

## **Methodist Supervision Training**

The word 'supervision' can conjure up the notion of being checked up on or assessed in some way. In many areas of work, this may be the case.

'Pastoral supervision' - required by all ordained Methodist clergy in active ministry - is different. It is a reflective space in which they can explore the joys and challenges of their calling and their work in a way which is both supportive and growth-ful.

I embarked on the training programme for supervisors about a year ago and found it rewarding, interesting and energising. The training involved a three-day residential course, three days follow up work online including further input, practice and assessment, and working alongside a colleague on my course to engage with the skills and processes. In all it took just over 6 months. I am now accredited as a supervisor and will be working with a presbyter and a deacon within the Birmingham District. I will not supervise ministers in my own circuit.

The process of mandatory reflective supervision has been in place for about 10 years and the majority of supervisors are ordained ministers themselves. However, the church is keen to encourage a small but growing number of non-ordained members to be part of this process.

You can find out more at : <https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/ministries/supervision/>

If you are interested, you are welcome to speak to me or to Revd Jill Marsh, or your own Minister.

I look forward to this new opportunity and challenge!

Lois Talbot