

JOB DESCRIPTION - CHURCH PLANTER/PIONEER MINISTER/COMMUNITY PASTOR

Introduction to the Saint Cedd's Parish

This is a very brief summary of the parish that merely gives an overview of the area. Further details can be found on lifestreams.org.uk and more statistics can be seen if you go to the links listed below.¹

The parish is on the north west part of Southend/Westcliff-on-sea, the northern boundary being the arterial road connecting Southend to the M25, London, Essex and beyond.

The parish is predominantly residential, much of the housing is privately owned or rented, with a population approaching 4000. Many people live alone. 14% of the working age population receive out-of-work benefits. The Church Urban Fund declare the parish in their most deprived category, The Diocesan 'spotlight' concurs with this conclusion citing high levels of child poverty, low income and qualifications.

In 2018 the Local Ecumenical Project with the United Reformed Church came to an end. Saint Cedd's was re-opened as a new church plant, to take the opportunity to engage with the local community, to develop a form of church that is accessible to local people. There is little sense of community and there are very few community facilities available in the parish; the building is in great demand.

Currently we gather for worship on Sunday mornings at 11.00am (this may not necessarily be the long term pattern) averaging 11 adults and 4 children, since May 2018, some people coming from the local community, others committed to establishing a sustainable church. The Alpha Course (started January 2019) has attracted several people from outside of the church.

We are excited to be able to offer this full-time post as part of the Lifestreams team, providing support and accountability to explore together where God is taking us.

¹ <http://www2.cuf.org.uk/parish/580390>

<http://www2.cuf.org.uk/poverty-england/poverty-map>

<https://www.chelmsford.anglican.org/pdfs/14.06a.pdf>

Job Description

This three-fold post involves building on the newly formed church plant at Saint Cedd's Church as part of the Lifestreams group of Churches and involves the following:

- Discern, develop and implement a strategy for the Saint Cedd's parish, for new pioneering and outreach initiatives that includes local people and responds to the needs of the community; being complementary with the vision and values of Lifestreams.
- Set strategic goals and objectives in accordance with the vision and carry them out.
- Be disciplined in personal regular prayer, study, devotional and worship life.
- Take a full part in the general and corporate prayer life of Lifestreams including daily morning prayer and staff meetings, PCCs etc.
- Work within Lifestreams team to integrate, support and shape the mission across the three churches including preaching and leading worship at Sunday and weekday worship services.
- Create, train and oversee a sustainable team to serve all generations and families.
- Network with key stakeholders in the voluntary and statutory sector, developing effective partnerships for appropriate practical responses and to ensure that Saint Cedd's is represented where key conversations are taking place in relation to work with vulnerable people, children, young people and families in our area.
- Helping all generations and families develop in their journey towards a relationship with Jesus and in discipleship for ongoing healthy development.
- Identify key potential future leaders and investing personally in their faith development and discipleship.
- Identify potential funding streams for relevant projects.
- Nurture the existing congregation, preach, teach, pray and develop the worship life in relevant, informal and creative ways, also inviting others to participate, to build up the body of Christ.
- Build relationships with the Mendip Community Group and others around the area with an initial remit to listen to the concerns of the community and seeking opportunities to work in partnership with other agencies to address the main issues.
- Disciple and develop a pioneering team to participate in this work and be a good model and catalyst for missional practice across the Lifestreams group.
- Initiate and run/oversee missional and evangelistic strategies and courses such as Alpha, or CapUK Money, Job club, Life Skills or Fresh Start.

- Develop fresh expressions of church in different contexts around the parish and at the Saint Cedd's Church building.
- Be accountable to the Priest-in-charge and the PCC of Saint Cedd's.
- Be a visible sign of the presence of Jesus in the community and lead others in the same.

THE CANDIDATE SHOULD BE:

- prayerful - a person with an active and vibrant faith in Jesus, being led and guided by the Holy Spirit.
- pastoral - able to relate well across the generations and with families and able to demonstrate a love for, and understanding of people living in deprived communities.
- pioneering - with a track record in developing successful and sustainable outreach projects
- able to accept and demonstrate the values of Lifestreams
- experienced in church planting
- qualified with a recognised Certificate, Degree or other similar qualification in Theological education, preferably with a pioneering focus
- experienced, to gain the respect of leaders and people across the community and statutory agencies.
- self-motivated with the ability to work on their own initiative, as well as part of the Lifestreams team.
- experienced in recruiting, motivating and training volunteers for work with young adults and have good life balance skills.
- equipped to lead/facilitate Christian discipleship projects with young adults and/or families.
- be willing to learn, attend courses relevant to the mission of the church.
- a gifted Bible teacher, with the ability to relate faith to contemporary culture and society.
- flexible and willing to take part in Lifestreams church activities on other sites
- IT and social networking literate.
- holding a clean driving licence with own transport desirable

TERMS:

- Salary: £30,000 per annum
- Pension: minimum Employer's contributions
- Contract: Fixed term for five years, renewable annually, subject to satisfactory development and progress, with 6 month probationary period
- Annual Leave: 4 weeks, plus one week after Christmas and Easter
- Hours: Flexible hours including evenings, 40 hours per week
- DBS: An enhanced DBS check is required
- Occupational Requirement: This role has a genuine occupational requirement to be filled by a committed Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010
- Line managed by: Priest-in-Charge
- Employer and responsible to: Saint Cedd's PCC
- Termination: 6 weeks notice for both parties
- Starting: Summer 2019

Please explore the lifestreams.org.uk website for more general details about our churches or give us a call..

We look forward to hearing from you if you are interested in this post.