

St. Lawrence's Church, Hungerford

Part-time (Sessional) Youth Worker

September 2018

Job description

We are a Church of England parish church in the small town of Hungerford, West Berkshire. We have a number of children and young people in our congregation, but we want to support them better and reach out to younger people in the wider community. We are seeking a part-time youth worker to lead our work in this area.

The focus will be on ages 11 – 16 (secondary school), with occasional involvement with other age groups.

There will be three main areas of work:

- 1) Discipleship and pastoral support for young members of the church family, principally through our existing Youth Group.
- 2) Outreach to the wider community. We envisage a range of events which are attractive to children and teenagers with a range of different levels of engagement with the church and Christian commitment. Presenting the Christian faith in an appropriate, engaging way will be an important element, alongside providing opportunities for young people to socialise, learn and interact with others. Possible activities might include sports, music, drama, outdoor activities or providing a social context to meet.
- 3) Work in the local secondary school, subject to agreement with the head teacher. This could include running clubs, contributing to lessons, assemblies or providing support to students.

We are looking for a youthworker who is able to identify needs and opportunities and take the initiative. There is scope to develop the role to build on the skills and interests of the successful candidate, within the context of a work programme agreed with the line manager. The youthworker will be expected to be flexible and from time to time take on other duties as the line manager may reasonably require. They will need to work in different locations, mostly within Hungerford.

The line manager will be the Vicar, who will meet regularly with the youthworker.

The church will provide an agreed budget to run events and for training.

About the church

We are a friendly, welcoming church with about 150 members and strong links to the wider community of Hungerford. Our worship ranges from the traditional to contemporary and we have a variety of groups and activities including Alpha courses, Bible study groups, Sunday School and Mothers Union. Our members come from a range of different church backgrounds.

Whilst our church family includes children and young people, we are conscious that they are under-represented compared to the wider community we serve. Creating the post of Youthworker is part of our vision to share the good news of Jesus with all our community and become a church where

everyone feels at home. We're looking for someone who'll share that vision and work with us to make it happen.

You can find out more about our church on our website <http://www.stlawrenceshungerford.org.uk/> and Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/stlawrenceshungerford>)

Essential Requirements

Understanding and support for the Church's vision and values. An Occupational Requirement exists for the post-holder to be a Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010

Track record of delivering youthwork, preferably including working with a church or Christian organisation

Ability to communicate the Christian faith to young people and children in an effective and appropriate way

Understanding of young people and children, including the context in which they are growing up.

Ability to work effectively as part of the church community and in teams alongside volunteers and paid staff.

Experience of coordinating and leading adult volunteers, preferably in a youthwork context

Good understanding of safeguarding issues

An enhanced DBS Disclosure will be required for the successful applicant

Eligible to work in the UK.

Desirable

Experience of working in schools

Knowledge of the local area in and around Hungerford

To be a full member of the church, worshipping with us most Sundays. As this is a part-time position we will consider appointing someone who is a member of another Church and wishes to remain so, it will however be necessary to be available regularly on Sundays.

Outline of terms and conditions

Rate of pay: £11 per hour; 14 hours a week. To be paid monthly in arrears.

Hours: 14 hours per week. Hours to be agreed, but will include working on weekends and evenings in addition to day time during week days.

The post will carry an entitlement to 14 days paid holiday per year (equivalent to 34 days full time, including Bank Holidays). This will be adjusted pro rata if the employee does not work for the whole year. This includes an element to reflect Bank Holidays, although there may be occasions on which the Youth worker works on a bank holiday. Holidays should be agreed in advance with the line manager.

The salary falls within limits in which an employee can request enrolment in a pension scheme. The church will pay a 5% contribution in addition to a 3% contribution by the staff member.

Contract – 1 year in the first instance with the potential for renewal. The first 3 months will be a probationary period.

Applications

Applications should take the form of a Curriculum Vitae and a Covering Letter. The Covering Letter should explain how you meet the Essential and Desirable requirements of the job and should not be longer than 2 pages of A4 size. Please supply the names and contact details for two people who can act as referees.

Please email applications to Revd. Mike Saunders (vicar@stlawrenceshungerford.org.uk) by 7 October 2018. If you would like further information or to discuss the post, please email or call Mike on 01488 208341.