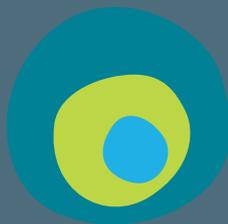


EfM

EQUIPPING FOR MINISTRY

A TWO-YEAR
COURSE ON
LIVING AS
A QUAKER
IN THE
WORLD
TODAY



WOODBROOKE

MEET • STAY • LEARN



A two-year course on living as a Quaker in the world today

Equipping for Ministry (EfM) is a flexible two-year part-time programme, structured around time spent at Woodbrooke and personal study time at home. It provides grounding in the four key aspects of life as part of the Quaker faith community in which we are all ministers:

SPIRIT: Supporting and deepening individuals' personal spiritual growth and understanding. Nurturing the spiritual life of our communities and exploring a variety of personal and corporate spiritual practices, including the expression of spirituality through the creative arts.

TRADITION: Discovering and understanding the faith and practice of Quakers from the 17th century to the present day. Exploring the history of Quakerism, its roots in the Christian tradition and the diversity of present-day Friends in Britain and around the world.

COMMUNITY: Deepening our understanding of what it means to be a Quaker today, as individuals, meetings and a wider Quaker community. Exploring faith, life practices and organisation of the contemporary Quaker community and supporting and nurturing Friends within that community.

WORLD: Exploring and understanding Quaker testimony, and its various expressions amongst Friends, reflecting on how we can live out our faith in today's world and supporting Quaker concern, witness and activism.



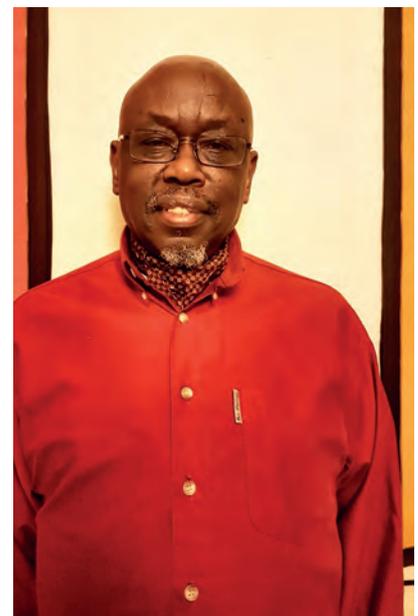
What do past participants have to say about EfM?

Katrina McCrea: 'EfM has opened all sorts of doors for me, in the wonderful world that is Quaker and I am happy to continue to explore what that means to and for me. Alongside that, I will continue to explore other spiritual practices as well as End of Life matters.'

Lea Cowin: 'The online aspect of EfM is the glue that binds all the other parts together. It fulfilled a great need for me and I loved doing the four different modules... without this my project would probably not have blossomed into what it became.'

Nim Njuguna: 'I found that my vision of what I was about in my ministry, was deepened by being better informed and grounded. I developed an interest to research further Quaker narratives that were unknown to me before.'

Phil Dahl: 'Being on EfM is all about taking the journey I'd always promised myself to undertake. The way Woodbrooke, its tutors and experience all manage to navigate that adventure is matchless. To be so able to hold each individual with such unequivocal gentleness is amazing. So, go on, take the trip!'



About Equipping for Ministry

Equipping for Ministry is for anyone who is active in a Quaker meeting and who wants to think more about what it is to be a part of that meeting, the wider society and the priesthood of all believers. It aims to deepen your spiritual life, give you a solid grounding in considering what it is to be a Quaker in the world today and how you are personally called to live out your Ministry.

The programme is designed to benefit both you and your meeting. It is oriented towards Friends in the unprogrammed tradition, although others are welcome. In a group without a separated priesthood, it is important that we are all properly prepared

to play our part in meeting life and as Friends in the wider world.

We ask you to include with your application form a letter from an elder in your meeting, acknowledging and supporting the application, and confirming that you will be upheld by your faith community during the two years. The spiritual, emotional and learning demands of EfM are significant: we request and encourage local support so that you do not feel isolated when away from Woodbrooke.

This programme is certificated by Woodbrooke.

PRISON CHAPLAINCY

There is a specific pathway through EfM for those who are exploring ministry as Prison Chaplains. Please talk to the Ministry Programmes Co-ordinator if you wish to undertake this or if you want to use EfM to explore other areas of chaplaincy.

When early Friends affirmed the priesthood of all believers it was seen as an abolition of the clergy; in fact it is an abolition of the laity.

All members are part of the clergy and have the clergy's responsibility for the maintenance of the meeting as a community [and] to the maintenance of an atmosphere in which spiritual growth and exploration are possible for all.

QUAKER FAITH & PRACTICE, 11.01





The Core Programme

The EfM programme starts with an Induction weekend in January when you will meet the rest of your year group and consider what it means to have a Ministry. We take up to 20 people each year.

In each of your two years you are also required to attend a residential week. This is held just before Easter. Both year groups study at Woodbrooke together, each with their own programme.

The residential weeks are very intensive and have dedicated programmes of group learning, combined with times for retreat; individual study; meetings with tutors; creative work and worship. There are two elders available during the residential weeks to uphold and sustain the tutors and participants.

In addition, across the two years you will take six short courses from the Woodbrooke short course programme, with its great variety of subject areas. There may be EfM participants on these courses, but you will also meet and learn with other Friends who have chosen to take the courses for their own interest. You may choose to do one online course.

The tutors on EfM use a variety of learning styles and formats, including creative workshops; intensive text-based study; group discussion; indoor and outdoor work; embodied and physical expressions of



worship; and practical training in aspects of faith in action.

When you enrol on the Equipping for Ministry programme you will be assigned a personal tutor. Your personal tutor will meet with you on your induction weekend and you will arrange further meetings to suit you. Your tutor will be your first point of contact and will meet with you regularly. The tutor will walk alongside you as you design your EfM programme, and act as a mentor and witness to what you are discovering through the two years.

Between visits to Woodbrooke, you will choose, with help from your tutor, a project to work on at home. This time for personal project work is essential as it gives time for exploration and reflection.

To support and uphold you during the two years, there is a shared programme of online work. This consists of two parts. Firstly, there are opportunities to share information and views about books and articles that you have read, courses that you have taken and experiences from which you have learned. Secondly, there is a programme of online activities, covering the four curriculum themes of Spirit, Tradition, Community and World, which will open you to new reading, shared discussion and activities. Much of the learning on EfM comes from all of us learning from each other.

To mark the end of the two years there is a Completion weekend. Over the two years you become part of the Woodbrooke community and gain from being a regular

visitor and sharing in the worshipping life. At the end of the two years, you are issued with a certificate that marks this journey. The important thing, however, is that you will have explored your spirituality and your Quaker ministry; and experienced a deepening in your way of being a Quaker in the world and within the Quaker ministry of all believers.

PRISON CHAPLAINCY

if you are exploring, or have been appointed as a chaplain, your project work could be on some relevant aspect of your chaplaincy, and your tutor will be a serving Prison Chaplain



The Variable Programme

Equipping for Ministry has four core themes, reflecting the four areas that a fully-rounded ministry requires. You will be required to take one Woodbrooke short-course, delivered face-to-face or online, from each of these thematic areas, and then choose two themes from which to take an additional short-course, making six courses in all. Normally, you would expect to take three courses each year.

SPIRIT: Personal spiritual growth and exploration

Every year we offer a wide variety of courses and retreats exploring aspects of this curriculum area, such as: spiritual practices and prayer; Jungian perspectives; 'Experiment with Light'; spiritual use of the labyrinth or garden; journalling and life writing; dance and movement, singing and music; literature and poetry; and courses using creative approaches.

TRADITION: understanding the story of Friends worldwide

Courses within the Tradition curriculum area can include: exploration of New Testament texts; aspects of Judaism or the Hebrew Scriptures; Quakerism in dialogue with Buddhism; an introduction to other faiths; understanding Islam; study of Early Friends; contemporary theology, radical Christianity and Quaker theology; Quaker history; Quakerism worldwide.

COMMUNITY: understanding and supporting the contemporary Quaker community

Every year we offer courses on: Quaker roles; core Quaker practices; outreach and communication; building and nurturing community; Quakers in the twenty-first century;; events for families, children and young people; and courses aimed at nurturing particular groups of people (couples, parents, etc.). The 'Training for Quaker Roles' courses do not usually count as one of your short courses unless agreed with your personal tutor.

WORLD: understanding and living in the world as a witness to the Quaker testimonies

We normally offer a variety of practical and theoretical courses that explore how we live our witness in our daily lives: with our families, in our work, in our local and Quaker communities and in the wider world. Themes include sustainability, permaculture, international work, peace and conflict, economics and finance, simplicity, and green spirituality.

The range of short-courses on offer encompasses a variety of learning styles and formats, including: creative workshops; intensive text-based study; group discussion; indoor and outdoor work; embodied and physical expressions of worship; and practical training in aspects of faith in action.

The programme is designed to give you a thorough grounding in aspects of all four themes: to give you information, to help you reflect on your own experience, and to help nurture your own ministry.

PRISON CHAPLAINCY

If you are exploring Prison Ministry, you should choose courses that address some aspect of this work, including the Quaker Prison Ministry Training Weekend.



EfM Costs

There are two elements to the EfM course fees:

1. The Core Programme fee

This covers all the core programme elements, including induction and completion weekends, both first and second year residentials, the online programme, tutor support and programme administration.

There is a 20% deposit payable by 15th November before your course starts.

The balance can be paid in a variety of ways, including monthly payment plans.

2. The Variable Programme fee

This covers the six short courses you choose from the Woodbrooke programme for EfM. You can pay for the Variable Programme course by course in the normal way, or via a monthly payment plan to spread the cost over the two years of EfM.

For current rates for the Core and Variable Programme elements of the EfM fee, see the fees and dates information insert in this brochure, or checkout our website at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/efm

Getting help with the cost

Many area and some local meetings have funds to support Friends' ministry, spiritual growth and education. We encourage participants who need financial help to find out what might be available from their meeting.

Woodbrooke has bursaries available for all courses, and there are details in the course brochure or at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/financial-support. There are also a small number of more substantial Wilfrid Littleboy bursaries available for EfM participants each year; for more details contact us (see below). The deadline for applications for Littleboy bursaries is at the 31st October each year.

EfM is a course about deepening your spiritual life, living faithfully in the world and giving service to the Society and the wider world. We hope that a way can be found for those who want to take the course to do so and that no one is put off applying on financial grounds alone. If in

doubt, please do talk to us about your circumstances.

Dates

The Induction weekend is in the first half of January at the beginning of the EfM course. At the end of the course there is a completion weekend also in January. The residential takes place during the week leading up to Easter each year. For specific dates for the next EfM course intake, see the fees and dates information insert in this brochure, or checkout our website at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/efm

There are up to 20 places each year and you can send your application form at any time during the year by email to: enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk or by post to: Woodbrooke, 1046 Bristol Road, Birmingham, B29 6LJ.

For more information please email enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk or telephone 0121 472 5171.

To save resources, please complete and return this form electronically if possible. You can apply online at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/efm

EfM Application Form

First name(s)

Last name

Postal address

Email

When would you like to start the course?

(Please complete to indicate the year you would like to start EfM). January

Please see insert for programme dates, or check online at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/efm

The Induction weekend will be 4-6 January 2019 or 10-12 January 2020.

The residential weeks are 12-19 April 2019 & 3-10 April 2020.

Dietary requirements (please tick):

- Anything Vegetarian Veg/Fish
 Vegan Non-dairy Diabetic
 Gluten Free Low Fat

Any allergies/intolerances? Please give details:

Have you been to Woodbrooke before?

- Yes No

If yes, please give details:

Are you associated with the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers?) Yes No

What is the name of your local and Area meeting/ worshipping group?

What is your Yearly Meeting (if outside Britain Yearly Meeting)?

Other Religious affiliation:

Do you have any access or communications requirements in relation to the building?

- Sight Mobility Hearing Other

Please give details:

Do you have any access or communications requirements in relation to the course?

- Sight Mobility Hearing Other

Please give details:

Please tell us a little about yourself and why you would like to participate in EfM? For example: your training, work, skills, interests and hobbies as well as some of your important experiences, your links with a Quaker Meeting or other religious group. (Please use other sheets if required.)



Do you have a particular aspect of Quakerism you wish to explore through this course, or particular gifts or skills you wish to nurture? (Please use other sheets if required.)

Have you applied for financial assistance for this programme?

Please tick the box if you would like to apply for Woodbrooke bursary or Wilfrid Littleboy bursary – see Cost insert for more information.

Please include with your application a letter from an Elder in your meeting or worship group, which includes their contact details (particularly email address) confirming that you will be upheld by your Quaker community during the course. If for any reason this is a problem for you, please contact us. Please also give the name and contact details of someone who knows you well and who would be willing to provide a reference, commenting on the suitability of this course for you at this time.

Full name	Postal address
Telephone	
Email	

How did you hear about EfM?

Here at Woodbrooke we take your privacy seriously and will never share or sell your details for marketing purposes. However, from time to time we would like to contact you with details of other courses and news regarding Woodbrooke news, fundraising and research. If you are happy for Woodbrooke to contact you by the following methods please tick:

Telephone Email Post SMS

You can find Woodbrooke's full Terms and Conditions and privacy policy at www.woodbrooke.org.uk/privacy-policy You can opt out at any time, to do this please email mydata@woodbrooke.org.uk

Signed	Date
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Please return the completed form to: Ministry Programmes Coordinator, Woodbrooke, 1046 Bristol Road, Birmingham B29 6LJ or email it to enquiries@woodbrooke.org.uk If you have any questions please contact us by email or on 0121 472 5171.







For more information about Woodbrooke visit our website: woodbrooke.org.uk

Woodbrooke, 1046 Bristol Road, Birmingham B29 6LJ

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