

Put away
the map
and chart
a different
course

pioneer mission leadership training



NEWS JAN 2012

CMS given approval to train ordained pioneers!

We have just received the exciting news that we have been given approval to train Ordained Pioneer Ministers in the Church of England. This newsletter normally comes out in December but we delayed it hoping that this good news would come through!

For the first time, candidates for ordained pioneer ministry in the Church of England will be able to train on a course that has been designed entirely for pioneer leaders by Church Mission Society, one of the country's leading mission agencies, in partnership with Cuddesdon.

The Church of England's ministry division has given the CMS Pioneer Mission Leadership Training course its official seal of approval as a training pathway. C of E mission leaders and pioneers alike have expressed delight at the news.

Rachel Jordan, National Adviser for Mission and Evangelism for the Church of England, said CMS was "uniquely qualified" to train pioneer ordinands.

Jordan said: "The roots of pioneering ministry are in the missionary movement and therefore CMS is uniquely qualified to train Church of England pioneer ordinands for the urgent missionary task in the UK.

"CMS pioneer ordinands will benefit from the years of experience in cross-cultural mission that is CMS's expertise and the Church of England will gain many well equipped and specifically trained individuals for 21st century mission."

Pioneer ordinand Johnny Sertin, who leads Earlsfield Friary in southwest London, said he was "overjoyed". "It is a watershed moment, from which many will benefit as we re-imagine the future together," he said.

The Rt Rev Colin Fletcher, Bishop of Dorchester and a co-chair of the South Central Regional Training Partnership, said, "I am delighted. It is great for Pioneers and for God's mission in this country."

CMS has teamed up with Cuddesdon to make the course available to those training to be ordained pioneer ministers. Students preparing for ordination will be involved in pioneering mission and learn 'on the job'. They will attend a day a week and two residential weeks with CMS pioneers and six weekends a year and two residential weeks with Oxford Ministry Course students, who are training for parish ministry.

"This is a unique partnership between a major mission society and a leading Anglican theological college," said the Rev Canon Prof Martyn Percy, principal of Cuddesdon. "In offering this new training route for pioneer ministers, CMS and Cuddesdon will be able to combine their resources together, making this venture one of the most innovative, rich and ground-breaking courses in the country."

Canon Tim Dakin, the executive leader of CMS, who is soon to become Bishop of Winchester, saw the approval of the course as significant for CMS and for the wider church.

"Through the training and deploying of pioneers, ordained and lay, CMS will continue to offer prophetic mission in partnership with the wider church both locally and globally,"

So if you are selected for ordained pioneer ministry or in the process come and talk to us. And come if you are not getting ordained, which is the case with the vast majority of pioneers who train with us. We are training both!



Breakout

CMS Pioneer Mission Leadership Training course leader, Jonny Baker, was invited to be the keynote speaker at the national pioneer gathering 'Breakout' in September. He took the opportunity to distill the learning and thinking so far through the questions and discussions raised by the pilot year students. He called the series of talks **Dreamers Who Do**. It was inspirational stuff. Notes, and images and recordings and sheets of quotes from various texts are all available to download from <http://www.breakoutpioneer.org.uk/downloads.php>

ReSource weekends are immersive mission experiences. We visit a community involved in mission and learn from what they are up to - simple eh?! We have had two brilliant weekends in the autumn in Bradford and London. There are two more this spring. And we are currently planning locations for the next academic year.

Kingston Feb 3-5 Mission at the Margins
Manchester Mar 23-25 Transforming Communities. It's not too late to book...

www.resourcemission.com



2011 Student Intake



Since October 2011 we have had over 25 new students engage with the CMS pioneer training most of whose smiling faces you can see in the people section on the pioneer web site.

Several are doing all 16 modules to complete the foundation degree. Others are putting together a number of modules that connect with where they are at and their training needs. And some have just done one or two modules. Mission Spirituality taught by Johnny Sertin had a class of 18, and was our largest module to date.

Here are a few interesting observations on those engaging with the training.

- We have 2.5 methodists (the .5 is in an ecumenical project) including a venture fx pioneer.



- We have our first baptist student who is studying at Regents Park college, who in recognising her pioneering call and gifting have encouraged her to do some training with us alongside her baptist training.

- We have students who are working full time and fitting this around their work.
- We have lots of women and men. The reason this is significant is that in some circles there have been discussions around whether the language of pioneering attracts men more than women. Not so with CMS! Mission has long been a great area for women pioneers.



- The age range of pioneers is from young adult to 60s, proving that pioneering is a gift/call and not age related.
- People have travelled from as far as North Wales, Leeds and Eastbourne to join in.

- We have had a student training for ordination elsewhere do a module with us as an independent study module for their training.

- We have had a few ordained pioneers join in with a module or two as part of their training post ordination, particularly valuing the connection with other pioneers.



So what?! Well it has surprised us the range of ways that people are engaging with the training and resourcing of pioneering mission. Whilst we initially envisaged a

group doing a course, that is happening but it is a much wider, more fluid and diverse community of pioneers.

Mission Entrepreneurship

The first ever missional entrepreneurship module was a residential week in an amazing location in North Devon. The idea was simple - mission entrepreneurs innovate in a gap to build something and get the resources to make it happen. How can we nurture the imagination and skills to help people make these ideas happen? People worked up specific projects in groups through the week and then presented these to the rest of the group. The week was led by Shannon Hopkins and Steve Baker.

The photo below is the group in a café overlooking Putsborough beach. There is a photo story of the week on the web site at <http://pioneer.cms-uk.org/2011/11/13/missional-entrepreneurship-a-photo-story/>



Open Days

We have two open days lined up - Thurs Feb 23 and Thurs April 26. Do come along to meet us, hear more about the course and meet some students. Come along if you are an interested student or involved in the support or selection of students. See the front page of the web site for a flier.

Hub

The regional hub for pioneers is going well with the launch of pioneer witness sessions. There are four a term, where a pioneer talks about what they are up to, and they are followed up by discussion. They are free and anyone is welcome! Join the facebook group - search cms pioneer hub to find it - and see the web site for more info.

Jonny Baker
 CMS Pioneer Mission Leadership

Coming Up

Modules:

Bible as big story

Cross cultural skills

Theology in global perspective

+

ReSource weekends - see above

Pioneer witness sessions

Sink or swim days

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