

*Foundations for Ministry* is a 1-year non-accredited course delivered by the Eastern Region Ministry Course (ERMC) and will begin in September 2020.

This course is both for those already exercising, or looking to exercise, a leadership role in an area of ministry in their local church; and also for those exploring a vocation to licensed lay or ordained ministry in the Church of England. It will also be a good preparation for further training and (re-)introduce students to the academic side of ministry training. The course will enable participants to develop their biblical and theological understanding and consider this in relation to issues and situations that affect individuals and communities.

## The Course

There are 3 modules, 1 module per term. Each module has a specific focus:

- **Module 1** – set texts from Isaiah 40-55 and Matthew's gospel;
- **Module 2** – development of Christian beliefs in the early church looking particularly at Augustine of Hippo, and then the church in modern decades;
- **Module 3** – exploring issues that affect individuals, groups, churches, local communities and the wider world and how we shine the light and hope of Christ into these situations.

Whilst these are specific areas of focus, the course keeps the Bible, Christian beliefs and ministry in view throughout.

Sessions will be approximately 1 hour in length and will be delivered online by podcasts and/or videos, and will be made available on the Monday of each week of term, so participants can access the session at any time in the week, whenever is most convenient. In addition there will be 2 hours of reading per week, and an online discussion forum to discuss the topics raised in the sessions with others on the course. There will be a piece of work to be submitted for each module.

## Term dates

### *Autumn Term*

Induction – week commencing (w/c) Monday 7th September 2020

#### Module 1

w/c Monday 14th September 2020

w/c Monday 21st September 2020

w/c Monday 28th September 2020

w/c Monday 5th October 2020

w/c Monday 12th October 2020

w/c Monday 2nd November 2020

w/c Monday 9th November 2020

w/c Monday 16th November 2020

w/c Monday 23rd November 2020

w/c Monday 30th November 2020

### Spring Term

w/c Monday 11th January 2021  
w/c Monday 18th January 2021  
w/c Monday 25th January 2021  
w/c Monday 1st February 2021  
w/c Monday 8th February 2021  
w/c Monday 22nd February 2021  
w/c Monday 1st March 2021  
w/c Monday 8th March 2021  
w/c Monday 15th March 2021  
w/c Monday 22nd March 2021

### Summer Term

w/c Monday 19th April 2021  
w/c Monday 26th April 2021  
w/c Monday 3rd May 2021  
w/c Monday 10th April 2021  
w/c Monday 17th April 2021  
w/c Monday 31st May 2021  
w/c Monday 7th June 2021  
w/c Monday 14th June 2021  
w/c Monday 21st June 2021  
w/c Monday 28th June 2021

There will be one or two sessions a term when we gather together to discuss our learning – and also optional weekly evening sessions available for support at our Wisbech Learning Centre. These sessions will initially, at least, be online.