

7. Who pays the costs?

The cost is £80. Since leadership development is such an important priority, we are asking the local Church Councils to contribute towards the cost. The £80 covers the cost of all sessions, venues, meals and refreshments, handouts, and other materials.

8. What happens at the end of the course?

Being a participant does not guarantee a leadership role afterwards; the hope and expectation, however, are that subject to an appropriate process of discernment most participants would continue in or move into a leadership position in their local Churches.

If you'd like to know more please contact admin@cumbriachristianlearning.org.uk or see: www.cpas.org.uk/growing/content



Information

**Running in 3 locations in Cumbria
from early 2019
(applications to be received by November 2018)**

Contact:
admin@cumbriachristianlearning.org.uk
01768 807765

1. Starting Point

We recognise as the Church that the development of both existing and new leaders needs to be a top priority. In running the '**Growing Leaders**' course in the county our hope is that it will help make a real difference to the way we understand Christian leadership and will result in new Church Leaders being grown amongst us. 'Leadership' covers a wide variety of roles, and isn't just about the high-profile ones such as Minister, Warden, or Elder – a lot of people are leaders without realising it and we want to encourage them all!

2. Why this course?

CPAS (Church Pastoral Aid Society) is a respected provider of support and training to churches, and has developed the *Growing Leaders* course in response to needs expressed by many different churches. Our prayer is that running the course will enable us to:

- start to equip a group of leaders/potential leaders to meet the challenges we face as a Christ's Church in a changing world.
- move towards a shared understanding of the principles of Christian leadership among our leaders and the congregations we represent.
- encourage and develop *new* leaders and equip them to take on new responsibilities within our Church communities; and
- support and encourage existing and potential leaders who hold leadership roles in other areas of life, so that they can be more effective witnesses there by showing and sharing distinctive Christian leadership.

3. What's the course intended to achieve?

Growing Leaders aims to equip leaders:

To be led more by Jesus, knowing him and understanding his will

Christian leadership is rooted in our relationship with Jesus and so we begin by exploring the basis of that relationship and the priority of spiritual disciplines in the leader's life. We continue by considering God's call on our lives and how we can best discern it. This reflects the way in which Christian leaders are first and foremost those who are led by Jesus and follow his call for their lives.

To lead more like Jesus, enabling his people to be a reconciling community

We need to model ourselves on Jesus, becoming more like him so we can lead as he did. We therefore spend time thinking about the personal qualities of a Christian leader, and what it means for a leader to be a servant.

To lead more to Jesus, serving his redemptive purposes in our generation.

Jesus' commission was to make disciples (Matthew 28:16-20). We therefore reflect on how leaders can play a part in the disciple-making process - whether it is helping people to become disciples, or helping them to grow as disciples.

4. What does the course involve?

The course is multi-layered, the key elements being:

- **Learning** There are seven two-hour midweek evening sessions at spread through the year, a Sunday afternoon and two Saturday all-day sessions. Each session contains elements of Bible teaching, activities, reflection and worship.
- **Mentor** Each participant is provided with a mentor for the year. Their role is to help the participant integrate the learning into their daily life.
- **Support groups** Participants are divided into small groups for mutual support
- **Projects** Participants are asked to complete a total of four projects, to help implement what has been learned or to prepare for a subsequent session.
- **Prayer support** Participants are encouraged to identify someone (a friend or spouse) who will specifically pray for them throughout *Growing Leaders*, as well as the Church family praying for them.

5. How will participants be selected?

The course is intended for the full range of existing and potential leaders, and we'd love to have a group that represents a balance between men and women, people of different ethnicities and ages, and existing and potential leaders. The selection process will be in two stages:

- submission of applications by Friday 30th November; and
- prayerful consideration of applications by the Course Leaders.