



OneSpirit Interfaith Foundation

# Ministry Training Programme

2026 - 2028

# Where Transformation begins

OneSpirit's 2026 Ministry Training programme is more than education, it's an invitation into profound personal transformation and sacred service. Beginning in autumn 2026 and culminating in summer 2028, this two-year journey will meet you exactly where you are and accompany you as you grow into the minister you're becoming.

We're opening two pathways for the 2026 cohort: an **online training** following our innovative Cherry Tree model, and an **in-person residential experience** honouring our beloved Sylvan Path tradition. Both pathways offer the same depth of formation, the same revolutionary approach to spiritual education, and the same warm community of fellow seekers. The choice is yours, we'll journey beside you either way.

Whether you identify as spiritual, religious, questioning, or simply open to exploration, you belong here. We welcome all who feel called to serve with an open heart.

An enriching two years bringing meaning, spirituality, appreciation of life & nature to the forefront of your daily existence. It's a North Star in the melee of life.

*Veronica Ferguson  
Sylvan, Class of 2025*

# In-Person Training

## *at a glance*

A two-year through the sacred arc of human life; from conception to death, and beyond. Rooted in embodied experience, spiritual depth, and relational transformation, this pathway invites you to explore what it means to minister through every stage of life's unfolding. Woven through immersive retreat work, you'll witness and be witnessed as you cross threshold after threshold.

### **Year One: Remembering & Rooting**

- Focus on early life stages: conception, birth, childhood, and adolescence
- Establishes strong personal, relational, and spiritual foundations
- Practices include ritual, story work, compassionate enquiry, and embodied integration
- Begins the deep work of ministerial formation through the lens of your own life story

### **Year Two: Expression & Ministry**

- Explores community ministry, ethical presence, and ministerial service
- Prepares you to stand as ministers who are grounded, accountable, and attuned
- Concludes with a vow-taking and ordination ceremony

### **Retreat Structure & Location**

- In-person programme delivered through residential retreats
- Held at Florence House, Seaford, a nurturing retreat centre by the sea, known for its beauty, hospitality, and wild land
- Includes three 5-day residential retreats per year (15 retreat days annually)
- Small cohort size for depth, safety, and meaningful connection

# Online Training

## *at a glance*

A two-year online training, carefully designed to nurture deep formation in a flexible, accessible format. Rooted in OneSpirit's embodied, relational, and spiritually inclusive pedagogy, the online pathway blends weekly live sessions, self-paced study, and rich communal exploration. You'll move through a rhythm of whole-class webinars and small group sessions, engaging with spiritual practice, self-inquiry, reflective models, sacred listening, and ministerial tools. This pathway invites you to bring your full self; your questions, your gifts, your vulnerability, into a community of fellow seekers journeying toward ministry together.

- A two-year journey of spiritual formation and ministerial development
- Structured around five immersive "gateways" that explore core themes of presence, relationship, sacred worth, responsibility, and deep listening
- Weekly live sessions alternating between whole-class webinars and intimate small group gatherings
- Carefully paced, spiral-based curriculum rooted in OneSpirit's Theory of Learning
- Includes self-reflective assignments, creative integration work, personal supervision, and peer connection
- Focuses on developing capacity for deep presence, ethical communication, spiritual leadership, and compassionate service
- Offers flexibility for those balancing other life commitments while ensuring depth and relational intimacy
- Culminates in a vow-taking and ordination ceremony
- Supported by an experienced team of tutors, supervisors, and ministers trained to hold sacred space online with warmth, rigour, and care

# Our Theory of Learning

## *the spiral of sacred becoming*

Most educational programmes follow a linear path: here's week one, here's week two, here's your final exam. But spiritual development doesn't work that way. Real transformation spirals; you return to themes again and again, each time with deeper understanding, greater capacity, and more embodied wisdom. Our curriculum follows what we call the Spiral of Sacred Becoming, a dynamic framework with four recursive movements that honour how genuine learning actually unfolds:

### **Sensing as Sacred Meeting**

Begin with experience, not explanation. This is learning through the body, through resonance and intuition. Rather than studying spiritual traditions, you'll meet them directly; through breath, silence, image, sound, and presence.

### **Reflecting as Liminal Dialogue**

In small, trusting circles, you'll explore what moves and unsettles you. Confusion, resistance, and raw honesty become teachers. This is where meaning is shaped; not alone, but in shared, sacred conversation.

### **Integrating as Emergent Synthesis**

As insights meet and merge in community, new wisdom arises; greater than any one person could find alone. Your learning deepens as you recognise shared themes, unexpected connections, and collective revelation.

### **Languaging as Embodied Articulation**

You begin to give voice to your journey; not with fixed answers, but with clarity rooted in lived experience. Your truth takes shape in words, symbols, and practices that can serve others as well as yourself.

# Student Development

## *our approach*

Over the two-year journey, you'll be invited into a process of deep inner transformation, rooted in spiritual practice and relational presence. This isn't just about acquiring knowledge, it's about becoming the kind of person who can minister with compassion, integrity, and depth. Your development will unfold in ways that are personal, creative, and often surprising, supported by tutors, supervisors, peers, and the wider OneSpirit community.

Throughout the training, you'll complete a range of assignments, each designed not to test, but to nourish your reflection and expression. These might include a creative offering, a piece of reflective writing, or a recorded conversation; all shaped to meet you where you are, while gently expanding your capacity to serve. Each assignment links to the core themes of the curriculum and is supported by teaching resources, tutor guidance, and peer discussion. Tutors give affirming reflections to help you integrate your learning and build confidence in your unique voice.

We don't measure success in grades or exams. Instead, your development is tracked through regular check-ins, supervision, gateway reflections, and conversations with tutors. You'll be encouraged to reflect on how your presence, awareness, and spiritual insight are evolving; not just for your own growth, but for the people you are learning to serve.

A key element of this formation is our Conscious Communication Framework. A sacred, values-led approach to speaking, listening, and relating with care. Grounded in compassion, non-judgement, and authenticity, this framework helps you learn to hold difficult conversations, offer reflection without evaluation, and speak truthfully from the heart. It's not just a skill, it's a spiritual practice that becomes foundational to ministry.

# Community and Support

## *the layers that hold you*

At OneSpirit, you're not journeying this path alone. Our training is held within a rich web of support, woven to sustain your growth, reflection, and connection throughout the two-year journey. Here's how we hold you:

### **Online Classroom**

You'll have access to a curated collection of resources, practices, and reading materials to deepen your learning at every stage.

### **Personal Reflections**

At the start and end of each gateway, you'll be guided through structured reflection points to support your integration and spiritual development.

### **Communications Platform**

Our online platform helps you stay connected with your tutors, fellow students, and the wider team.

### **The Student Forest**

This is a shared online forum across all cohorts, where students gather for mutual support, celebration, and shared inspiration.

### **Supervision**

You'll engage in regular 1:1 supervision sessions with an experienced OneSpirit Supervisor to deepen your self-awareness and ministerial formation.

### **Minister Connections**

Optional modules offer the opportunity to learn directly from OneSpirit Ministers, building connection beyond your cohort.

### **Tutor Support**

You'll receive support and guidance from both core and group tutors who are here to hold your journey with care.

### **Peer Support**

You'll be part of a small student group that meets regularly, offering space for mutual listening, support, and shared enquiry.

# Vow Taking & Ordination

## *not the end of the path, the beginning*

After two years of deep personal development, spiritual exploration, and guided practice, you'll be invited to step into ministry in a way that reflects your heart, your values, and your unique gifts. You'll be ordained as an interfaith minister: someone who serves from love, listens deeply, and honours the sacred in all people, paths, and places. Ministry is a unique expression of who you are in the world, it is a way of being and a way of doing. Our training is designed to help you shape your own vision of ministry, however this may look for you.

At the culmination of your training, you'll take sacred vows in the presence of your peers, tutors, and community. This is not simply a moment of celebration, it is a threshold crossing. Your vows are a powerful act of self-responsibility. They are a declaration that you are willing to live from the heart of your values, to serve with humility, and to be a presence of compassion and courage in a complex world.

Ordination is not the end of a journey. It is the beginning of a lifelong spiral; a continued unfolding of sacred becoming. You will join a diverse and vibrant community of ministers who are each unfolding along their path in service to others. You'll also have access to ongoing supervision, ministerial development, and peer connection through OneSpirit's wider network.

There is no single model of what ministry must be. The invitation is to discover what ministry looks like for you. What unites all our ministers is not a shared theology, but a shared intention: to serve with love, and to recognise the sacred in all things.

This is not a training that ends, it is a path that begins.

# Our Faculty Team

## *the tutors who journey with you*

Whether you choose the online or the in-person pathway, you'll be held by a team of experienced tutors, supervisors, and ministers who are deeply committed to your growth. Our faculty are not just teachers; they are skilled practitioners who walk this path themselves. They bring years of wisdom, compassion, and presence into the training space, creating containers of trust where you can unfold at your own pace.

Whether you're learning from a distance or sitting in circle around a fire, you'll be supported with the same depth of care and attentiveness.



**Annie Heppenstall**  
*Core Tutor*



**Sarah MacDonald**  
*Group Tutor*



**Monica Douglas**  
*Group Tutor*



**Dawn Russell**  
*Core Tutor*



**Una Devine**  
*Group Tutor*

# Connection Calls

*meet with the team for an informal conversation*

The next intake of students will begin in Autumn 2026, but your journey of discernment can begin now, in whatever way feels right for you. If you're feeling curious, drawn, or even just quietly wondering whether this path might be yours, we'd love to offer you the chance to connect in a 1-1 conversation. There's no pressure, no expectation, and absolutely no need to have made up your mind. This is simply an open space, warm, gentle, and welcoming, where you can ask questions, explore both of our training pathways, or just share what's stirring in you. Sometimes the most powerful way to know whether something is right is to be met, human to human, heart to heart.

Wherever you are in your process, we'd be delighted to meet you there.



Our Intro Day Programme and Enrolment Process will be going live in early 2026. You are also welcome to meet with our Programme Development Lead, Maddy Walcott, to explore our two pathways and ask any questions you may have at any point in the process. If you'd like to meet with Maddy, use her booking link to select a date and time that works for you. *Upon booking, you will receive an email containing a zoom link.*

[Click Here to Book a Zoom Call with Maddy](#)

Prefer email? Write to Maddy here: [Email Maddy](#)

# Investment

## our fee structure for both pathways

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 2026.*

*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.*

### In-Person Pathway

Early Bird Offer - complete enrolment before 1 August and save £500		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
2 instalments of £4,682	20 instalments of £468.20	60 instalments of £166.10
Total cost of £9,364	Total cost of £9,364	Total cost of £9,964

Fees from 1st August 2026		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
2 instalments of £4,932	20 instalments of £493.20	60 instalments of £174.40
Total cost of £9,864	Total cost of £9,864	Total cost of £10,464

### Online Pathway

Early Bird Offer - complete enrolment before 1 August and save £500		
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

Fees from 1st August 2026		
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
2 instalments of £3,857	20 instalments of £385.70	60 instalments of £138.57
Total cost of £7,714	Total cost of £7,714	Total cost of £8,314

# *A training that goes deeper*

We have trained over 1000 individuals, all of whom are of service in diverse and meaningful ways. As we approach our 30<sup>th</sup> year as an organisation, this work is more urgent than ever. Our earth is in deep need of open-hearted individuals committed to a life of compassion. Of individuals who can meet others in a space grounded in love, regardless of difference. We're living through times of deep division and uncertainty with so many of us feeling disconnected. We're witnessing conflict and crisis on a global scale, while also facing quiet struggles in our own communities and relationships.

In the face of so much uncertainty and disconnect, we are left wondering if one person can really make a difference. This is exactly when we are called to remember who we are. To become the kind of presence the world longs for; to lead with empathy, to move through the world with compassion as our compass, and to keep showing up, even when it's hard, with open hearts. This is the heart of ministry.

You are here now because you want to be of service to the world, and we are here to journey with you as you explore what this looks like for you.

It's clear that many of us see the cracks in the system and society and are determined not just to paper them over, but to dig deeper and understand the roots of these issues within ourselves and society.

Displays of togetherness and connection are what many of us need now more than ever. But let's be clear: togetherness isn't about agreement, sameness or the saccharine sweetness of an easily said 'love and light'. It's not about avoiding tough conversations or pretending everything is perfect. True togetherness allows for differences, embraces the messy, and acknowledges the real challenges we face.

It's about standing side by side, even when we don't see eye to eye."

*Monica Douglas  
OneSpirit Tutor*



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Interfaith Foundation

*More information to be  
released in early 2026*

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