

# INTRODUCTION TO VOLUNTARY WORKPLACE CHAPLAINCY AUTUMN 2014

A 6 WK TRAINING COURSE for VOLUNTARY CHAPLAINCY

Mondays 5-7pm starting 29 September 2014  
At 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, 1 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 2BJ

LED BY  
CHURCHES AND INDUSTRY GROUP BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL  
[www.cigb.org.uk](http://www.cigb.org.uk)



CIGB's Voluntary Workplace chaplains  
are people who want to give about half a day a week  
visiting a local organisation or enterprise,  
befriending the workers, answering questions  
eg 'what are you doing here?', 'what has God got to do with us?',  
and helping to discover what 'christian faithfulness' means in that context.

CIGB has a network of about 50 voluntary chaplains in  
places like: Retail; Conference Venues; Fire Stations; FE  
College; Construction Sites; Council Offices;  
Manufacturing; Canal community; Transport; Theatre



## Brief outline course:

- The course is intended for people who are interested in exploring Workplace Chaplaincy as an outworking of their Christian discipleship.
- The course will introduce some of the core themes about workplace chaplaincy; it is seen as a pre-requisite before CIGB will support volunteers into chaplaincy but completion of the course is not a guarantee that volunteers will be recommended for chaplaincy.
- Similarly there is no requirement that those who complete the course are required to enter chaplaincy. Those that want to proceed into chaplaincy may feel that further training is preferred.
- Being 'in good standing with their local church' is something that CIGB will also want to confirm before recommending individuals for chaplaincy; we will also seek personal references.
- Course teaching is informal, discussion and role play based, drawing on experiences and skills of participants; Sessions will start and end with brief prayers. Typical programme:
- **29 Sep Wk 1 – What is work all about? What is chaplaincy? What does the economy mean? What do organisations do?**
- **6 Oct Wk 2 - Visit to see one chaplaincy in action and to discuss the experience**
- **13 Oct Wk 3 - Some strategies that can be used in providing chaplaincy to a workplace**
- **20 Oct Wk 4 – Core skills in being a chaplain.**
- **3 Nov Wk 5 – Being more than a pastor.. prophetic, structural roles**
- **10 Nov Wk 6 – Fitting this Ministry into Local Church life; What next?**
- There is a charge of £20 to cover some of the course costs, but this should not be a hindrance to applying – enquire if this is a difficulty.

## Course materials

- Written materials will be given out for each week, for reading beforehand.

## At end of course

- On Wk 6 there will be a chance for an individual meeting with course tutor to discuss moving into chaplaincy, if thought appropriate, with necessary support.
- **Chaplains may choose to develop a new chaplaincy in their own location, or to join one of the existing teams.**
- **Volunteer opportunities in current chaplaincy teams** include: Bullring Shopping Centre, Touchwood Shopping Centre, Birmingham Buses, Fire Service, Birmingham City Council, Solihull Council. The posts are all unpaid.

## CIGB :

- An ecumenical charity that supports workplace chaplaincies across the Birmingham and Solihull areas. The approx. 50 current chaplaincies include places like Birmingham Airport, Bullring and Touchwood Shopping Centres, NEC and NIA, Jaguar Land Rover, Fire Stations.
- Has a management council drawn from the major denominations of the Christian church
- Has links with other faiths and can draw on other faith advisors as necessary
- Also supports church congregations in making sense of work and local economy; engages with transforming economic structures; connects with national 'faith and economy' networks

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Limited places available.