



INTRODUCTION TO VOLUNTARY WORKPLACE CHAPLAINCY

Over a year, our volunteer chaplains **have thousands of** significant supportive conversations. We meet many more people, month in, month out in briefer interactions.



“Chaplains re-charge our batteries”
(Christmas Market Trader)

“My journey at times has felt unbearably hard and having the chaplain there, providing a listening ear or a smile, meant so much to me, enabling me to go back, renewed and able to carry on”
(Public Sector Staff member)



A Saturday Training Course

In the Church at Carrs Lane
7th and 28th September 2024
All Day 9:45 am to 5.00 pm

LED BY

WorkCare West Midlands

Are you called to serve God in your local community or workplace?

WorkCare West Midlands
www.workcarewm.org.uk
Reg. Charity 1208119

What is WorkCare West Midlands?

- An ecumenical charity that supports workplace chaplaincies across the Birmingham, Solihull, Coventry and Warwickshire. The current chaplains visit places like Birmingham Airport, Cadbury College, Bus Garages, Canals, Fire Stations, Bullring, Kings Heath, Longbridge and Touchwood Shopping Centres.
- Its trustees are drawn from the major denominations of the Christian church.
- It is linked with other faiths and can draw on other faith advisors as necessary.
- It works with church congregations to help them connect with their local economy and working people.
- It is well connected with national chaplaincy, 'faith and economy' networks.

Our voluntary workplace chaplains are committed volunteers who give about half a day a week visiting a local organisation or enterprise, befriending workers and stimulating people to wonder about God: answering questions such as 'what are God-people doing here?' Chaplains support staff to make sense of the highs and lows in their lives.

Course Details

- The course is intended for people who are interested in exploring workplace chaplaincy as an outworking of their faith life. It introduces some of the core themes and requirements to be a workplace chaplain and provides useful information and support to equip them.
- This course will take place in The Church at Carrs Lane, Carrs Lane Birmingham, B4 7SX, opposite Moor Street Railway Station. Refreshments will be provided.
- Course teaching is informal led by current chaplains, and draws on experiences of participants. Participants attend both days and cover:
 - **Why be a workplace chaplain?**
 - **The chaplain as presence and pastor**
 - **Understanding the context of chaplaincy**
 - **The chaplain as a critical friend**
 - **Faith, spirituality and chaplaincy**
 - **Organising for chaplaincy (with visit to City Centre)**
 - **Chaplaincy and the church (includes 1:1 with course tutor)**

- Undertaking the course does not oblige or guarantee that participants will become our chaplains. Before placement, we expect them to have completed the course, and we will also seek character references from suitable people they nominate.
- We are established with the Christian church and our chaplains are Christian but have experience of working alongside other faiths. The days will start and end with brief Christian prayers.

Fee

- There is a charge of £50 (payable in advance) to cover some of the course costs, materials and refreshments. Please enquire if the cost is difficult as there may be bursaries available. Often students are sponsored by their Church.

Course materials

- A course handbook supports the course from the beginning, with extra materials

What then?

- At the end of the course, each participant will have a 1:1 with their course tutor to discuss their progress into voluntary chaplaincy, if appropriate.
- The course is not formally accredited, but a certificate of completion is provided.

Limited places are available on the course. Please sign up by **Tuesday 27th August 2024.**

I'm interested

To obtain a registration form or for more information please contact:

teamwwm@workcarewm.org.uk or write to

WorkCare West Midlands, John Cadbury House, 190 Corporation Street, Birmingham B4 6QD

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