

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT & MINISTRY TRAINING

# **The Cherry Tree Pathway**

2025 - 2027



# Welcome to our Training

OneSpirit's **Spiritual Development and Ministry Training** offers a unique approach to Interfaith Ministry and spiritual growth. For over 25 years, we've guided individuals on a journey of self-discovery and supported them with entering into compassionate, sacred service.

Our two-year training programme is designed to help you:

- Deepen your own spiritual connection
- Develop inner leadership skills

Each in turn give you the tools to engage in meaningful **sacred service** in the world.

Through practices such as **deep empathic listening, inclusivity, respect for diversity, and reverence for personal faith and spirituality**, we explore what it means to be human and how to live a more deeply authentic life.

If you feel you are ready to take the next step in you own journey, to step out into the world and be of sacred service, **we welcome you to join us on this transformative journey.**

## Our Touchstones

Inclusivity,  
compassion,  
authenticity,  
spiritual transformation.

“Interfaith is not a religion. It walks among the religions. Interfaith begins when we create a bridge between one set of beliefs and traditions and another... An Interfaith Minister ideally is one who turns towards all, regardless of their beliefs or practices, with an open heart and mind, offering them a mirror to their own wholeness and their own divinity.”

*Susanna Stefanachi Macomb, OneSpirit Minister*

# The Curriculum

Our curriculum is **deeply experiential**, drawing on your own rich and diverse life experiences, and using this to shape explorations in class. This leads to opportunities for deep self-reflection, opens us up to hearing diverse perspectives and allows us to continually meet others with love and respect.

The world is our classroom, and in order for each of us to be in sacred service, however, this may look for you, our work must remain connected to the world in which we live.

## The heart of the curriculum:

- Recognising the **inherent worth and sacredness** of ourselves, and being able to recognise this in others;
- Allowing us to **come into loving relationships** with ourselves and others.
- We draw on the **principles of nonviolent communication** to see the ways in which we may engage with difference and continue to work with love.
- **Deep empathic listening** is the golden thread that connects each aspect of our curriculum.

## The Cherry Tree Pathway follows both an inner and outer curriculum:

- The **inner curriculum** focuses on our relationship with ourselves and the Divine. It involves a self-reflective process that fosters personal growth, helping us tune into our internal world and access our inner wisdom. This foundational work prepares us for engaging with the outer curriculum, which relates to our role and actions in the world.
- The **outer curriculum** examines our relationships and how our inner growth impacts our relationships and ministry in the world.

# The Core Principles

Building on the success of our Aspen and Birch Pathways, the Cherry Tree Pathway reflects our commitment to evolving ministry training. As the world continues to change, we thoughtfully adapt our approach each year to ensure our training remains relevant, impactful, and aligned with the needs of each new group of students. This pathway is guided by four key principles:



## Deep Empathic Listening

This underpins much of our curriculum, focusing on how we listen to ourselves, to Spirit, to the wisdom of the world's faith paths, and to others. You will approach deep listening as an essential skill to both your inner development and your ministerial outreach.

## Self-Awareness through Self-Reflective Practice

You will explore a range of self-reflective models and how to implement these in your own practice to deepen your self-awareness and personal growth.

## Holistic Development

You will journey through the development of the whole self by an active inner exploration of what spirituality means to you, implementing physical and mental practices to dive ever deeper into your self-development.

## Your Ministry

Integrating all the above, you will embark on an enquiry into who, and what, community is, exploring the interconnectedness of all beings. In doing so, you will journey through what it means to be of service in community, and the ways in which this may realise itself.

# The Curriculum Themes

To guide this work, our curriculum takes on a cyclical structure, encompassing a range of key themes that are explored again and again. Together, these themes allow you to delve deeper into both the inner and outer aspects of the curriculum. You will learn what it really means to meet people where they are in sacred service, whatever form this may take for you.

## Deep Listening Skills

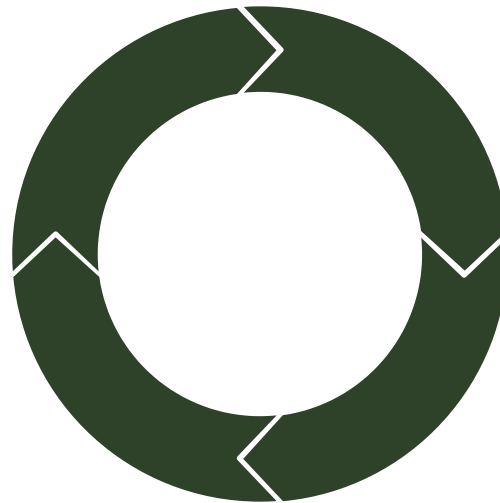
We emphasise deep listening, understanding and acknowledging others' experiences, and explore how this fosters connection and opens genuine dialogue.

## Spiritual and Pastoral Service in Community

We work to build peace within ourselves and our communities, fostering healing after conflict. Our goal is to contribute to a healthier society and planet by resolving conflict with kindness and inclusion.

## Ceremony and Ritual

We explore the power of ritual and ceremony, particularly around life's major rites of passage. We focus on how these sacred rituals, such as blessings and funerals, allow for personal creativity.



## Self Reflective Practice

We explore practical resources to support self-development and self-awareness. We emphasise self-reflection to connect deeply with the self.

## Faith Paths and Worldviews

We explore the core principles of different faiths to foster respect and empathy for difference. Our focus is on finding common ground through the shared human capacity for love.

## Ministry of Spiritual Accompaniment

We practice deep empathic listening and offer support to others through spiritual companionship. By being present and non-judgmental, we create space for meaningful, heartfelt conversations.



# Our Approach

Our training isn't about simply absorbing a fixed set of teachings but rather it is about engaging with a living, evolving curriculum that adapts to the unique needs and experiences of each student. We believe learning is a dynamic, collaborative process – a dance between the material, the tutors, and the students themselves. This approach creates an environment where your insights and contributions are integral to the learning experience. We prioritise creating a safe, sacred space for exploration. Trust and confidentiality are at the heart of our community, allowing you to explore your spirituality with confidence and openness.



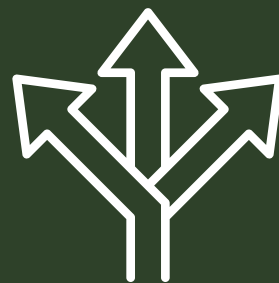
## Blended Learning

The Cherry Tree Pathway is delivered through weekly online sessions, alongside a bespoke online classroom and dedicated student communications platform.



## Emphasis on small group work

There is power in small group work in making space for a deepening into key areas of the curriculum. An experiential approach is at the heart of our work, and small group spaces allow this to be at the forefront.



## Optional Modules

To deepen your experience on our training, you will be welcome to attend a series of optional retreats and workshops to explore specific themes and connect with our wider community. These will take place both in-person and online.



## Diverse and global student body

We welcome all individuals ready to take the next step in their journey, wherever they may be on that path. Students join from all across the world and from different backgrounds which we feel adds to the whole experience of our training.



## Living Curriculum

Our curriculum is ever-changing, just like the world we live in. It responds to the students within it to continually offer a deep and radical process.

# The Curriculum Delivery

This two-year journey will be delivered through a blended approach; weaving together live weekly classes - both as a whole class and in small groups - alongside resources in our bespoke online classroom, and a dedicated student communications platform, all with the intention of nurturing your development. We adopt a flipped learning approach, meaning your independent study helps to shape the work that happens in the classroom.

## Weekly Classes

Wednesday evenings will become dedicated to your weekly classes. These will be a mix of whole class meetings and small group work.

## Online Classroom

Our bespoke online classroom will nurture your independent learning.

## Tutor Support

A range of support meetings will be available with your tutor team and our body of accredited supervisors.

## Optional Modules

You will have the opportunity to deepen into specific areas of interest as your ministry begins to take shape.

## Online Community

You will have access to a purpose-built and intentional online communications platform.

## Spiritual Practice

You are expected to maintain a daily spiritual practice that will support you in your ministry.

# Opportunities for Connection

We understand that everyone comes to us seeking something unique; whether it's flexibility, a sense of belonging, or the chance to connect more deeply with others. That's why we've designed the Cherry Tree Pathway to honour these diverse needs.

By maintaining an online-only option for accessibility and offering opportunities for in-person gatherings, we create a space that meets you where you are. This pathway is about fostering connection in the way that's most meaningful for you.

The year is shaped by online weekly classes and these will be a mix of whole class sessions and small group work. A bespoke online classroom will support your independent learning. You will have access to an online communications platform to stay connected between weekly meetings.



## Optional Modules

- Our newly introduced enrichment programme gives all Cherry Tree Pathway students access to a range of additional sessions to deepen their experience of the training.
- These sessions will be **available as online workshops, in-person residential retreats, and in-person day workshops.**
- Both the in-person and online workshops are open to the entire OneSpirit community, giving you the **opportunity to meet and connect with other OneSpirit students and Ministers** to begin really embedding yourself into the OneSpirit community.



# Key Dates for Your Diary

Each year is divided into a series of 'Gateways,' with each gateway containing weekly classes - some as a whole class and some in smaller groups - alongside independent study in our online classroom.

## Induction Period

Before your training commences, you will be expected to complete an online induction period.

We will share a range of resources with you that we will ask you to work through in your own time. These resources will ensure you feel prepared when the training begins and your first class takes place.

## Platform Introduction

Our training is supported by a series of bespoke online platforms. To ensure you get the most out of these, you will be expected to attend an online class to introduce these platforms. This will take place on:

**Wednesday 1 October, 6:00-7:30pm (GMT)**

## Flow of the Year

Once your induction period is over, you will move into your weekly class rhythm.

The first of these weekly classes will take place on:

- **Wednesday 8 October 2025, 6-9 pm (GMT)**

These classes will then continue throughout the year, ending in July 2026. There will be scheduled breaks throughout the year. Your second-year programme will follow a similar yearly structure.

## Optional Modules

As well as the weekly class rhythm, there will be optional modules available for you to choose from to deepen into specific areas of interest. These will be a mix of **online** and **in-person** opportunities.

The months of **January** and **May** will be dedicated to optional modules. Here you can choose from a range of options to suit your interests.

# Investment

As an educational charity, we do all we can to keep our fees as low as possible whilst offering an exceptional curriculum held by an experienced and highly skilled Faculty. To make our training more accessible, we offer a range of payment options, including an extended payment plan to allow you to spread payments over 60 months.

**Early Bird Offer: Save £500 if you complete enrolment by 1st August 2025.** Completing enrolment means signing and returning your Training Agreement to us and having a payment plan set up by 1st August. If you want to take advantage of the early bird offer, please make sure that you have submitted your application by the start of July at the latest to avoid disappointment. This allows time for us to process your application and gather your references/contact your referees.

Early Bird Offer - complete enrolment before 1 August and save £500		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
2 instalments of £3,357	20 instalments of £335.70	60 instalments of £121.90
Total cost of £6,714	Total cost of £6,714	Total cost of £7,314

Fees from 1st August 2025		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
2 instalments of £3,607	20 instalments of £360.70	60 instalments of £130.24
Total cost of £7,214	Total cost of £7,214	Total cost of £7,814

## Fee Structure

Our fees are inclusive of all weekly webinars, access to our bespoke online classroom and online communications platform, tutor support through online meetings and online messaging, attendance at any online additional modules, and your Ordination ceremony at the end of your training.

We believe it is important for us to be as transparent as possible about any additional costs so you can prepare. Our fees do not include any reference books, attendance at in-person events through our optional module offering, or sessions with our body of accredited supervisors.

If you would like to discuss our fees in more detail, please email Danielle at [danielle.wilson@osif.org.uk](mailto:danielle.wilson@osif.org.uk)

# Supervision

A key part of your training and ministry is regular supervision with an accredited supervisor. We are proud to have our own body of trained accredited supervisors working with our student and minister communities. Supervision fosters a culture of ongoing learning and development in your ministry and plays an essential role in your reflective practice. We ask all our students to have regular supervision throughout their training.

This is **not** included in our fee structure as we feel this gives you the freedom to work with a supervisor from our accredited body that you feel most drawn to and allows you to work within your own budget.

## Why are the benefits for being in regular supervision?

Supervision supports **self-reflective practice** by creating a safe and structured environment where you can explore the experiences, challenges, and thoughts that arise for you in the training. It supports a deeper self-awareness by offering feedback, alternative perspectives, and helping you to identify patterns in your work. By regularly reflecting on your practice with a supervisor, you have the opportunity to gain greater clarity about your strengths, areas for development, and recurring patterns in your work; supporting you in building a more intentional practice. Supervision presents an opportunity for a continuous process of introspection, learning, and growth.

Supervision creates a **non-judgmental, supportive environment** allowing you to openly explore your strengths, challenges, and responses to your experience with the training. This safe space encourages you to reflect deeply not only on your work, but also on your personal feelings, and reactions, which you may not have the time to explore on your own.

## Supervision Requirements

We ask that our students receive a minimum of **5 1-1 supervision sessions each year** with a member of our accredited supervisors. We anticipate that this would be an additional £200 - £400 per year.

## Additional Support

Our supervisors often offer a sliding scale of fees for individuals needing any financial support. Alongside this, OneSpirit are able to offer varying support for any student that might need it.

My experience of supervision as a client has been transformational, educational, at times thrilling and mind and heart-opening, challenging - and simply game-changing for my own work practice and self and professional development.

*OneSpirit Minister & Supervisor,  
Nicola Coombe*

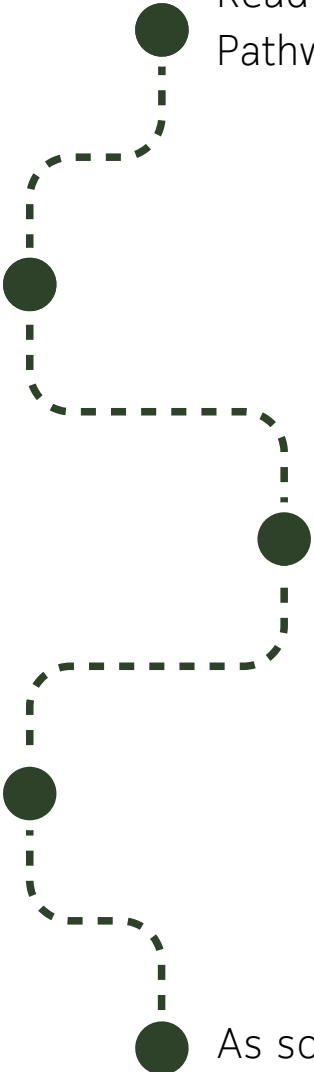


# Ready to Apply?

Each year, we work to make our application process easier and more accessible. We highly encourage you to attend an Intro Day, which is an informative session where you can learn more about the training and ask any questions. However, attending an Intro Day is not a requirement to apply, and you can submit your application as soon as you're ready!

As soon as you're ready, submit your application! You can find the application form here: [Apply Here!](#)  
You'll need two character references, so have their details ready and let them know about your application.

We'll be busy processing your application and reaching out to your references. As soon as these have been received, you'll get an email from us confirming your progress, and inviting you to sign your Training Agreement.



Read through all the information on the Cherry Tree Pathway in this information pack and on [our website here](#).

Attend an Intro Day! This is a great opportunity to meet others interested in the Cherry Tree Pathway, as well as our tutors, current students and ministers. It's also the perfect time to ask any questions you have.

As soon as you sign and return your training agreement and set up your chosen payment plan, your place on the Cherry Tree Pathway will be confirmed!





**OneSpirit**  
Interfaith Foundation

### Legal Information

OneSpirit Interfaith Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee. Registered Charity No: 1099163 (England and Wales) SC040148 (Scotland). Registered Company No: 04432622.

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