



Christ Church, Nailsworth LEP:
(Baptist, Methodist, United Reformed)
Pioneer Families Worker
(20 hours a week)

Who we are:

Christ Church is a loving, inclusive church. As a longstanding Local Ecumenical Partnership, our theology is broad, but we are united in our passion to build God's Kingdom in our town. We want to see lives transformed as people meet and get to know Jesus as their Saviour. We are a medium-sized church that seeks to develop this important missional opportunity in our community.

Our outreach activities range from Messy Church at the local school to a twice-weekly Renew Wellbeing space in the church. We believe that everyone should be given the chance to discover Jesus, and we understand that this can, and often does, happen away from Sunday services. We have seen this in our ongoing work with PSALMS (www.psalms.uk.net; now Sportily; www.sportily.org.uk), a sports ministry working with children and young people. We recognise that children's lives will be most impacted when we support families in a holistic way, which demonstrates the love of Jesus in practical, emotional and spiritual ways. We are therefore looking to appoint a part-time Pioneer Families Worker who loves Jesus and wants to share that love with others.

We are looking to appoint a Pioneer Families Worker:

Our successful applicant will be a committed Christian with a calling to live and share the good news of Jesus, and a heart for working with vulnerable families. Much of this work will go on in the community rather than in the church building, particularly making use of the excellent facilities and good relations we have with Nailsworth Primary School at the top of the town.

We are looking for someone who is both a self-starter and a team player, able to work with the Minister and others to develop a shared vision of this work. We anticipate this role will include working collaboratively with the local primary school, a part-time PSALMS/Sportily Sports Minister and possibly other community agencies.

Our concern is that young people and their families have the opportunity to experience the love of Jesus and the transformation that can bring. We know this work takes time as it will require relationships of trust to be built. We hope that, in time this work will include ongoing discipleship of new Christians, in ways which are appropriate and relevant for them. It is important to know that we encourage new ideas and do not assume that everything will work.

Our Current Activities with Children and Young People

We have restarted Messy Church (after a break due to Covid restrictions), which is a monthly Sunday afternoon gathering, run jointly with the local parish church, St George's, and PSALMS/Sportily. We anticipate that the Families Worker would help take a lead in this as it is a great place for building connection with local families. There will however also be

great scope for you to generate new initiatives that connect with young people and their families

We already have a small ministry to children and young people which is delivered with the help of a half-time Sports Minister (previously employed through PSALMS; now through Sportily). This includes holiday clubs in October and February half-term holidays as well as Messy Church. The Sports Minister is co-funded by Christ Church and the local parish church, St George's, and all activities are jointly co-ordinated. The new role of Families Worker will not replace this, rather it will enable us to further develop the work currently being undertaken by working alongside the Sports Minister and engaging with the current activities, but particularly centred on nurturing those relationships by providing support and friendship to whole families. We see these activities as key places to offer hospitality and support to vulnerable families.

We do not currently have any children or young people regularly worshipping with us. However, we would want the Families Worker to worship with us on Sundays, providing occasional updates for prayer and to be ready to provide a welcome to any families who come along.

Where we are:

Nailsworth is a busy small town in the southern Cotswolds that acts as a centre for surrounding villages. It is well known for its wide variety of independent shops, its football team (Forest Green Rovers), its poppy display for Remembrance Day, and for the wide range of activities and clubs available to the residents. It is a fascinating and wonderful mix of tradition and free spiritedness, with a strong sense of community and inclusion.

Person specification

Our successful applicant will be a committed Christian with a pioneering spirit, and a calling to share the good news of Jesus with 'the least, the last and the lost.'

Creative and innovative in their approach to evangelism and discipleship.

They will have excellent interpersonal skills and be able to develop rapport with a wide range of people.

They will be self-motivated, able to work alone and as part of the team.

It will be important they have at least some interest in sport and are physically active; however, it should be remembered that this is NOT a sports ministry position.

They will be willing to work ecumenically.

They will need to be aware of and work within all current legal guidelines. This will include, for example, undergoing enhanced DBS checks, familiarity with Safeguarding guidelines, an ability to work within GDPR regulations, produce risk assessments for activities and operate within health and safety requirements.

Requirements

Essential:

- Experience in community outreach work with adults and children.
- Creative and Innovative thinker.
- Ability to work at evenings and weekends when necessary (but within the half-time hours available), including attending Sunday services.
- Willingness to work ecumenically.
- Self-motivated and able to work both independently and as part of a team.
- Safeguarding training to Level 2 (Level 3 will be required as soon as practical).

Desirable

- Experience of working in an ecumenical environment.
- Experience with writing risk assessments.
- Driving licence.
- Willingness to participate in sport.
- Youth / children's ministry qualification.
- Ability to play guitar / keyboard.
- Sense of humour.
- A sense of adventure.

What we offer:

This is a half-time post, with a starting salary in the range £10,000 to £12,000 p.a. (plus pension and NI contributions), depending on experience and qualifications. The appointment will initially be for 2 years.

Oversight from the Minister and the Church Leadership Team while working both individually and as part of a team.

A Church who will welcome and support you.

Ongoing training opportunities.

Five weeks annual leave plus equivalent time off in lieu of Bank Holidays.

Closing date for applications: Saturday 13th November 2021

Interview date: Week beginning 22nd November 2021

Desired (but negotiable) start date: Tuesday 4th January 2022

The minister (Rev Esther Mason: esther@nailsworthchristchurch.org.uk tel. 07956 657 759;) or Malcolm Brown (Administrative Secretary: adminsecretary@nailsworthchristchurch.org.uk) may be contacted for more information and to answer queries.

Application is by CV and covering letter.

It should be sent to Rev Esther Mason, preferably by email to esther@nailsworthchristchurch.org.uk, alternatively to Christ Church LEP, Newmarket Road, Nailsworth, GL6 0DQ.

The CV should contain:

Contact details.

Education and qualifications with dates.

Previous and current employment with dates for up to the last 10 years.

Previous and current church affiliation(s).

A brief statement of faith.

The names of 3 referees, at least one from your current (or most recent) employer and one from your current church leader.

The covering letter should indicate why you are interested in this position.

The post requires a Christian who is willing to share their own personal faith and encourage others in that faith. Regulation 7(3) of the Employment Equality (Religion or Belief) Regulations 2003 applies to this post.