



Edgehill

Theological College

LEARNING | SERVING

2017 - 2018

Programme of:

- ◆ Theological Education
- ◆ Part-time Courses
- ◆ Continuing Ministry Development
- ◆ Seminars & Workshops
- ◆ Ministerial Formation

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www.edgehillcollege.org



A MINISTRY OF THE METHODIST CHURCH IN IRELAND

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

As an affiliate College of the Institute at Queen's University Belfast, Edgehill offers supervision for prospective Queen's postgraduate students applying for Masters or Doctorate pathways of study in Theology.

For further details, or to discuss opportunities for postgraduate study, email study@edgehillcollege.org.

MTh

This is a full-time or part-time course of study for those who already have a good degree in theology. Students work with a supervisor in their chosen area of study.

The course of study consists of a training module (Concepts, Issues and Methods in Theology Research), four taught modules, and a 20,000 word dissertation. The programme of study must be agreed in consultation with an approved dissertation supervisor and will be subject to formal endorsement by the Theology Postgraduate Research Committee.

MPhil and PhD

These research degrees are available to suitably qualified applicants. College staff have particular expertise for helping those interested in post-graduate study in the following areas:

- ◆ New Testament
- ◆ Practical Theology
- ◆ Ministry & Mission
- ◆ Christian Doctrine
- ◆ Modern Theology
- ◆ Ecumenical Studies
- ◆ Christian Spirituality

ST JOHN'S SCHOOL OF MISSION, NOTTINGHAM

Certificate in Christian Studies

The Certificate in Christian Studies (CCS) is a course in applied theology, designed to equip Christians of all denominations for ministry and mission, offered through the Distance Learning Programme of St John's School of Mission, Nottingham. Students can register for a single module or multiple modules if you prefer. There is no time limit or deadlines, enabling you to study at your own pace.

WALK IN THE WORD: In the Beginning ...**Course Tutor: The Revd Dr Janet Unsworth****"But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God..." (John 20:31)**

Our study sessions this year will take us on a journey through the narrative of John's Gospel. As well as looking at the events of Jesus' life in John's account, we will reflect on the distinctive way in which the Gospel writer tells the story. Join us as we explore what it means to believe in Jesus according to John.

Wednesday: 10.30 am - 1.00 pm
Semester 1:
 27 September - 6 December 2017
Semester 2:
 10 January - 21 March 2018
Course Fee: £150

AN INTRODUCTION TO HOSPITAL VISITATION**Course Tutor: Revd Derek Johnston**

A 10-week training course offered in conjunction with the NI Healthcare Chaplains' Association, this is a course for those already involved in hospital visiting either as part of a church pastoral care team or within a chaplaincy context. Places are limited on this course and, subject to successful application, are allocated on a first come, first served basis. Participants are asked to complete an application form and provide a letter of reference from their minister/pastor/priest.

Thursday: 7.30 pm—9.30 pm
Semester 1:
 21 September - 30 November 2017
Course Fee: £75

INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL VISITING**Course Tutor: Mrs Louise Wilson**

A 5 week course for anyone involved in visiting within their local congregations exploring:

Thursday: 7 pm—9 pm
 22nd February—22nd March 2018
Course Fee: £40

- ◆ The role of the Pastoral Visitor in the life of the local church;
- ◆ Communication Skills;
- ◆ Good practice guidelines and self-care;
- ◆ The place of prayer in visiting;
- ◆ Appropriate responses and resources for pastoral concerns.

As a church we are committed to encouraging all people to grow in their discipleship and further develop their ministry skills. Edgehill College works in collaboration with IMYC to do this in a number of ways:

1. CONTINUING MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT

This is a series of seminars for those in ordained and probationary ministry, and for employed vocational layworkers. The latter group will include pastoral assistants, children and family workers and youth workers.

Attendance at CMD seminars may be used to count towards the 20 hours (pro rata) of courses/training/professional development which ordained ministers and lay workers in paid employment are required to undertake during each Connexional year.

2017/18 CMD Programme:

BELFAST

- ◆ Preaching 28 September 2017
- ◆ Marriage and Family 12 October 2017
- ◆ Theology of Pastoral Care 7 December 2017
- ◆ Children's Work - Assemblies 11 January 2018
- ◆ Quiet Day Retreat 20 February 2018

DUBLIN

- Personality and Spirituality 22 November 2017

NORTH WEST

- Mental Health March 2018 (tbc)

All seminars are held at Edgehill College, Belfast from 10 am - 4 pm. A nominal charge of £5 will be requested on the day to cover expenses. To facilitate catering arrangements, you are asked to register for seminars in advance. Email ministry@edgehillcollege.org.

2. OPEN SEMINARS AND TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Confirmed for 2017/18

BELFAST

◆ Parenting

Saturday, 24th February 2018

ETC and IMYC are continually looking at ways to support local congregations in exploring what it means to be whole-life disciples - learning to see church, community and home life as the context for ministry. We want to equip and enable people to be kingdom-builders, partnering with God in his mission.

We are willing to work in collaboration with local congregations, circuits or Districts to help identify specific training needs and provide resources. Training workshops are offered throughout the year and details circulated through ministers and local secretaries as appropriate.

Seminars we hope to run in the current Connexional year will look at issues such as dementia care, Messy Church, understanding employment responsibilities in a church context, and how to run meetings well. It is planned that these seminars will be held in a variety of venues throughout the Connexion.

3. LOCAL PREACHER TRAINING

Edgehill is continuing to pilot the new training course for Local Preachers, 'Worship: Leading & Preaching', in association with the Connexional Local Preachers' Committee. This course develops skills for preaching and leading worship as well as providing an opportunity to deepen knowledge and understanding of the Bible and Christian teaching. It consists of eight modules and all the material is accessed online, including any required reading. In addition there are three group sessions for each module led by Edgehill staff. We would welcome enquiries from anyone interested in being part of the second pilot group starting in September 2017.

For further information, or to discuss opportunities for lay training please contact tdo@edgehillcollege.org.

Course Tutors: Mrs Breige O'Hare and Revd Alan Lorimer

The ministry of Spiritual Direction has an ancient heritage in the history of Christian Spirituality. In our own time, the role of the spiritual director has never been more important. There is a hunger for meaning, authenticity, connection and a longing for a real and experiential relationship with God. Spiritual direction can help in the search to satisfy that hunger, attending to the ache for deeper relationship with God. Some writers have described it as the recovery of the lost jewel in the crown of Christian soul care.

Edgehill offers two programmes for those considering the ministry of spiritual direction.

◆ Paying Attention to God

A one-year course run over 8 Saturdays from September to April.

It is necessary to complete this course (or an equivalent) before applying to the STEPS course. In an approach rooted in Ignatian spirituality, drawing on the wisdom of Christian tradition and psychology, we pay attention to God, not only in prayer and reflection on scripture, but also in our own stories and in the ordinary events of daily life.

◆ STEPS in Spiritual Direction

A two-year course run over 9 Saturdays each year.

The role of spiritual director is a call within the church and as such, is accompanied by the necessary aptitudes and talents. The training provided in the STEPS programme is underpinned by the belief that the Holy Spirit is the true director. The spiritual direction offered is rooted in the Ignatian tradition drawing on an integrated psychological and spiritual understanding of the whole person.

For information on courses planned for 2017/18 please contact office@edgehillcollege.org.

Every Christian is called to exercise a ministry of one sort or another, as they use the gifts and talents with which God has entrusted them and respond to God's call to discipleship. Within that understanding of the ministry of the whole people of God ordained ministry is but one form of service.

Ordained ministry is God's initiative. Since the beginning of the Church, Christians have set apart those whom God has called to a ministry of word, sacrament and pastoral oversight. Ordained ministry is therefore a vocation. It is an obedient response to the will and call of God and not primarily the outcome of one's own desires. That is why, if you believe that God is calling you to ordained ministry and leadership, the Church will rightly test that sense of call with you.

Forms of ordained ministry

God calls in different ways and at different times in life. The Methodist Church in Ireland recognises different ways in which ordained ministry can be exercised. Itinerant ministers can serve anywhere in Ireland and receive a stipend. Local ministers exercise ordained ministry alongside their other work and in a voluntary capacity. The stationing of local ministers is limited to circuits which are accessible from the minister's own home.

The ordained ministry is open on equal terms to men and women.

Training

Initial training normally takes 5 years and consists of a combination of time in college and time on circuit as a probationer minister.

The best training pathway for each individual candidate is developed with the staff at Edgehill. There are three strands to initial training for all students: theological understanding, the skills necessary for ordained ministry and relationship with God.

What next?

If you think that God may be calling you into ordained ministry don't leave it there. Continue to pray, and talk about it with others you trust, and who will speak with you honestly. Speak with your own minister, who will want to think through your call with you, and who will be able to advise you on qualifications and the processes for candidating and training. You should also talk with the Superintendent minister on your circuit.

You may also wish to speak to others in the Methodist Church who can guide you, and the Revd John Alderdice, Director of Ministry, will be happy to help you begin the process of considering whether the time is right to offer as a candidate for ordained ministry in MCI. You can contact John by telephone on [028 9068 6931](tel:02890686931) or by email, jalderdice@edgehillcollege.org.

COLLEGE

Edgehill Theological College is a ministry of the Methodist Church in Ireland which seeks to serve God by preparing men and women for ministry in God's Church.

Alongside a full programme of training and development for ordained ministry, the College runs a range of courses which offer learning and training opportunities for all who want to study theology and develop skills for ministry. It is sometimes possible for staff to take speaking engagements or lead workshops in Circuits. The teaching staff at Edgehill are available to discuss training requirements with individuals, groups and local churches.

COLLEGE LIBRARY

The College library is a valuable resource for anyone engaged with theological study for academic courses, Christian ministry or for personal interest. The library also benefits from a close working relationship with the Methodist Historical Society in Ireland (located immediately beside the library) which holds a wealth of historical records and artefacts relating to Irish Methodism.

To register to become a reader, please contact the College Librarian at 028 9068 6936 or email libr@edgehillcollege.org.

Annual fee: £30

Readership of the library is free to all Methodist ministers and Edgehill ministerial students.

CONTACT US

To register or apply for any of our courses, or for further information on training and facilities, please contact the College Office on 028 9066 5870, email office@edgehillcollege.org.

Further information can be found on the College website:

www.edgehillcollege.org

Keep up to date with the Edgehill community via Facebook and Twitter:

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www.twitter.com/edgehillcollege