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19th July 2021

Dear Friends

The ALTP pathway and Local Lay-Pastors

You may be one of those who, as things relax or change for the holiday months find time for stepping back or time to take a different vantage point and in those moments you may see how the folk you know can develop or grow in their ministries. If this is the case (or if someone is badgering you for opportunities to serve) then please read on.

One of the initiatives that we have been working on as a District is the vocational Authorised Local Training Pathway (ALTP). This is a six session training course spaced over one year to support those who are feeling called into lay ministry within their church. The next ALTP course commences on 29th September. This is an ecumenical course and it would be great if each Circuit in the District could send someone along. The final taster session is being held on 12th August. Further details and direction are available from Emma Richardson Emma.Richardson@CarlisleDiocese.org.uk

If you have been following Conference news you will be aware that we now have the green light for the training and deployment of Local Lay-Pastors. The District has been working on this for a while now and our plans have integrated with the Connexion (details can be found from the Conference agenda p299). The pattern of training takes the following form:

1. Core training, which will be standard and set by the Connexion. A record of completion will be held by the Connexional Team and once completed will be transferable if they move to and serve in other Circuits.
2. Initial training, which will be agreed with the individuals Circuit and tailored to their specific role. Depending on requirements this may take place within the Circuit or District.
3. Continuing Development, which all Local Lay-Pastors will be expected to engage with and will be facilitated by their Circuit and the Learning Network.

In line with the Conference timescale we will be looking to run training for this Conference approved office for/from September 2022. This will give us time to get the training and process in place. However, if folk have joined the ALTP programme this September then this can enable them to start a year earlier (though they will need to complete their core training by 2025 if they wish to continue in office).

We are mindful that it has taken us some time to arrive at this point but are sure that you will be of the same view that we need to set such a vital aspect of our ministry development right (and in line with the Connexion). Please do get in touch if you would like further details or someone to speak to members of your Circuit about these two initiatives.

Many thanks



David Newlove