with more understanding, and reflect on their journey as a Christian.

People exploring whether God might be calling them to ordination as a priest or deacon, or to be a Reader or Evangelist often take the course. For Commissioned Pastoral Lay Ministers (SPAs), Pioneers, or Commissioned Children and Youth Leaders, the Bishop's Certificate is their first year of training.

However, anybody who wants to love and serve the Lord faithfully will benefit from this course. Most people do it for the joy of growing in faith alongside a friendly and supportive group of fellow Christians.

You can take the course either online or in person at Trinity House, and there are evening or morning groups. The cost is £220, but no one is ever prevented from taking the course because of the expense.



For more details, precise dates, and an application form, e-mail bishopscertificate@southwark.anglican.org

It's not too early to register your interest for 2025.

Sept

onwards

Catalyst 30k

Catalyst is a dynamic seven-month training course for anyone volunteering or working as a paid worker with children, young people and families. It aims to equip and connect those who work with children and young people in the local church.

The programme is delivered through online content that can be watched at your own pace, and live two-hour Zoom sessions where participants come together to discuss their learning, delivered by Ridley Hall, free and fully funded by the Church of England. There is the option to complete an assignment and gain 20 credits at level 4 qualification.

The second Catalyst cohort will begin in late September 2024, and we encourage you to prayerfully consider whether Catalyst is right for you and other volunteers from your parish.



Please register interest for Catalyst 30K here by Friday 6th September:
<https://forms.office.com/e/APUWKdGK2B>

Sept

onwards

The Aurora Youth and Children's Ministry Courses

Do you work with children or young people? Join the Aurora Children's or Youth Ministry Course and gain a qualification as a commissioned Children's Minister or Youth Worker, which are formally recognised throughout Southwark Diocese. Aurora is a two-year course comprising the Bishop's Certificate plus specialist training in children's or youth ministry. Anyone can take the Bishop's Certificate, but there is a selection process for those who wish to train for lay ministry through Aurora.

The Aurora Youth Ministry course will begin in September 2025. (You could begin that qualification by taking the Bishop's Certificate in 2024.) Register your interest at bit.ly/41rarjo

Saturday
14 Sep

Vocations forum

This is a day during which you can reflect on what kind of ministry God is calling you to. Might you be called to ordained ministry as a priest or deacon, or to recognised lay ministry as a Reader, Pastoral Minister, Children and Young People’s Minister, Pioneer, or Evangelist? A vocations forum is an opportunity to reflect, pray and discuss it with others. Before you attend a day like this you should have a thorough conversation with your vicar. He or she will be able to help you decide whether the time is right to start exploring God’s call.

Saturday 14 September, 9.00am-4.00pm, Trinity House, free.

There will be further vocations forums on 16 November and throughout 2025.

Your incumbent or chaplain needs to sponsor you to attend. He or she can book your place by emailing glynis.beazley@southwark.anglican.org

Thursday
19 Sep

What is Pastoral Lay Ministry?

Clergy and church communities value the ministerial support and expertise of trained Pastoral Lay Ministers. In our Diocese we have three forms of lay ministry: affirmed, commissioned and licensed. Come and find out more about these ministries and what they offer; what training opportunities are available; and how Pastoral Lay Ministers can assist with pastoral support to members of your church or the local community.

This session is open to anyone interested in finding out about Pastoral Lay Ministry. It will be led by Wendy Stephens (Diocesan Lead for Pastoral Lay Ministers) and Michael Brockett (Diocesan Lay Ministry Consultant), both Licensed Pastoral Lay Ministers (LPLM). They will be supported by experienced Pastoral Lay Ministers.

Thursday 19 September, 7.00-9.00pm, Trinity House, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Thursdays
19, 26 Sep

Thursdays
10, 17 Oct

Leading Funerals (for Licensed Lay Ministers)

This course - led by the Revd Hilary Fife, who until recently was the Senior Chaplain of the Croydon Health Services NHS Trust - is for LLMs who have been licensed for more than one year and wish to be authorised to lead funerals.

Part 1 of the course (which meets over four evenings in Trinity House) covers bereavement, grief patterns and processes, preparation, ‘difficult’ funerals, and current issues. Part 2, which involves a series of practical ministerial experiences, follows over the course of a year.

Thursdays 19 and 26 September and 10 and 17 October, 6:30-8:30pm, Trinity House, free.

Your incumbent will need to support your attending the course. For more information and to apply for a place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Saturday
21 Sept

Introduction to Godly Play

Godly Play is a movement that encourages the spiritual nurture of children and adults in our churches. It involves storytelling and theological reflection for all ages. Children’s leaders and preachers alike are welcome to join the Revd Mary Hawes, as she introduces Godly Play and helps us understand what a powerful and creative technique it can be.

Saturday 21 September, 10.00am-1.00pm, Trinity House, free.



To book your place, visit this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/Ed2V56F62ZSat>

Friday
27 Sep

Spiritual abuse: Responding, supporting and working safely within spiritual direction/ accompaniment

This day course for spiritual directors will explore issues of spiritual abuse: coercion and control within faith organisations and communities. We will look at how to recognise spiritual abuse in our spiritual direction practice, how to respond well and how to support well, and the importance of policy, procedure, and practice in achieving this. We will also explore the impact of spiritual abuse and what needs to be considered when supporting survivors, and how to prevent spiritual abuse through building healthy faith culture.

Replenished Life is an independent registered charity that supports those who have experienced abuse and trauma within faith and provides training for both Faith Organisations and Secular Organisations.

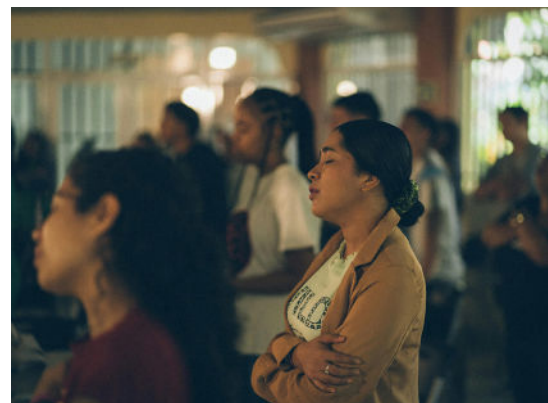
Friday 27 September, 10.00am-4.00pm, St Hugh's, Bermondsey (SE1 3PT), free (donation optional).

To book your place, email the Spidir Meetings Secretary Sue Charles at susanjcharles@aol.com

Wednesday
2 Oct

Worship in Fresh Expressions

This is a session for anyone involved in growing Fresh Expressions to help you explore how to introduce worship and become a worshipping community. We'll also look at how to develop your Fresh Expression into one that's authentically church. We'll consider important aspects such as using the Bible, sacraments, leadership and connection with the wider Church too.



Wednesday 2 October 7.30-9.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email pioneering@southwark.anglican.org

Thursday
3 Oct

Tuesday
8 Oct

A practical hour on encouraging legacies

Making a start on talking about legacies can feel sensitive, but these conversations offer pastoral opportunities. A legacy is a positive contribution to our lives and our world.

In any given year, about a third of Southwark's churches will benefit from a gift left in a will. These generous legacies have funded church maintenance, hall developments, new sound systems, music, children and youth workers, church gardens, and more. They are transformational gifts.

As Christians we can look ahead with hope. This hour will reflect on practical insights and resources, examples of good practice and news about helpful partnership.

Thursday 3 October, 12.30-1.30pm, Zoom, free, or
Tuesday 8 October, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email gemma.curran@southwark.anglican.org

Saturday
5 Oct

'Sing unto the Lord a new song': Choosing music to support worship

This session will look at why music is important to our worship, and how to choose hymns and songs to enrich and support worship. We will look at some historical background to hymnody, resources that can help plan worship around the lectionary and seasons, and a practical exercise will give participants an opportunity to choose a music list for a specific Sunday.



The session is open to all clergy, lay ministers, musicians, directors of music, choir leaders, wardens, worship leaders, anyone who might have an input in the musical life of parish worship. It is led by Venerable Carol Coslett (Assistant Director of Lay Ministry), Melvin Hughes (Organist and Director of Music at St Matthews, Redhill) and Geoff Mussard (Organist and Director of Music at St Francis and St Mary's, West Wickham).

Saturday 5 October, 10.30am-12.30pm, Trinity House, free.

For more information and to book, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Saturday
5 Oct

'I was in prison and you visited me': Lay ministry opportunities with people on the margins

This session - led by Wendy Stephens, Diocesan Lead for Pastoral Lay Ministers, with guest speakers John Patience, CEO of The Nehemiah Project, and Josh Brettell, CEO of Change for Good - gives anyone involved in lay ministry a chance to find out more about the work of two charities involved with ex-offenders and the opportunities to get involved in ministry alongside people on the margins of society.

Change for Good (CfG) is a mentoring charity that supports prisoners (our 'members') before and after release as they resettlement in London. The Nehemiah Project provides an abstinence-based residential recovery programme for vulnerable men, where they can address the root causes of their addiction within a supportive environment. Both charities work independently but also together. Our hope is there will be an opportunity to hear from those who have benefitted from the good work of both charities and from some volunteers.

Saturday 5 October, 10.00am-1.00pm, Trinity House, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Tuesday
8 Oct

Looking at AI through a Christian lens: how faith makes sense of a world-changing technology

AI is fundamentally changing our society in ways that haven't yet been fully understood. Secular approaches to the ethics of AI are struggling to understand, evaluate, and control this new technology and its effects on individuals and communities. Secular philosophy sees human beings as merely the most successful of animals; on this basis, there is no reason why AI isn't just the next evolutionary step.

By contrast, Christian faith provides a deep and rich way to understand human personhood, reality, ethics, history, and how we act in the world - all of which are powerful lenses through which to look at technologies like AI. This session will examine the rise of AI and explore how our Christian faith can help us respond to it. No understanding of technology will be necessary or assumed.

Tuesday 8 October, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Wednesday
9 Oct

Lay Ministry taster sessions

If you are thinking about how to use the gifts God has given you, then come find out more about Lay Ministry. At this taster session you can ask commitment-free questions about the different ministries, including Reader (teaching) ministry, Pastoral ministry, Pioneer (missional) ministry, ministry with Children and Young People, and Evangelist (outreach) ministry. This is a chance to hear some stories of people who have experienced these roles and been through training, and how you might begin exploring your own vocation.

Wednesday 9 October, 7.30-9.30pm, Zoom, free



To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

If you don't want to wait to ask your questions, you can get in touch with the Venerable Carol Coslett, Assistant Director of Lay Ministry, on carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org

Wednesday
9 Oct

Sustaining churches and Fresh Expressions through multiplying

In this session we'll look at how you can make your Fresh Expression or new worshipping community fruitful through multiplying. We'll look at why and how this makes sense once you've got something established and how you can help new Christians that are involved copy the first-century believers and grow new Christian communities themselves and how this helps retain people when those attending your fresh expression reach a new stage of life.

Wednesday 9 October 7.30-9.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email pioneering@southwark.anglican.org

Tuesday
15 Oct

Estates ministry: how the church can transform your community

Twenty-five years ago, Monks Hill Estate was considered the worst in Croydon and now today it is one of the best. Come and find out how the local church working with local people through youth work, a food pantry, and building a new community hub made a difference to this area, told in human stories and detailed research into the statistics.

This session is for clergy, lay ministers, community organisers, and anyone else interested in estates ministry. Come get inspired about what you might do in your own community!

Tuesday 15 October 2024, 11am-noon, Trinity House and Zoom, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org, stating whether you would like to attend in-person or via Zoom.

Tuesday
15 Oct

Making churches dementia-friendly - and more!

How can churches enable the participation of a wide range of people - especially those experiencing dementia?

In this practical online session, the SAGE (Southwark and Ageing) team will be joined by Sarah Thorpe (Dementia-Friendly Church Enabler in Lichfield Diocese) to look at how churches can enable broader participation and inclusion of those living with dementia.

Tuesday 15 October 2024, 7.30-8.45pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org



Saturday
19 Oct

Modern Slavery: Right here, right now

What's the price of modern slavery? What is modern slavery? Where is it? What can I do? And why should I care?

Experts in the field of modern slavery will answer these questions and more at a study day in Reigate. Modern slavery thrives when people don't know what it looks like and where it can be found in their community. This day will empower you to take action to report and prevent modern slavery. Each one of us can make a difference.



There will also be Marketplace stalls and a chance to spend time in quiet prayer for victims of modern slavery and those supporting them.

Saturday 19 October, 10.00am-3.00pm, Reigate Methodist Church (RH2 9AE), free.

No booking required - simply come on the day.

Monday
28 Oct

Ground Floor Guide to body theology

'And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory.' (John 1:14)

What does it mean for us that the second Person of the Trinity is incarnate? What does it mean for our own embodiment? Led by the Revd Charlie Middleton, Curate in the Richmond Team Ministry, this introduction to body theology considers gender, sex, fragility, disability, ageing, gender identity, skin colour, and sacraments!

The session will explore different themes and approaches to how we think of ourselves as creatures, and what it means that we are bodies which interact with one another and the rest of creation around us.

Monday 28 October, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Monday
4 Nov

Ground Floor Guide to anchorites

Could you imagine spending decades of your life confined to one or two small rooms attached to a church? Anchorites were women and men who did just that - withdrawing from everyday life to pray, to read the Bible and other religious books, and just to be with God. Hundreds of people in England from the 12th to 16th centuries lived as anchorites - including Julian of Norwich. But why?

Dr Clare Dowding, Reader at All Saints, Blackheath and Diocesan Warden of Readers, will give an overview of the vocation of anchorites in medieval England, why and how they lived this life, and how being a 'solitary' wasn't really as solitary as you might think!

Monday 4 November, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org



Wednesday
6 Nov

Ground Floor Guide to spiritual reflection

Spiritual reflection is an ancient Christian practice, with numerous references in the Bible and a rich tradition that continues to the present day. It can open us up to the workings of the Holy Spirit, leading to self-discovery and growth that bears fruit in our words, actions, and service to others. But how do you get started?

This session, led by Toni Mitchell - an experienced social worker, hospital chaplain, and a Commissioned Pastoral Lay Minister in the parish of St Andrew and St Mark, Surbiton - will introduce you to reflective practice and show you how you might use it to deepen your own walk with God.

Wednesday 6 November, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org/

Wednesday
13 Nov

Leading worship with the Book of Common Prayer

The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) is well-known for the beauty, poetry, and majesty of its language, and for the depth and reverence of its worship. Far from being a museum piece, however, the Prayer Book is part of a living tradition that continues to unite communities in praise and to shape the hearts and minds of millions of Christians around the world to this day.

This practical workshop - led by Charlotte Gauthier, Assistant Director of Discipleship, and Bradley Smith, President of the Prayer Book Society - will show you how to use the beautiful, timeless, and life-giving Prayer Book to lead worship in your own church. It is open to lay ministers, clergy, church wardens, musicians, and any others who may be involved in leading worship in parishes, schools, or chaplaincies.

Each participant will go home with their own complimentary copy of the BCP and a guide to using it in worship, courtesy of the Prayer Book Society.

Wednesday 13 November, 6.30-8.30pm, Trinity House, free.



To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Wednesday
13 Nov

Embracing stages of faith: a guide for Pioneers, the disillusioned, and the curious

Inspired by Brian McLaren's work, this two-session series will explore four stages of spiritual life and how it can help pioneers create authentic Christian communities amongst de-churched and un-churched people, those who are struggling to be part of church, and those who identify as spiritual and not religious.

This session looks in detail at perplexity; a stage of faith that many outside of our churches and who have stopped attending find themselves at, and look at how to embrace this season of people's faith journeys.

Wednesday 13 November 7.30-9.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email pioneering@southwark.anglican.org

Wednesday
20 Nov

RSCM Hymnpact! training day

Hymnpact! is a subscription-based resource for primary schools and churches, providing hymns and songs that are appealing to children and adults alike. The music is suitable for use in school (in worship and curriculum settings) but are also appropriate for church congregations of all ages. Hymnpact! bridges the gap between the hymns and songs commonly sung in schools and the range of hymns sung in church. We are doing this to bring schools and churches closer together.



This day course run by the RSCM will look at how to use this resource and how it can enhance vital work through Growing Faith in parish, school, and community.

Open to church leaders (lay and ordained), headteachers, school music leads, governors, children youth and family leaders, musicians, and singers.

Wednesday 20 November 2024, 10.30am-3pm, Trinity House, free.

For more information and to book, go to <https://forms.office.com/e/1E67VbZTHP>

Wednesday
20 Nov

Visiting older people in their own homes

Pastoral visits to older members of the church in their own homes can ease loneliness, link people together, and keep housebound people in touch with church life.

This session, led by the SAGE (Southwark and Ageing) team, will look at essential good practice for home pastoral visits with older people, both to ensure the safety of all and to share ideas that can help home visits to be a positive experience for both visitors and those visited.

Wednesday 20 November 2024, 7.30-8.45pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Monday
25 Nov

Ground Floor Guide to Martin Luther

When Martin Luther nailed his famous 95 Theses to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral on 31 October 1517, he could have had no idea what would come next. We often think of him as the founder of the Christian denomination that bears his name, but Luther had no intention of founding his own church - at least in 1517.

So who was Martin Luther? What did he teach? How did he go from being a simple friar in an obscure corner of Germany to the famous firebrand who ignited a revolution in the Church? In this session, Dr Charlotte Gauthier (church historian and Assistant Director of Discipleship) will introduce you to the life and theology of Martin Luther, and what his teachings can tell us today.



Monday 25 November 2024, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Wednesday
27 Nov

Embracing stages of faith: a guide for Pioneers, the disillusioned, and the curious

Inspired by Brian McLaren’s work, this two-session series will explore four stages of spiritual life and how it can help pioneers create authentic Christian communities amongst de-churched and un-churched people, those who are struggling to be part of church, and those who identify as spiritual and not religious.



This session examines the dark night of the soul, the sense of God not answering our prayers, lament, rage, disillusionment, aspiration and delay, and how to develop spiritual practices and churches that can help people survive and thrive when all of faith and the Christian life seems perplexing.

Wednesday 27 November 7.30-9.30pm, Zoom, free.

Saturday
7 Dec

What is Pastoral Lay Ministry?

Clergy and church communities value the ministerial support and expertise of trained Pastoral Lay Ministers. In our Diocese we have three forms of lay ministry: affirmed, commissioned and licensed. Come and find out more about these ministries and what they offer; what training opportunities are available; and how Pastoral Lay Ministers can assist with pastoral support to members of your church or the local community.

This session is open to anyone interested in finding out about Pastoral Lay Ministry. It will be led by Wendy Stephens (Diocesan Lead for Pastoral Lay Ministers) and Michael Brockett (Diocesan Lay Ministry Consultant), both Licensed Pastoral Lay Ministers (LPLM). They will be supported by experienced Pastoral Lay Ministers.

Saturday 7 December, 10.00am-noon, Trinity House, free.

To book your place, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Index

DISCIPLESHIP AND MINISTRY EVENTS		
Leading Funerals course for LLMs	19, 26 September 10, 17 October	7
Choosing music to support worship	5 October	9
Looking at AI through a Christian lens	8 October	10
Ground Floor Guide to body theology	28 October	13
Ground Floor Guide to anchorites	4 November	14
Leading worship with the Book of Common Prayer	13 November	15
Ground Floor Guide to Martin Luther	25 November	17
MISSION AND EVANGELISM		
Worship in Fresh Expressions	2 October	8
Sustaining churches and Fresh Expressions through multiplying	9 October	11
Estates ministry: church transforming community	15 October	12
Embracing stages of faith	13, 27 November	16, 18
SPIRITUALITY EVENTS		
Responding to spiritual abuse	27 September	8
Ground Floor Guide to spiritual reflection	6 November	14
JUSTICE, PEACE AND THE INTEGRITY OF CREATION		
Modern Slavery: Right here, right now	19 October	13
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE		
Introduction to Godly Play	21 September	7
RSCM Hymnpact! training day	20 November	16
VOCATIONS EVENTS		
Vocations forum	14 September, 16 November	6
Lay ministry taster evening	9 October	11
Explore lay pastoral ministry	19 September, 7 December	6, 18
PASTORAL EVENTS		
Lay ministry with people on the margins	5 October	10
Making churches dementia-friendly	15 October	12
Visiting older people in their own homes	20 November	17
GENEROSITY EVENTS		
A practical hour on encouraging legacies	3, 8 October	9



Christ
Centred

Outward
Focused



The Diocese of
Southwark