

Nurturing Missional Churches

A very warm welcome to the Leading Well course. The course is shaped around two key themes: the 'outer life': the leadership skills to lead a church well; and the 'inner life': leading in a way that is life-giving and sustainable. Below is the course overview together with a summary of the learning approach used and desired outcomes.

It would be very helpful if you would **complete the questionnaire [at this link](#)** which will take around 15 minutes. This will enable us to tailor the course to topics that will be most helpful for you but it also provides us with an initial 'benchmark' to assess the overall value of the course. I have also attached a PDF document which highlights the options of having a mentor through the course and also in forming an accompanying group of church leaders to help you in translating the learning from each session into your specific church context. **These two suggestions – mentor and accompanying group – are entirely optional;** there is no course requirement for either but we know from past experience that some have found these options very helpful.

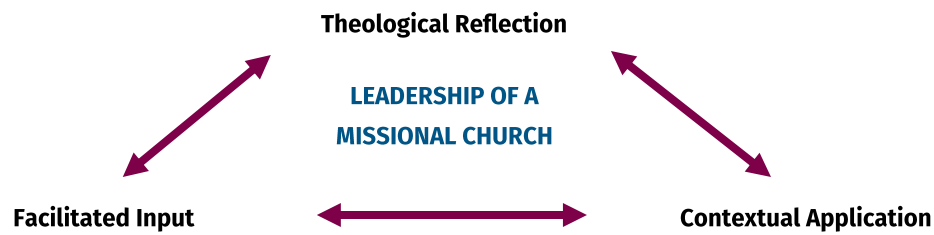
I very much look forwards to meeting you at our first session on 16 January. Charles Burgess

Session	Outer Life	Inner Life
SESSION 1 9.45-4.00 24 Sep 2024	Leadership today Leadership of churches is an exciting and complex role. This session explores changes in our missional landscape and the ordained role over the last 30 years, and how these impact the leadership aspect of clergy roles. It establishes the foundations for the rest of the course: to shape the inner life of the leader as one who follows Christ, and the outer life of the leader as one who, with others, leads missional churches. We will also explore the practical aspects of our journey together, including mentors, leadership groups and developmental goals.	
	Optional meet with mentor/accompanying group	
SESSION 2 9.45-4.00 22 Oct 2024	Nurturing a missional culture Culture affects everything a church does or does not do. We'll look at the six elements of culture and a model for how to shape a faith-sharing culture.	Developing resilience (1) – leading from a healthy place Christian leaders are called to live by grace – not easy in busy and stressful roles. We explore identity, grace and spiritual disciplines.
	Optional meet with mentor/accompanying group	
SESSION 3 9.45-4.00 26 Nov 2024	Leading well with others (1) – fostering collaboration Leadership is a collaborative enterprise. We explore underlying principles that help all groups of people working together to function well.	Developing resilience (2) – strengthening the spring Five practical ways to increase our resilience as the pressure increases.
	Optional meet with mentor/leadership group	
SESSION 4 9.45-4.00 21 Jan 2025	Leading well with others (2) – developing leaders Nurturing others in their leadership includes the need to develop today's leaders and identify tomorrow's.	Developing resilience (3) – living by call Right sizing expectations of others, of leadership and ourselves, we explore how to create healthy boundaries.
	Optional meet with mentor/accompanying group	
SESSION 5 9.45-4.00 11 Feb 2025	Leading well with others (5) – leading change Leadership involves change, and is best done in a way that enables church members to both own and engage positively with change. Insights and ideas on how to do lead change well.	Developing resilience (4) – managing expectations and then ending well – identifying next steps An opportunity to reflect on and renew our sense of vocation, clarify priorities and order our lives around those priorities to stay fresh. Bringing the course to a good close
	Meet with mentor/accompanying group	

NB. Topics may change as the course unfolds.

THE APPROACH

The course will involve a combination of the elements below, with a focus on learning together in a way that leads to change.



DESIRED OUTCOMES OF THE COURSE

Participants will have:

- Gained a stronger understanding of the theology and praxis underpinning Christian leadership and able to identify key ways in which this has (re) shaped their church leadership roles.
- Identified at least five ways in which their 'outer life' leadership skills have been strengthened.
- Identified at least three new leadership priorities to provoke a more focussed missional culture.
- Identified new patterns of working with others which serve to strengthen the culture of collaborative leadership
- Developed their personal resilience by implementing three new (or enhanced existing) practices.
- A greater confidence in initiating and enabling change.
- Enjoyed the collegiality of sharing and growing in leadership skills with other clergy.