

Job title

Youth and Community Missioner

Job summary

Your focus will be on inspiring young people to become lifelong and mature disciples of Christ, setting their hearts on fire for Jesus

We also want you to be out and about in our Parish, growing an interest in becoming disciples of Christ among those in our local community



Closing date 30 January 2019

Interviews 8 - 10 February 2019, to be confirmed with applicants



Employer Bowdon PCC

Work base Parish Centre and home



Work area Bowdon Parish and its environs

Hours 37.5 hours per week
A flexible working pattern, including evenings and weekends, will be required due to the nature of this post. Payment for overtime is not given, but employees are entitled to time off in lieu by agreement.



Annual salary £23,000 – £27,000 depending on experience

Holidays Five weeks per annum plus eight days of public holidays



Probation period Six months

An enhanced DBS Disclosure will be required for the successful candidate

There is an Occupational Requirement for the post-holder to be a practising Christian, in accordance with the Employment Equality Act 2010



We are looking for a gifted individual who will walk and work with us as we

- live under, within and by the grace of God. We have a heavenly Father who loves us with a passion, calls us to be his children and invites us to live every moment of every day in his company.
- live as Jesus' apprentices, servants and representatives. We have a Saviour who shows us how to spend our lives to see God's kingdom transform people's lives and circumstances.
- live by the encouragement, power and direction of the Holy Spirit. We have a Friend and Guide who fills us daily with God's life and love and gifts to pursue God's mission in our time and place.



Role Description

Over the next 5 years we are keen to develop our youth mission. Here are the main responsibilities we would wish you to fulfil as our Youth and Community Missioner:



1 Develop our existing youth ministry

There has been strong investment in youth mission in our Parish over a number of years. Building on the foundations already laid, we would like you to:

- help young people to integrate into the full life of the church family in all its diversity
- develop young leaders, especially to serve within the wider church
- ensure our parish youth work welcomes those of faith, those exploring faith and those not yet of faith
- cultivate effective youth evangelism models which enable young people to grow as missional leaders and reach their peers with the Gospel



We would expect you to take overall leadership of our youth mission activities and steer them to further growth by:

- having charge of Friday Underground (youth night) and working alongside its team of leaders to plan, develop and deliver creative and inspiring youth programmes
- leading, managing and motivating the teams of volunteers and encouraging them also to grow in faith
- directing the young people's discipleship groups which encourage Christian formation as apprentices of Jesus



- organising youth retreats and trips away (eg: Soul Survivor, Youth Camp, Taize, etc)
- working alongside our Schools' Missioner and children's team to help the transition from Year 6 to secondary school
- further developing our links with the large and thriving Duke of Edinburgh Scheme for which we provide premises, volunteers and a chaplaincy
- managing the administration, communication and marketing of the Parish's youth activities, including oversight of the youth presence on the Parish website, social media and monthly church newsletter
- ensuring Parish safeguarding policy and practices are kept up to date and followed



2 Extend our partnerships and links

We would like you to take up as many as possible of the opportunities there are in Bowdon Parish to pursue youth mission collaboratively with local and wider partners. These include:

- local secondary schools which invite us to offer a Christian viewpoint, give input to Christian Unions and school assemblies, and take part in school church services
- a fledgling local area, ecumenical youth church network with the potential for linking together youth activities and opportunities across a wider platform
- the links we have with Christian organisations such as The Message Trust, Youth for Christ, New Wine and Soul Survivor
- Diocesan and national youth movements



3 And have time and space to imagine ideas for the future

- We're looking for someone who will bring fresh ideas and impetus to the table, who will prayerfully dream and ask those 'What if we ...?' questions
- We see the Holy Spirit at work in our Parish, within the lives of individuals and across our congregations and out in the wider community, and we would like you to discern with us the next missional steps we should take



Accountability and Support

Our Youth and Community Missioner will have a number of leadership responsibilities, including:

- being a member of the church ministry team
- managing and mentoring staff interns (approx. 2-3)
- preparing and managing an annual youth budget
- reporting regularly to the PCC
- keeping abreast of developments in safeguarding and health and safety best practice and ensure PCC policies and guidelines are updated and followed

Support will be given via a number of strands:

- a line manager who is a member of the PCC Staffing Committee
- encouragement to continue Christ-like formation and leadership development
- an expectation that training opportunities and relevant conferences will be taken up
- time for personal retreat

Person Specification

For this role we are looking for someone who

- is baptised, has a vibrant and engaging Christian faith and is committed to growing as a follower of Jesus
- is committed to worshipping in our congregations
- can work well both with others as part of a team and also under their own initiative
- has good biblical and theological knowledge and can communicate it well
- is experienced and skilled in managing, building and leading volunteer teams
- has good IT skills and social media competencies
- has recent experience of Christian youth mission and ministry
- can grow good relationships and promote unity within a mixed economy church
- is organised and able to manage and balance a demanding workload
- has imagination and a flare for innovation
- lives locally or is prepared to move near to Bowdon



In addition, it would be desirable if you

- have a Christian youth qualification to degree level or equivalent
- are experienced at mission in schools
- have personal experience of the issues young people face
- have a full driving licence (even better if you can drive a minibus)



Context for Role

The Parish of Bowdon is a large vibrant parish located on the edge of Altrincham in South Manchester. The Parish comprises a number of congregations at St Mary's, St Luke's and Zone2, which provide both traditional and contemporary styles of worship. New expressions and styles of worship are welcomed and are actively being developed. In the local Church School we have recently started a new monthly congregation and a weekly prayer time.



Currently we run Sunday morning children's groups, youth discipleship groups, a Friday night youth club (Underground) and a large Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. Children and young people are also a vital part of our large, Cathedral-standard choir.



Bowdon is, in general, an affluent area. Expectations and pressure on children and young people in the locality are considerable. Many families are asset and energy-rich but time-poor. Family life has opportunities galore but is stretched by large mortgages and high employment demands.



There are six excellent schools in the Parish (including over 3000 students in two secondary schools and 550 children in our local Church Primary School) and so this is a popular place for families to live. The local schools are thriving and welcome us in with open arms, encouraging our involvement with seasonal services and school Christian groups. Our children's team regularly lead assemblies, run a lunchtime BIG Club (Believe in God), staff Christian Unions at the two secondary schools and take up the many opportunities to share the Christian faith with children and young people.



In such a setting, a mixed economy approach to the church's mission is a must. A variety of times, places and flavours of church are vital if we are to offer ways into faith for children, young people and their families. We aim to offer opportunities for the youth in our parish to discover, explore and grow in their faith. Young people from an area such as this are likely to become tomorrow's leaders in the worlds of business, law, politics, education and much more besides, and so it is a large part of the church's mission here to invest in and help shape



the lives of this emerging generation. The Christian community in Bowdon Parish has prayed about and discussed the best way to make this happen. We are firmly of the belief that the appointment of a first-rate, innovative Youth and Community Missioner, who will strategically pioneer, develop and lead our outreach among young people, is key to this mission's success.



Applications

If you would like to apply to be our Youth and Community Missioner, you are asked to submit

- a covering letter of application outlining your suitability for the role, including all relevant experience
- a current CV

If your application is successful and we make a conditional job offer, then at that time you will need to provide two referees, one of whom should be your current or most recent employer

Applicants are welcome to arrange an informal visit to Bowdon, or to have a conversation about the post, by contacting Rev Ian Rumsey at the Parish Office

Applications may be emailed or posted by the closing date to Rev Ian Rumsey at the Parish Office, clearly marked 'Youth and Community Missioner Application'

Contact details

Rev Ian Rumsey

Bowdon Parish Office, Stamford Road, Bowdon, WA14 2TR

0161 929 1537

www.bowdonchurch.org

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<http://www.bowdonchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Bowdon-PCC-PrivacyNotice.pdf>

