

## Changing Market Towns Youth Pioneer

Do you love working with young people, long to see them come to faith and grow in character, and get excited about pioneering new things? Are you ready to give yourself 100% in mission alongside a thriving fresh expression of church? Then check this job out...!

### Background Information, Job Description and Person Specification

Within the Changing Market Towns project, we are seeking a colleague to join the St Neots team, based with, and reaching out from, an exciting area of new housing and growing church life and mission.

The successful applicant will join the market town team in St Neots. In addition to the Love's Farm Pioneer and the Team Rector, this will include the Operations Manager, and a second Changing Market Towns worker with a children and families' focus. The team will be looking to develop a growing body of volunteers to add to the initial core members.

St Neots is a growing and thriving market town with new housing developments at its eastern edge: Love's Farm and Wintringham. These emerging new communities are bursting with potential for a youth-oriented initiative, including the possibility of a physical space (community facility) that will serve both the young people for whom these estates are home as well as those living across the town.

It is our hope that the person appointed will use their base in this area of new housing to:

- ✓ make a significant contribution to spearheading new ways to serve and care for St Neots' young people
- ✓ be part of the team committed to praying, listening, seeking, and joining in, the mission of God and the creative work of the Holy Spirit
- ✓ be willing to serve, stretch, grow and take risks – and to be an innovative and reflective team player, town-wide collaborator and young person advocate

### Summary

- Job title: Youth Pioneer
- Based in: St Neots, Cambridgeshire
- Responsible to: The Revd Helene Tame  
(Love's Farm Pioneer and community chaplain)
- Hours of work: Full-time (35 hours per week), to include some evening and weekend work
- Salary: £27,000 for a full-time appointment
- Membership of The Church Workers Pension Fund (non-contributory)
- Initial three-year contract (fixed term), subject to 6 months' successful probation

## **Job Description**

To lead and support the existing youth ministry with Love's Farm Church, in line with their core values of community - encounter - discipleship

To participate (joy!)fully in the work and worship on Love's Farm (Love's Farm Church: Breakfast Church – Messy Church) and support and inhabit a commitment to incarnational mission

To listen the hardest, and give a lead, in the mission to serve, care, inspire and disciple young people across St Neots

To give time and priority to building relationships with young people, and others identified as partners in the shared goal of serving and caring for them

To identify new missional opportunities and work with partners to respond to the emerging possibilities to serve young people

To connect and create community with young people so that stories of faith might be shared and opportunities for worship and discipleship take shape

A prayerful commitment to relationships and service within the towns' secondary schools

A commitment to being a team player, including the recruiting, leading and supporting of volunteer teams and maintenance of a safe working environment that complies with diocesan safeguarding policies

In addition to the role-specific job description above, every Diocesan Changing Market Towns Worker should:

- Be a 'Change Maker', praying and working to that end
- Encourage and contribute to the further development of fresh expressions of church that resonate with the local setting, as part of the Diocese's blended economy of fresh expressions and inherited-mode church
- Engage widely and confidently with the community, enabling others to join in mission and service
- Play an active role in local and Diocesan shared mission, and participate in the on-going training and development programme as part of a learning community with other Changing Market Towns Workers

## Person Specification

The core skills of understanding fresh expressions of church, evangelism, culture change and training will be required for all positions. Each role will require a slightly different skillset but will also retain flexibility in the light of the gifts and experience of those appointed.

It is expected that the post-holder will become a wholehearted worshipping member of the Christian Community on Love's Farm so there is an occupational requirement for the person to be a practising Christian.

There is no requirement that the post holder will be an Anglican, but will be expected to work within and be sympathetic to both the Anglican and United Reformed Church, who have so far funded the current ordained pioneer post on Love's Farm and Wintringham.

Continuing professional development will be offered as part of a learning community, including occasional residential courses with others working in similar roles across the Diocese with added support from the Bishop's Change Officer for Market Towns.

### **These are the essential (E) and desirable (D) qualities we are looking for:**

A demonstrable love of Christ	E
A demonstrable ability to 'love' and serve the community in which you are based	E
Experience of working with schools and / or young people	E
Experience of fresh expressions of church	E
An ability to think strategically	E
Experience of bringing about change	E
Experience of growing faith in Jesus / teaching the Bible in a variety of contexts	E
Good verbal and written communication skills	E
Confidence in using technology and social media	E
Good self-awareness and the ability to reflect	E
A friendly and warm persona with an ability to work well with a wide diversity of people	E
An ability to balance teamwork with entrepreneurial imagination	E
An understanding of how to handle confidential and sensitive information	E
A commitment to uphold current safeguarding legislation and best practice	E
The ability to travel independently	E
Previous experience of belonging to or leading and developing fresh expressions of church	D
Leadership experience, with responsibility for empowering and releasing volunteers	D
Qualification and / or training in theology, mission and evangelism	D

## **Changing Market Towns Project**

The Diocese of Ely is making a huge investment in the region's market towns. We are seeking inspiring people to join in realising our aims. We want to see whole communities transformed through the love of God. The Changing Market Towns project focusses on enabling and sustaining church growth in small and medium sized towns, significantly enhancing the Diocese's ability to realise its desire to engage, grow and deepen our commitment to God through word, worship and prayer. **The Diocese of Ely has identified the need to focus especially in developing church life and community engagement in market towns.** The Diocese of Ely's Changing Market Towns project is already making a significant investment through youth, children's and community workers across the fenland towns. Each has a brief to engage with the community and to encourage the development of Fresh Expressions of Church. The plans are far-reaching and ambitious and an expression of our faith in the power of God. Are you ready to be part of this exciting future, as the work expands into St Neots?

The Diocese of Ely is committed to safer recruitment practices for people working or volunteering with children and adults and therefore this position is subject to an enhanced disclosure from the DBS (Disclosure & Barring Service).

If you have any enquiries about this post, or would like to make an informal visit, please contact Helene Tame [community.chaplain@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:community.chaplain@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Application Process**

Please complete the application form in full. A Curriculum Vitae (CV) will not be accepted as a substitute. Completed applications should be returned by email to [markettowns@elydiocese.org](mailto:markettowns@elydiocese.org) by the closing date (see below).

Please use the application form to demonstrate – with relevant examples – how your skills and experience meet the requirements of the role for which you are applying. The information above, especially the Person Specification, sets out the qualities and experience being sought, and the selection panel will use this as the basis for deciding whether to invite an applicant for interview.

**Application closing date:** 12 noon, Monday 04 January 2021

**Interview date:** Expected to be mid-January 2021 (socially distanced)