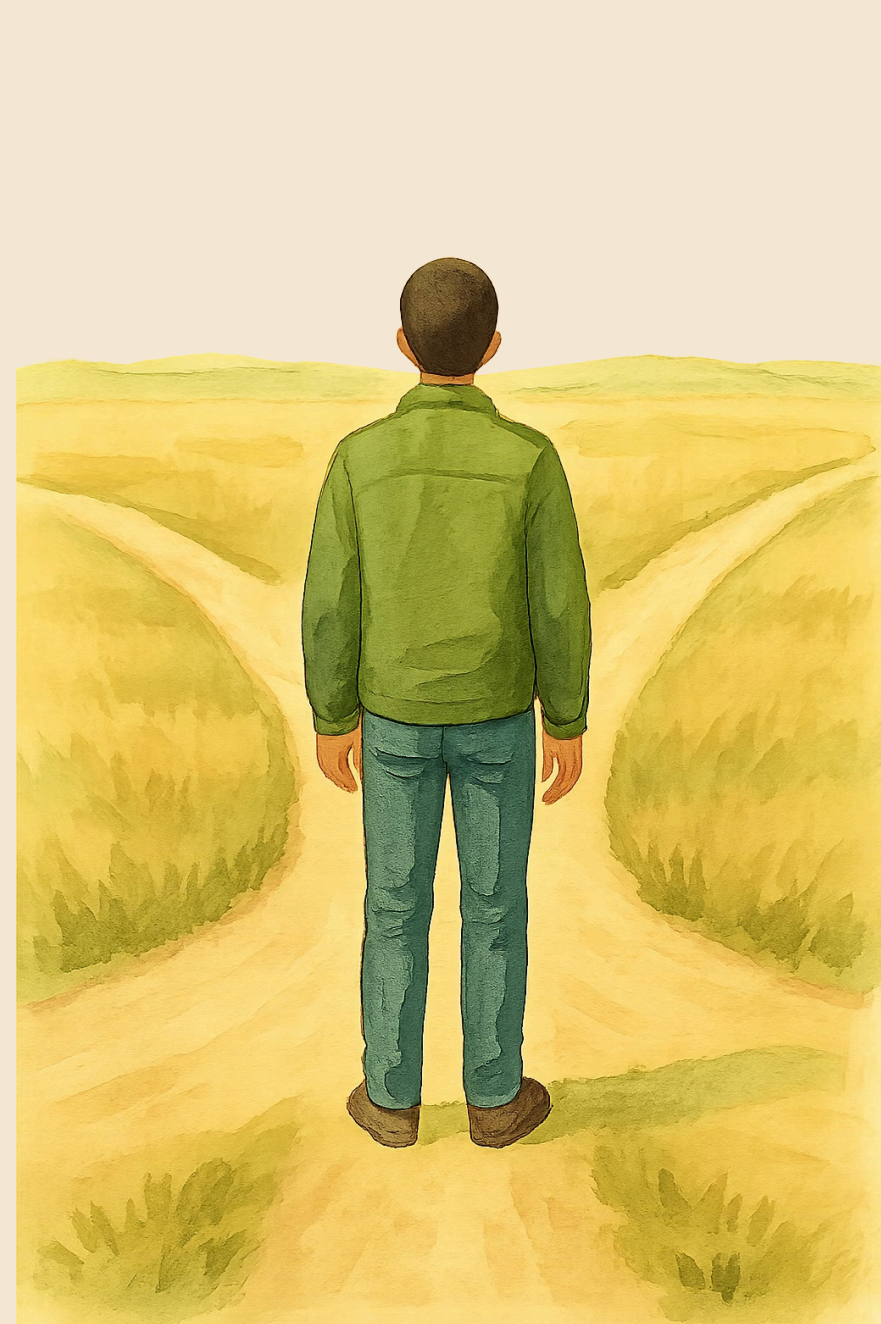


Called: Ministry and Me

A course for those exploring God's call to ministry

DIOCESE OF QU'APPELLE

LAY & ORDAINED MINISTRY



What Is This Course About?

Our Purpose

"Called: Ministry and Me" is a reflective, prayerful, and community-grounded course designed to help you explore how God might be calling you to live your life more fully in service — whether in a lay or ordained role within the Anglican Church.

This is not a course with predetermined answers. It is an invitation to listen more carefully to the quiet, persistent voice of God already at work in your life, your gifts, and your deepest longings.

Who Is It For?

This course is for anyone in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle who has ever wondered:

- Is God asking something more of me?
- What does "ministry" actually mean for someone like me?
- Could I serve as a licensed lay minister, a deacon, or a priest?
- How do I know if what I feel is a genuine vocation — or just enthusiasm?

Whether you are entirely new to the idea of ministry or have long sensed a quiet nudge in this direction, this course offers a safe, supportive space to explore those questions honestly and openly.

A Community of Discernment

One of the most distinctive gifts of this course is the chance to explore your sense of call *alongside others* who are on the same journey. Vocation is rarely discerned in isolation — the Church, the community, and the encouragement of fellow pilgrims all play a vital role in helping us hear what God is saying to us.

Shared Stories

Hear from people across the diocese who have followed a call — some recently, some many years ago. Their honesty about doubt, surprise, and transformation can illuminate your own path.

Prayerful Reflection

Each session includes structured time for personal prayer, guided reflection, and journalling — practices that help you move from thinking *about* ministry to listening *for* God's particular invitation to you.

Honest Conversation

Small-group discussion is at the heart of the course. You will be invited to speak frankly about fears, questions, and hopes — in a space that is confidential, non-pressured, and genuinely welcoming.

What We Explore Together

The course moves through four interwoven themes, each building on the last. Whether you attend over four evenings, a single day, or a weekend retreat, these themes provide the backbone of your discernment journey.

Session 1: What Is Call?

We explore the biblical and theological foundations of vocation — from Moses at the burning bush to ordinary Anglicans in Saskatchewan. What does it mean to be "called," and how have people throughout history recognised God's voice?

Session 3: What Are the Pathways?

We survey the rich landscape of licensed ministry in the diocese — lay and ordained — and hear from practitioners in each role. What does each path ask of you, and what does it offer?

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Session 2: Who Am I?

Discernment begins with self-knowledge. We look at gifts, personality, life experience, and the particular passions God has planted in you — and how these might point toward a ministry vocation.

Session 4: What Next?

We bring it all together: How do you take the next step? We discuss the formal discernment process in the diocese, the role of your parish, and how to keep listening well — whatever you decide.

Understanding Call: Lay and Ordained

A central gift of this course is the chance to understand the *full range* of licensed ministry vocations available within the Anglican Diocese of Qu'Appelle. Many people arrive assuming "ministry" means ordination to the priesthood — and leave with a much broader and richer picture.



Ordained Ministry

The ordained orders of **deacon** and **priest** carry a formal, sacramental, and pastoral role in the life of the Church. Ordination is a life-shaping commitment that follows a careful multi-year process of formation, theological education, and discernment alongside the diocese.



Licensed / Authorized Lay Ministry

Lay ministers serve in vital, recognised roles without ordination. These include **Lay Readers**, **Worship Leaders**, **Pastoral Care Workers**, **Preachers** and more. These vocations honour the gifts of the baptised and are essential to parish life — particularly in a diocese as geographically vast as Qu'Appelle.



Diaconal Vocations

Some are called primarily to a ministry of compassionate **service** — visiting the sick and isolated, advocating for the vulnerable, or supporting families in crisis. The diaconate, in particular, is a distinctive vocation to the *margins* — bridging the church and the world with prophetic care.

Flexible Formats to Suit You

We recognise that the people of this diocese lead full, busy lives — and that geography, work, and family commitments vary enormously across our region. That is why "Called: Ministry and Me" is offered in several formats, so that the course can come to you in a way that truly works.



4-Session Evening Course

Held over four consecutive weeks, typically on a weekday evening. This format suits those who value building relationships gradually over time and prefer to reflect between sessions. Each evening runs approximately one hour.



Day Conference

An immersive single-day gathering — usually on a Saturday — that moves through all four themes in one rich, focused experience. Ideal for those with limited weeknight availability or who travel significant distances to participate.



Weekend Retreat

The most spacious format — a Saturday morning to Sunday afternoon residential experience that weaves the course content with extended prayer, silence, worship, and fellowship. Particularly recommended for those already sensing a strong call and wishing to go deeper.



Online Delivery

All formats can be delivered via Zoom or a similar platform, making the course accessible to participants in remote communities across the diocese.

Online sessions are designed to be just as relational and reflective as in-person ones.

Called in This Place

The Anglican Diocese of Qu'Appelle spans an enormous and beautiful geography. This land, and the communities upon it, shapes the nature of ministry here in particular ways.

Ministry on the Prairies

Many of our parishes are small, rural, and widely spread. The Church's ministry in this context depends deeply on the gifts and availability of laypeople and bi-vocational clergy who are rooted in their local communities. Your call may not take you far from home — it may ask you to serve right where you already are, among the people you already love.

This course will gently invite you to reflect on how vocation is shaped by place, culture, and the particular context of Reconciliation.

Why This Diocese Needs You

The need for faithful, equipped lay and ordained ministers across the Diocese of Qu'Appelle is real and pressing. As communities age and clergy are fewer, the ministry of the whole people of God becomes not merely desirable but essential. This course exists because the diocese believes deeply that God *is* calling people — people like you — to step forward.

Whether your call leads to ordination, to licensed/authorized lay ministry, or to a deeper and more intentional engagement with your existing parish role, the Church needs you to take that call seriously. This course is our invitation to begin.

What Participants Have Said about this course


The best measure of any course is the difference it makes in real lives.

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"Hearing from a Licensed Lay Reader and a deacon in the same afternoon completely changed how I understood what ministry could look like. I had always thought it meant becoming a priest. Now I see there are so many ways to serve."

— **Participant**

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 All testimonials are shared with permission. Names have been withheld to protect participants' ongoing discernment processes.

The Discernment Journey: What Comes Next?

Completing "Called: Ministry and Me" is not the end of the road — it is the **beginning** of a more intentional journey. The course is designed to open doors, not close them, and to equip you for the next step, whatever that turns out to be.



The Diocese of Qu'Appelle has a clear and supportive pathway for those who wish to pursue licensed ministry after completing this course. Your incumbent (parish priest) or Regional Archdeacon is your first point of contact, and the Director of Ministry provides oversight and guidance throughout. You will never be asked to walk this road alone.

For Lay Ministry

Those exploring licensed lay ministry will typically enter a period of directed reading, practical placement, and mentored experience at the parish level before being licensed by the Bishop. The timeline is realistic and shaped around your life.

For Ordained Ministry

Those sensing a call to the diaconate or priesthood will begin a more extended discernment process, including meetings with the Bishop, a formal vocations committee review, and eventual support for theological education. This process typically spans several years and is deeply formational.

Your Next Step

You do not need to have all the answers to begin. You only need the willingness to ask the question.

Register for a Course

Contact your parish priest or the Diocese of Qu'Appelle directly to find out when the next "Called: Ministry and Me" course is being offered — online or in person — and to register your interest. No prior experience or theological knowledge is required.

Speak to Your Priest / Archdeacon

If you have already been sensing a call for some time, a conversation with your incumbent/Regional Archdeacon is a natural and welcome first step. They can help you discern whether this course is the right place to start, or whether you are ready to move further along the pathway.

Pray and Reflect

Before anything else, simply bring your questions to God. The call to ministry is, at its heart, a response to an invitation already extended. Take time this week to sit with the question: *What is God asking of me?* This course will help you listen for the answer.

"Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night." — Dan Schutte, inspired by Isaiah 6