

Cultivate

**Training & Development
for all in the Diocese of Exeter
September 2025 - July 2026**

Introduction

I think much of my learning when I was younger was under duress. The motivating factor was the threat of failure, or being less successful compared to others, or, even worse, the shame of looking foolish in front of everyone else. Fear is very motivating! With those kinds of educators, the task was always trying to work out what it was they wanted and then give it to them. It was an ‘outside-in kind’ of learning. The enjoyment was only in getting the good marks at the end, and if that didn’t happen, the whole experience was unpleasant. However, I’ve been fortunate enough to meet ministers, teachers, mentors, coaches and spiritual directors who saw the potential already in me and wanted to encourage me to discover if for myself. Instead of giving me answers, they asked me questions, instead of setting a bar for me to jump over, they invited me into a new country to explore. They shared their passion, they invited curiosity, they made the journey of learning more important than the assessment at the end. These are the kind of learning opportunities I would like to offer in this diocese, and this is the kind of educator I aspire to be. And there is nothing more interesting, miraculous, beautiful, stimulating and companionable than learning to follow Christ and then learning to minister in the Church of God. If you have that passion, do share it so that we can be learners together.

Revd Preb Ian Bussell
Director of Mission and Ministry



Quick links: Click on the icons below to read more about some of our regular courses and training opportunities.



Lay Commissioned Roles



Do you feel called to a specific ministry in your local church? And want to support your community in mission?

The Diocese of Exeter is partnering with a variety of well established organisations to help equip and enable the local church in mission. We hope that through the delivery of high quality training, tried and tested resources, and mission funding, local commissioned leaders and volunteers will feel supported and valued by the church today.

Role Descriptions

- [Growing Faith Leader for Children and Families](#)
- [Growing Faith Leader for Youth and Families](#)
- [Lay Leader of Evangelism and Mission \[inc. Pioneer\]](#)
- [Anna Chaplaincy](#)
- [Leader for Creation Care](#)

How to book onto Training and Development Courses

When you have decided which courses you would like to attend, the links are within the section to take you to a booking form

<https://bookwhen.com/exeterdiocese>



Clergy Grants – [click here](#) to find resources available

OTHER TRAINING AND EVENTS Please note that training offered by other organisations will have different booking systems and may incur payment.

General Information

- To sign up for our monthly Cultivate Newsletter please [click here](#).
- All courses are open to all, lay and ordained apart from those specified.
- In order to give us time to send you the online joining code, please note that bookings close 24 hours before events (or on a Friday for Monday events).
- Our webinars and trainings cost time and money to run, so please consider carefully when booking if you will be able to take up your place and if you are not able to attend for any reason, please let us know in good time. Thank you.

If you have any problems or queries, please contact mandm@exeter.anglican.org

CLERGY CONFERENCE 2026

Clergy Conference 2026: Roots, Shoots & Fruits

15 to 18 June 2026

Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester

[Click here to book](#)



Who is it for? All licensed clergy

Venue: Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, GL7 6JS

Sections

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AT A GLANCE.....the year ahead

Date	Event	Venue	Provider/Trainer	Section
FEBRUARY				
Mon 2	GROW: Digital Ministry (1of5)	Online	Chloe Axford	6
Mon 2	Coaching, mentoring and supervision: Day 1	Exeter	Ian Bussell	6
Tues 3	Coaching, mentoring and supervision: Day 2	Exeter	Ian Bussell	6
Wed 4	Comms: Working with the Media	Online	Cassie Long	6
Sat 7	Foundations (Barnstaple Cohort) (4 of 7)	Barnstaple	Mission & Ministry	4
Mon 9	GROW: Digital Ministry (2of5)	Online	Chloe Axford	6
Mon 9	Exploring Ministry	TBC	Hannah Mears	4
Tues 10	Foundations (Plymouth Cohort) (5 of 7)	Plymouth	Mission & Ministry	4
Thurs 12	Comms: Mission Through Media	Online	Chloe Axford	6
Sat 21	Foundations (Exeter Cohort) (4 of 7)	Exeter	Mission & Ministry	4
MARCH				
Mon 2	Grow: Pastoral Care (1 of 4)	Online	Jon Curtis	3
Mon 2	Grow: Digital Ministry (3 of 5)	Online	Chloe Axford	6
Tues 3	Not shy of Retiring!	Exeter	Giles King-Smith	3
Wed 4	Foundations (Barnstaple Cohort) (5 of 7)	Barnstaple	Mission & Ministry	4
Thurs 5	MDR Reviewer's training	Exeter	Nicky McGinty	6
Thurs 5	Creation care: Using the Energy Footprint Tool	Online	Emma Kemp	3
Sat 7	Mission Shed – Connecting with Young Families	Cullompton	Sharon Blyth	1/3
Mon 9	Grow: Pastoral Care (2 of 4)	Online	Jon Curtis	3
Mon 9	Grow: Digital Ministry (4 of 5)	Online	Chloe Axford	6
Tues 10	GDPR & Data Protection	Exeter	Angela Burtonwood	3
Tues 10	Foundations (Plymouth Cohort) (6 of 7)	Plymouth	Mission & Ministry	4
Mon 16	Grow: Pastoral Care (3 of 4)	Online	Jon Curtis	3
Mon 16	Grow: Digital Ministry (4 of 5)	Online	Chloe Axford	6
Tues 17	Bubble Church event	Newton Abbot	Bubble Church	1
Tues 17	Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Justice Training	Exeter	Education	2
Wed 18	Sermon on the Mount Part 2 - Plymouth	Plymouth	Bishop Mike	7
Wed 18	People HR: Employment Law Seminar	Great Hall	People HR	6
Wed 18	Foundations (Exeter Cohort) (5 of 7)	Exeter	Mission & Ministry	4
Mon 23	Grow: Pastoral Care (4 of 4)	Online		3
Wed 25	Connecting to Community Schools	Old Deanery	Sharon Blyth	1
APRIL				
Wed 1	Foundations (Barnstaple Cohort) (6 of 7)	Barnstaple	Mission & Ministry	4
Sun 5	EASTER SUNDAY			
Tues 14	Foundations (Exeter Cohort) (6 of 7)	Exeter	Mission & Ministry	4
Thurs 16	People HR: Racial Justice / DEI	Old Deanery	People HR	6
Thurs 16	Comms: How to use Canva	Online	Grace Stanhope	6
Sat 18	Foundations (Plymouth Cohort) (7 of 7)	Plymouth	Mission & Ministry	4
Wed 22	Creation Care: Environment is tool for Mission	Online	Sarah Charker	2
Wed 22	Church for All : inclusion for all	Exeter	Claire Reynolds	3
Thurs 23	Failure in Leadership	Exeter	+James & Liz Grier	6

Tues 28	Rural Dean's Training	Exeter	Nicky McGinty	6
MAY				
Mon 11	Coaching, mentoring and supervision: Day 3	Exeter	Ian Bussell	6
Tues 12	Coaching, mentoring and supervision: Day 4	Exeter	Ian Bussell	6
Sat 16	Foundations (Exeter Cohort) (7 of 7)	Exeter	Mission & Ministry	4
Sat 16	Foundations (Barnstaple Cohort) (7 of 7)	Barnstaple	Mission & Ministry	4
JUNE				
15 – 18	Clergy Conference			
26-28	SPREE	Westpoint	SWYM	1
Tues 30	Sermon on the Mount Part 2 - Barnstaple	Barnstaple	Bishop Mike	7
JULY				

Children, Families & Youth Ministry

BUBBLE CHURCH

Bubble Church training is coming to Devon with the very first in person bespoke day of FREE training on 17th March. We would love you to join us! Venue: Abbotsbury Church, Newton Abbot.

Book direct with bubblechurch.org/Exeter



BUBBLE CHURCH
IS COMING TO EXETER DIOCESE!

Sign up your church to run this service for young families and join our free local training day on **17th March 2026**

Find out more and sign up bubblechurch.org/exeter



Are you looking to grow or start your children and families ministry?

- Bubble Church is a Sunday church service for young families.
- It includes simple liturgy, action songs, a Bible story, puppets, and a response activity.
- Running in 79 churches in over 30 diocese.
- **It's easy to launch and you'll be supported every step of the way!**

Find out more and sign up your church at bubblechurch.org/exeter

Mission Shed: connecting with young families

Saturday 7th March
9.30am-4pm

This one day event will include the latest research, innovative ideas, workshops, and plenty of support, inspiration and fun! Speakers and workshops include Bishop James Grier, Begin Well, Kids Matter, Hygge Church, Brick Church, and Adventure Church and more! Plus resources to peruse and buy.



ADAPTING, GROWING, FLOURISHING!

CONNECTING WITH CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

a Mission Shed gathering

TINYURL.COM/ADAPTING-GROWING-FLOURISHING



SATURDAY 7 MARCH | 9:30-16:00 | CULLOMPTON COMMUNITY HALL

Venue: Cullompton Community Centre

Who is it for? Anyone interested in sharing the good news, proclamation, and evangelism, including Church leaders, evangelists, missionaries and pioneers.

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Connecting to Community Schools

Wednesday 25th March
10-1pm

Most children and young people are in schools - so that is where we need to be! The Growing Faith model encourages us to connect Church, Home and School - and this is NOT just for 'Church schools' but is a powerful model for mission.

Come join us to explore ways to support your local school(s), engage families and hear from young people. This will include practical ideas and also space to feel inspired and re-envisioned. The team will include those who have been through the growing Faith Strategic Leaders course, sharing stories and resources.

Venue: Great Hall, Old Deanery, Exeter EX1 1HS

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Catalyst

Do you want to develop into a more confident, reflective, Children, Families or Youth practitioner? This 6-month learning journey is run in person – along with 1 hour of online learning - in your local setting by a Diocesan facilitator and includes a fully funded National conference. Contact Sharon if you want to join the 28 graduates who have already been through the course or fill in the booking form below.

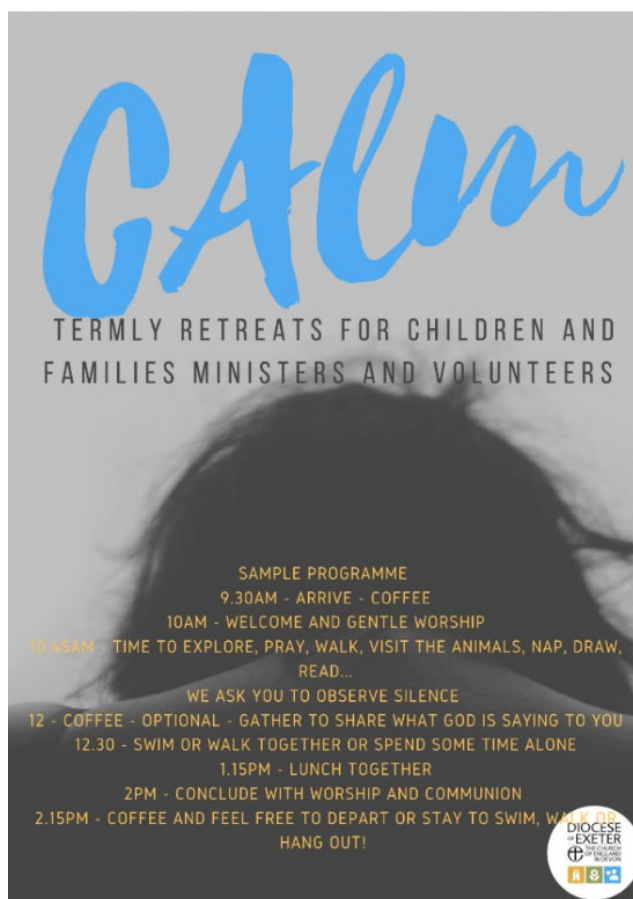
Venue: In person, various local venues to suit participants

Led by: Sharon Blyth, Gillian Ashcroft and Sara Chapman

Who is it for? Employed CYF ministers and volunteers

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Retreats – Lent, Easter and Summer



SWYM Activate Camps

Throughout the year

with specific focusses:

Geek Factory – Feb Half Term

Made for More – Easter Holidays

Live Football – May Half Term

Venue: In person

Led by: South West Youth Ministries

Who is it for? 11-16yrs

Booking: [Click here for further information](#)

SPREE 2026

26th – 28th June

Exeter Westpoint

A weekend camp at Exeter Westpoint with 2000 children & young people from across the region with teaching sessions for different age groups, seminars, fairground rides, workshops, silent disco and more.

Venue: Exeter Westpoint

LED BY: South West Youth Ministries

Who is it for? 8-17yr olds

Booking: [Click here for further information](#)

Satellites 2026

DATE TBC

Bath & West Showground

Summer Festival for Youth/Church groups, joining in with thousands of other Christians from across England to worship and spend the week together.

Venue: Bath & West Showground

Led by: Satellites

Who is it for? 11-17yr olds

Booking: [Click here for further information](#)

YouthScape Essentials (training for youth workers)

DATE TBC

April: Saturday Event in Great Hall 10-2pm

April-June: Online Sessions

Venue: Hybrid

Led by: South West Youth Ministries

Who is it for? Youth Workers and Volunteers

Booking: Contact [Jonny Schnarr](#)

Mission, Engagement and Environment

Mission Shed: Digital Ministry

Saturday 28th February

10am-4pm

This one day event will include the latest research, innovative ideas, workshops, and plenty of support, inspiration and fun! Speakers and workshops include Bishop James Grier, Begin Well, Kids Matter, Hygge Church, Brick Church, and Adventure Church and more! Plus resources to peruse and buy.



Venue: St Jude's Centre

Who is it for? Anyone interested in sharing the good news, proclamation, and evangelism, including Church leaders, evangelists, missionaries and pioneers.

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Mission Shed: connecting with young families

Saturday 7th March
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This one day event will include the latest research, innovative ideas, workshops, and plenty of support, inspiration and fun! Speakers and workshops include Bishop James Grier, Begin Well, Kids Matter, Hygge Church, Brick Church, and Adventure Church and more! Plus resources to peruse and buy.



ADAPTING, GROWING, FLOURISHING!
CONNECTING WITH CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES
a Mission Shed gathering

[TINYURL.COM/ADAPTING-GROWING-FLOURISHING](https://tinyurl.com/adapting-growing-flourishing)



DIocese of EXETER
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN DEVON

SATURDAY 7 MARCH | 9:30-16:00 | CULLOMPTON COMMUNITY HALL

Venue: Cullompton Community Centre

Who is it for? Anyone interested in sharing the good news, proclamation, and evangelism, including Church leaders, evangelists, missionaries and pioneers.

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Creation Care: Using the Energy Footprint Tool

Thursday 5th March
7.30pm-9pm

The Energy Footprint Tool (EFT) is a quick, easy-to-use tool designed to help your church calculate its carbon footprint using information from your energy bills. It's an essential step towards understanding your energy usage, enabling you to track progress over time and identify opportunities to reduce carbon emissions and care for creation. Completing the Tool can also help you to be considered for relevant grant funding.

Venue: Online

Led by: Emma Kemp, Net Zero Carbon Officer, Diocese of Exeter

Who is it for? Anyone who has questions about accessing and using the Energy Footprint Tool or wants to find out how it can benefit their church.

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Justice Training:

What does justice look like in collaboration with your parish?

The next EDIJ training session will be on **Tuesday 17th March 2026** at The Old Deanery, Exeter. Lorraine Prince (National Society) will be leading us in a session entitled 'What does justice look like in collaboration with your parish?' Lorraine summarises the event: This session explores what it means to have authentic collaboration between schools and parishes. We'll consider what it means to create '*psychologically safe spaces*' where differences, of background, belief, and experience, can be named, understood, and valued rather than avoided. Participants will reflect on how navigating difference with empathy and courage strengthens relationships and deepens a shared commitment to justice. Through dialogue and practical examples, we'll uncover what justice looks like when it is lived out collectively, in actions, language, and partnerships that reflect the dignity and belonging of all.

Please put this in your diaries as this would be a great opportunity for schools and clergy to spend time together looking at this important area of work. Further details to follow. To book for this event please email education@exeter.anglican.org.

Venue: Old Deanery, Exeter

Who is it for: schools and parishes together, facilitated by Lorraine Prince from the National Society.

Creation care: environment is tool for Mission**Wednesday 22nd April****7.30pm-9pm**

A session exploring the Eco Church scheme and how each category can be a tool for mission.

Venue: Via Zoom

Led by: - Everyone keen to see increased community engagement in the churches mission to go green.

Who is it for?

Booking: [Click here to book](#)**CLERGY CONFERENCE 2026****Clergy Conference 2026: Roots, Shoots & Fruits****15 to 18 June 2026**

Royal Agricultural University,
Cirencester

Further details will follow in the Autumn, but we can confirm one of our Key Notes Speakers will be Archbishop Hosam of Jerusalem.

[Click here to book](#)

Who is it for? All licensed clergy

Venue: Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, GL7 6JS



People and Pastoral

3 - People and Pastoral

Not shy of Retiring!

Tuesday 3rd March

10:30am- 3pm

A chance to spend time reflecting on the changes entailed in retirement, with particular emphasis on the spiritual and psychological aspects of being retired. A mixture of plenary sessions and group work, with lunch provided.

Venue: In person at the Old Deanery, Exeter

Led by: - Marisa Cockfield, Giles King-Smith and Philip Sourbut, who will bring their varied experiences of retirement.

Refreshments and lunch will be provided

Who is it for? Anyone expecting to retire within the next 4 years

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

GDPR & Data Protection

Tuesday 10th March

2pm – 4pm

In summary the [General Data Protection Regulation](#) (GDPR) is a law that establishes obligations for businesses and provides rights for citizens to keep their personal information safe. To comply with this law, businesses must establish a data protection [compliance](#) programme which will stand up to cyber attacks but also be accessible, should people exercise their right to see what data is held about them. Failure to comply with the regulations can lead to undermining confidence in institutions and result in significant fines and compensation claims.

This training will provide you with a basic understanding of GDPR and the Data Protection Act, in an attempt to provide you with the confidence to know what can and can't be shared and when considered along with the new Church of England data retention guidance, you will gain a greater understanding of how long information must be kept for, as well as how to record Data Protection breaches and where to find useful information to help you in your day to day roles.

Angela is the Senior Operations Officer at the Diocese of Exeter and among my duties is that of the Diocese Data Protection Officer. I am always happy to help decipher what can be a tricky bit of legislation and I will never consider any question to be a silly question, as it is all learning!

Venue: Old Deanery, Exeter

Led by: Angela Burtonwood

Who is it for? All Clergy

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

FURTHER ON WITH THE ENNEAGRAM

JUDY FRIEND & JEANIE HONEY

A map of human development and growth
A powerful resource for understanding self & others

Part 3: Subtypes of the Enneagram

Understanding a person's Enneagram type helps us to see why people are so different and why we behave the way we do. Each of the nine Enneagram types has a different focus of attention which consistently influences where our energy goes and how we respond. The particular drive and focus of our type are often not in our conscious awareness and yet they are at the core of our reactions, behaviour and relationships. Once we have an understanding of our type, we have the freedom and awareness to wake up and choose to behave in different, less reactive ways.

Come and join us on 21/22 March 2026 (9am-5pm) in the beautiful Exe Valley. This weekend we will focus on the Instincts and Subtypes of the Enneagram which gives a whole new level of depth in our understanding of ourselves and others. People sometimes find that their Enneagram type seems to only partially fit them, but in discovering their dominant instinct and subtype, suddenly it all rings true and brings greater clarity for the path of growth. Come with a curious mind and open heart to discover new Enneagram content which is accessible, actionable and useful.

We offer a stunning Studio space on the banks of the River Exe. Refreshments and cakes are provided; please bring your own lunch. Total cost for the 2 days is £120. Book soon as spaces are limited. It is non-residential; advice on local accommodation is available on booking - judy@red-earth.org. Our expectation is that participants will know their Enneagram type and have an introductory level of knowledge of the Enneagram.



ABOUT US



Jeanie Honey is an accredited Enneagram teacher and coach. More details at www.exeterenneagram.com



Judy Friend is a Psychosynthesis Counsellor (BACP) and Enneagram coach. More details at www.judyfriendcounselling.com and contact her at judy@red-earth.org

Your Enneagram Type

A requirement before you attend the retreat is the completion of a typing interview to discover your Enneagram type if you don't already know it. You can book one with Jeanie: email her at exeterenneagram@gmail.com or take the online test at: <https://cpenneagram.com/taketestnow> Further details available on booking.

Directions

Higher Mill, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5LL. Important note: putting EX5 5LL in your satnav will bring you via Thorverton which is a very narrow difficult lane. Put Bickleigh Castle EX16 8RP in your satnav and Higher Mill is the next house on left - 1 mile beyond the Castle.

Church for All

Wednesday 22nd April
10am – 3pm

Claire Reynolds our Disability Advisor introduces a day geared towards making your churches and worshipping spaces more accessible for those with disabilities, additional needs or neurodivergence. Taking a holistic view, and with the help of experts in the field, we will look at the whole range of church life. From the physical building, to looking at how to make children's and youth groups more accessible, and to different services and groups - what barriers are there to people fully hearing the good news and engaging with the life of the community. We will be looking at various ways of breaking down those barriers - and how making one small change can make a massive difference.

Venue: Old Deanery Exeter

Led by: Claire Reynolds

Refreshments and lunch will be provided

Who is it for? Everyone

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Count Everyone In

Count Everyone In offer the following training, which is arranged as requested

Know & Grow Longing to Belong helps understanding of learning disability, the challenge for churches and how to set up a ministry group for adults

Know & Grow Life Matters includes a look at sexual relationships, mental health, healing, bereavement and more in relation to adults with learning disabilities

Know & Grow Makaton – developed by CEI and the Makaton Charity to provide Christian language signs and symbols as well as everyday language.

Venue: Online

Led by: Count Everyone In

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Vocation, Faith and Spirituality

4 - Vocation, Faith and Spirituality

Exploring Ministry

Monday 9th February

7.30pm-9pm

If you are feeling a nudge from God, please talk to someone about it, and come along to this evening to explore some of the ways God calls people into ministry. God uses people in a whole variety of ways, in the first half of life and in the second, mostly not ordained, but some who are. How might God be calling you, or someone you know?

There will be space to reflect on God's calling, to hear from different speakers about different ministry avenues and opportunity to ask questions.

"Just wanted to say how much I enjoyed last night - it was brilliant and really, really helpful to hear from others already in lay and ordained ministry positions."

Venue: TBC Barnstaple area

Led by: Rev Hannah Mears and others (see above)

Who is it for? Everyone exploring a possible call for God to a whole variety of ministries.

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Worship and Preaching

Please see Other Training Providers
page 31 for trainings



Leadership and Management

Into Incumbency

Into Incumbency is a series of stand-alone workshops on all aspects of the life of an incumbent. It is an essential part of IME for third year 'incumbent' curates and those new to the diocese taking up an incumbency for the first time. However, experienced clergy who want a refresher on any individual session are very welcome, as are LLMs and Churchwardens who would find any session helpful. Please email Susie Watson if you would like further information.

Who is it for? New Incumbents and anyone wanting a refresher on a particular topic.

Booking: [Susie Watson](#)

Coaching, mentoring and supervision: skills for enabling the ministry of others (4 Day Course)

Monday 2nd February 9am-5pm

Tuesday 3rd February 9am-5pm

Monday 11th May 9am-5pm

Tuesday 12th May 9am-5pm

Coaching is essentially the skill of helping someone think through their stuff in their own way. It's a core skill for anyone enabling and empowering the ministry of others. Mentors use coaching skills and bring their own experience into the mix. Supervisors also use coaching skills but bring in other aspects of the role, the organisation and the people we serve. This four-day course is learning through practice so that, like learning to ride a bike, what feels clunky at first becomes part of your practice by day four.

Who is this for?

Anyone wanting to enable the ministry of others, those in supervisory roles such as training incumbents, rural deans and team leaders, mentors, and those who may have the heart and the time to offer coaching to others in the diocese.

Ian Bussell is the Director of Mission and Ministry. He trained as a teacher and then as a psychotherapist before ordination. He has had two parish roles where he has been a training incumbent. In the last few years, he has developed coaching and mindfulness in the diocese of Gloucester.

Venue: Great Hall, Old Deanery, Exeter, EX1 1HS

Led by: Rev Ian Bussell

Refreshments and lunch will be provided

Who is it for? Church Leaders

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Comms: Grow Digital Ministry

Monday 2nd February 7pm to 8.15pm

Monday 9th February 7pm to 8.15pm

Monday 2nd March 7pm to 8.15pm

Monday 9th March 7pm to 8.15pm

Monday 16th March 7pm to 8.15pm

The Digital Ministry Grow Course is aimed at anyone involved in church communications and tech or anyone who would like to be. Over five weeks we will look at the theology of Digital Ministry and cover practical skills for good communications and engagement in church services, on social media, through church websites and in print too. The course will be delivered by the Diocese of Exeter Communications and Engagement team with contributions from guest experts.

Venue: Online

Led by: Chloe Axford and comms team

Who is it for? Anyone involved in church AV, websites, social media, magazine editing (or those who would like to have a go!)

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Comms: Effective Social Media Videos

Wednesday 4th February

11am-12noon

Have you ever wanted to share your faith or promote your church online, but didn't know where to start? This beginner-friendly session will introduce you to the basics of creating simple, yet engaging social media videos using your smartphone, to promote church events and connect with your community online.

The session will cover key principles, such as knowing your audience, keeping your message clear, and using story-telling to make your videos more engaging. We will explore practical tips on planning short scripts, filming and editing with smartphones, choosing the right location, lighting, and adding captions or music. We will also touch on free tools and resources to make editing easier. By the end of the session, you should feel more confident in creating videos that reflect the heart of your congregation and reach beyond the church walls.

Venue: Online

Led by: Cassie Long

Who is it for? Everyone

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Pre-retirement reflection Day

Tuesday 10th February 2025

10.30am-3.00pm

A chance to spend time reflecting on the changes entailed in retirement, with particular emphasis on the spiritual and psychological aspects of being retired. A mixture of plenary sessions and group work, with lunch provided.

Venue: Old Deanery, Exeter, EX1 1HS

Led by: Marisa Cockfield, Giles King-Smith and Philip Sourbut, who will bring their varied experiences of retirement.

Who is it for? Anyone expecting to retire within the next 4 years

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Comms: Mission Through Media

Thursday 12th February

2pm to 3pm

Learn how to get your church news covered in the local and national media, how to write a great press release and produce videos and photos the media will use. This webinar will also look at how to handle unwanted media attention.

Venue: Online

Led by: Chloe Axford

Who is it for? Everyone

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

MDR Reviewers

Thursday 5th March

Times – AM

This training sessions is for MDR Reviewers and will be led by Nicky McGinty
Nicky McGinty is an independent consultant, facilitator, trainer and coach specialising in the areas of leadership, learning and change management. She currently works regularly with the Dioceses of Leicester and Chelmsford along with many other organisations. She is a self-supporting priest in the Diocese of Leicester and an honorary canon of Leicester Cathedral.

Venue: In Person

Led by: Nicky McGinty

Who is it for? MDR Reviewers

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Comms: How to use Canva

Thursday 16th April

2pm to 3pm

Would you like to create eye-catching posters, leaflets, PowerPoints, and more, for your church? This beginner friendly webinar is for you! Grace Stanhope, Communications and Engagement Officer: Website, Marketing and Publications, will walk you through the basics of Canva and will show you how it can help bring your church communications to life. This session is ideal for those who are new to Canva, or would like a gentle introduction to using it with confidence.

Venue: Online

Led by: Grace Stanhope

Who is it for? Everyone

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Failure in leadership

Thursday 23rd April
10.30am to 1pm

If we're honest most of us spend a lot of time feeling we're not good enough as Christian leaders. We're all too well aware of the ways in which we let people and even God down. Scripture is meant to inspire and encourage us, yet often the stories of the heroes of the Bible leave some of us feeling even more inadequate. The truth is that most of the heroes of scripture are far from heroic. Their failures and weaknesses massively outweigh their strengths and yet God calls, uses and loves them anyway.

James and Liz have recently written a book together, "Normal Imperfect People - The 'failures' God used to teach about leadership." In this session, they will be sharing some of the insights about Biblical characters from the book and some of their own stories of failure and weakness.

Venue: In Person

Led by: +James and Liz Grier

Who is it for? Everyone in Christian Leadership

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Rural Deans Training

Tuesday 28th April
10am-4pm

This is a day's training for all Rural Deans with the Archdeacons

Venue: In Person

Led by: Nicky McGinty

Who is it for? Rural Deans

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Sermon on the Mount Part 2

Wednesday 18th March

9.30am-12.30pm

Sermon on the Mount part 2 (no need to have attended part 1!)

One of the greatest gifts of Jesus to us is his Sermon on the Mount - but some of the ways we interpret it can seem like bad news in terms of how high the bar is set or what we are required to do. This day continues +Mike's look at Jesus' teaching on the Sermon on the Mount (looking at the second half of Mt 6 and then Mt 7) and how it is wonderfully wise teaching, enabling our spiritual transformation, a transformation rooted in the action of actually following Jesus and his teaching in ways which enable us to begin to take on something of His character. The Sermon on the Mount is not about a new and sterner legalism but pointers to what life can become for devoted disciples and apprentices of Jesus. There will be talks during the course of the time with plenty of room for discussion and reflection.

Repeat from October and repeated in June

Venue: St Jude's Church, Beaumont Road, Plymouth, PL4 9BJ

Led by: Bishop Mike

Refreshments will be provided

Who is it for? Aimed at all clergy and LLMs, others would also be warmly welcomed.

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Sermon on the Mount Part 2

Tuesday 30th June

1:30pm – 5pm

Sermon on the Mount part 2 (no need to have attended part 1!)

One of the greatest gifts of Jesus to us is his Sermon on the Mount - but some of the ways we interpret it can seem like bad news in terms of how high the bar is set or what we are required to do. This day continues +Mike's look at Jesus' teaching on the Sermon on the Mount (looking at the second half of Mt 6 and then Mt 7) and how it is wonderfully wise teaching, enabling our spiritual transformation, a transformation rooted in the action of actually following Jesus and his teaching in ways which enable us to begin to take on something of His character. The Sermon on the Mount is not about a new and sterner legalism but pointers to what life can become for devoted disciples and apprentices of Jesus. There will be talks during the course of the time with plenty of room for discussion and reflection.

Repeat from March and June

Venue: Holy Trinity Church, Barbican Terrace, Barnstaple EX32 9HQ

Led by: Bishop Mike

Refreshments will be provided

Who is it for? Aimed at all clergy and LLMs, others would also be warmly welcomed.

Booking: [Click here to book](#)

Brilliant Basics – theology for everyone

Brilliant Basics – theology for everyone is new for 2025, we are starting a series of short courses offering an exciting opportunity for everyone to explore the theology behind the big questions about life and the Christian faith. Students can choose whether to write reflections and receive a certificate at the end, or to sit back and enjoy the learning without the pressure of submitting written work. The first course will begin in October 2025, looking at the Old Testament. Future courses are likely to cover deep dives into sections of the Bible, theological explorations of aspects of faith (e.g. The Kingdom of God, The Lord's Prayer), topics in Christian spirituality, church history and aspects of contemporary faith such as ecotheology. Each course will run for 6 weeks. You can choose between an online course or an in person taught course. Keep an eye on our website and social media for course details and how to sign up. These courses are designed for anyone and everyone who wants to expand their thinking and experience of God through studying with others, led by our team of experienced teaching staff.

Venue: In person

Led by: - SWMTC

Who is it for? Everyone

Booking [Click here to book](#)

Grants for theological books.

Clergy (licensed and pto) can apply for a grant of up to £50 per year to pay for theological books.

To apply for the grant please send receipts to the Bishop's PA, Sarah Ball, sarah.ball@exeter.anglican.org and she will arrange for you to be reimbursed from the Grigg-Smith bequest.

Other Training Providers

Church of England

Various dates and times

Church of England Webinars

The Church of England is offering a range of webinars to resource your church and church leaders.



LED BY: Church of England

Booking: For booking and further information regarding this course please [visit](#)

Church support hub

Various dates and times

The Church Support Hub is a website which offers resources and learning to support people, churches and dioceses to Grow, and to realise the Church's Vision and Strategy in parishes and local communities.



CHURCH SUPPORT HUB

Whether you are a leader in a diocese, church or network context, you can access a range of resources, from webinars, videos and online courses to research, policy and practice guides, and inspiring stories designed for you. Content is developed with specific audiences in mind.

The site's search feature is designed to enable you to find the learning and resources you most need in just a few clicks. You can also connect with others working on the same theme or approach by reaching out to those sharing their work and peer networks.

LED BY: The Church Support Hub

Booking: For booking and further information regarding this course [please visit](#)

Exeter Cathedral events

Various dates and times



Please refer to their website for information on various events.

LED BY: Exeter Cathedral

Booking: For booking and further information regarding this course [please visit:](#)

SWMTC

Various dates and times

South West Ministry Training Course (SWMTC) provides part-time training which is Christ-centred, world-engaging and rooted in local communities.

Our students are lay and ordained people learning generously together. We learn, we laugh, and we cry together as we come together, staff and students, to continue to discern the call of God in our lives. Although our foundation is in the Church of England in Devon and Cornwall, we welcome students from other traditions and elsewhere to join us in learning and worshipping together.

Whatever your interest, on this website you'll find details of all our courses, including information about time commitment and fees. Download our [course booklet](#) or just [get in touch](#) and we will be happy to help.



LED BY: SWMTC

Booking: For booking and further information regarding this course [please visit](#)

St Mellitus SW

Various dates and times

St Mellitus College, South West is committed to training leaders in the south west in a way which responds to the particular context of mission in this challenging and exciting region.



Booking: For booking and further information regarding this course [please visit](#)

SWYM

Various dates and times

What We Do

We place trainee Children and Youth Workers with churches, local ministries and schools work projects throughout the region.

We also resource local churches with training events, residentials and leadership development opportunities for young people.

SWYM work with local partners to put positive Christian role models wherever children and young people are. We want to reach out to those who don't know Jesus and share the love of God with them. We also want to see young people become Christians and then encourage them to be a shining light where they are.

We now also offer opportunities to engage in missional leadership in settings around the South West for those with a heart for community transformation. We are excited about seeing how we might resource local churches to reach out to their community in new ways.

We have a great team based across the region, but we need many more people to join us in our mission to the people of the South West.



LED BY: SWYM

Booking: For booking and further information regarding this course [please visit](#)

College of Preachers

Various dates and times

Our public events and seminars are open to preachers of all denominations. The list below also includes events run by partner organisations.

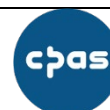
LED BY: College of Preachers

Booking: For booking and further information regarding this course [please visit:](#)

Events from CPAS

Various dates and times

Local church mission is the heartbeat of CPAS. As an Anglican evangelical mission agency, we believe that the message of the gospel is relevant to all people, and that effective local church ministry is the key to seeing men, women, young people and children come to faith in Christ.



LED BY: CPAS

Booking: For booking and further information regarding these course [please visit:](#)

Events from Sarum College

Various dates and times

Sarum College is a learning community open to all.

Programme formats vary from evening lectures today and residential courses. Course content also varies from

academic to experiential, intensive to leisurely. Life experience feeds into our tailored approach to learning and theological exploration within a community of people who want to develop as thinkers and leaders.



Sarum College
CATHEDRAL CLOSE, SALISBURY

LED BY: Sarum College

Booking: Booking information and other courses available can [be found by clicking here](#)

Faraday institute for science and religion

The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion is a Cambridge-based interdisciplinary research institute improving public understanding of religious beliefs in relation to the sciences. Hear from Faraday

Institution researchers and from the wider UK battery research and

innovation community at these upcoming events. Connect with the team and collaborate.



The Faraday Institute
for Science and Religion

LED BY: Faraday Institute

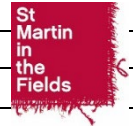
Further information [Click here to find out more information](#)

St Martin in the Fields

Lectures & Courses from St Martins in the Fields can be found on their website.

LED BY: St Martin in the Fields

Further information [Click here to view](#)



Looking for learning resources

The St Paul's Cathedral learning library holds hundreds of films, podcasts and written resources for adults and children.



LED BY: St Paul's Cathedral

Further information [Click here to browse](#)

Pioneering Parishes

Low cost online workshops from CMS
Pioneering Parishes provides tools to help parishes become more outward looking, enabling parish priests and their churches to extend the care of souls into all the parish.



[Click here for further information](#)

Funding grants from Sarum college

Support for your learning
Sarum College has a limited number of bursaries available for UK residents who would be unable to study with us without financial support. We use clear criteria for awarding bursaries, but earlier applicants may receive preference where all other application eligibility criteria are equivalent.
Further information can be found on their [website](#)



New Wine Leadership Network

Equipping Leaders, Empowering Younger Generations & Multiplying churches

Leading a church is a calling filled with significant possibility and potential but carries with it a weight of responsibility and challenge. Our experience is that the more we journey with others the better leaders we become. That's why we created the **New Wine Leadership Network**—a movement of church leaders committed to **seeing local churches thrive, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and transforming their communities.**

You're on the **frontline of Kingdom work** and we are here to help, equip, encourage, and walk **alongside you** in every season of leadership.

LED BY: the **New Wine Leadership Network**

Further information [Click here to view](#)

SAVE THE DATE....



**DIOCESE
OF EXETER**
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
IN DEVON

**ENABLING
WORSHIP**

**LICENSED LAY MINISTERS
CONFERENCE 2026**

6-8 FEB 2026

**LIVERMEAD CLIFF HOTEL,
TORQUAY**

**BOOK YOUR PLACE:
FORMS.GLE/SNEDA7EV6WK4RW6CA**

SCAN TO BOOK



9 - Save the date.



ROOTS SHOOTS & FRUITS

CLERGY CONFERENCE 2026

 **15-18 JUNE 2026**

 **ROYAL AGRICULTURAL
UNIVERSITY CIRENCESTER**

For clergy conference please [Click here to book](#)

9 - Save the date.

Festivals/Camps 2026

Children and Youth:

DCYC - <https://dcyc.org.uk/>

Spree - <https://swym.org.uk/spree-sw/>

Satellites - <https://www.youthscape.co.uk/satellites/home>

Dreaming the Impossible - <https://dreamingtheimpossible.org/>

Lee Abbey Camps - <https://leeabbeydevon.org.uk/visit/camps/>

Hill House Camps - <https://hillhouse.org.uk/camps>

Limitless Festival - <https://www.limitlessfestival.co.uk>

Scripture Union camps - <https://content.scriptureunion.org.uk/summer>

Family Fest SW - <https://familyfestsouthwest.com/information/>

Anyone

Spring Harvest - <https://www.springharvest.org/>

Landscapes - [Landscapes — Hazelnut Community](#)

New Wine - <https://www.new-wine.org/events/new-wine-festival-2026/>

Wildfires - <https://wildfiresfestival.com/>

Creation Fest - <https://creationfest.org.uk/>

Big Church Festival - <https://bigchurchfestival.com/>

Cliff Festival - <https://www.cliffcollege.ac.uk/cliff-festival>

David's Tent - <https://www.davidstent.net/>

Keswick in Devon - <https://keswickindevon.org.uk/>

Specific Groups

The Gathering (Men's Event) - <https://thegatheringformen.com/>

Christian Surfers National Gathering

- <https://www.christiansurfers.co.uk/events/csuk-national-gathering-camp-out-2025>

Mission Worship - [Home | MissionWorship.com](#)

9 - Save the date.