

Youth Children and Families Minister

St Luke's Church, Thurnby

St Luke's, Thurnby is a community of followers of Jesus of all ages. At the heart of all we do is the Bible and its message of forgiveness and hope that comes through Jesus.

We are a Church of England Church in the Diocese of Leicester and are part of the Cornerstone Team and are a Resourcing Church seeking to better serve and reach the 93% of people who are not currently part of any Christian community.

We have four key foundations as a church: **belonging** – living as the family of Jesus, **growing** – becoming more like Jesus, **multiplying** – proclaiming Jesus and planting churches, **servicing** – living out the love of Jesus.

Our three priorities for 2022 are to **plant** a new congregation in Thurmaston, to **build** and open the HUB community centre and café, and to **grow** our work with young people, children, and families.

Youth, children, and family's ministry has been a consistent feature of life at St Luke's. We currently have up to 40 children and young people (aged 0-18) and a small and growing group of young adults in the church community along with a large number of connections in the local community.

We are seeking out a full-time member of our ministry staff team to develop and grow our ministry to youth, children, and families in a post-pandemic era.

Youth, Children, and Families Minister

- Alongside parents and the church community you will be able to help our youth, children, and families know and love Jesus and feel valuable in the life of the church, and you will be able to inspire them to be sent out equipped to live for Jesus.
- You will not be expected to be the person who does all our youth, children, and families ministry, instead you will be supported by our committed church family who you will be able to equip and release to lead ministry areas.
- You will be working in a committed and enthusiastic staff team and will have opportunities to work closely with Lizzie Berry, our newly appointed Schools and Community Outreach Minister, to connect with young people, children, and families in our local community.

What We Offer You

- A church family who will pray for you, partner with you, encourage you, and help you love Jesus more and a dedicated, supportive, and enthusiastic staff team to be part of.
- A commitment to your wellbeing and discipleship, ensuring you have a day off each week, and working hours that can be worked with some flexibility (noting there are some weekly fixed points including Sundays).
- A salary of £21,573 - £28,280 (depending on experience and qualifications) plus pension contributions with 25 days paid leave and 8 days recognised holidays to be taken each year.
- Ministry related work and travel expenses paid for, a budget set annually with your input for resources, a work computer and work phone contract.
- Time and funding will be made available for you to take retreat days, attend relevant conferences and training events, have involvement with a summer camp, and undertake further training or qualifications.

The Kind of Person We're Looking For

Essential

- A living and growing relationship with Jesus that is rooted in prayer, empowered by the Holy Spirit, with a passion for the gospel, and an excitement for living and modelling the faith in Jesus.

- A commitment to the Bible as God's true and living word with a growing ability to communicate the message of the Bible clearly, creatively, and engagingly.
- A heartbeat for, and experience in making, nurturing, and growing disciples of children and young people with an understanding of their pastoral needs.
- The ability to relate to people of all ages, engaging with young people and children, building encouraging and supportive relationships with parents, and connecting with the wider church community and beyond.
- Able to raise up, equip, and release volunteers to lead particular ministry areas, and to lead them with encouragement and good humour.
- Ready to play a full part in the life of St Luke's Church and the Cornerstone Team.
- A clear understanding of safeguarding processes, regulations, and recommendations in relation to working with children and young people.

Desirable

- Training / qualifications in biblical studies and/or children's/youth /Christian ministry or other transferrable qualifications.
- Other abilities and interests relevant to the role for example music, drama, art, sport, working with children and young people with special needs etc.
- A full UK driving licence and use of a car.

The Main Responsibilities of the Role

- To lead and grow the ministry at St Luke's for youth, children, and families, shaping and implementing a vision and strategy for the ministry.
- To build relationships with our young people, children, and their families, helping them know and love Jesus, and to feel valuable in the life of St Luke's and to support families to grow in faith in Jesus together.
- To lead and build up our voluntary youth and children's team, providing encouragement, support, and on-going training.
- To coordinate and be actively involved in our provision of regular Sunday and midweek discipleship groups for children and young people and helping to develop what this provision will look like in the future.
- To shape and co-ordinate other midweek activities for youth, children, and families, developing evangelistic opportunities, and organising occasional events such as days/weekends away and summer camps.
- To help in the pioneering of a new fresh expression of Church or worshipping community for families of all ages exploring faith outside of a Sunday service setting.
- To collaborate with Lizzie Berry (Schools and Community Outreach Minister) on regular outreach groups (e.g. toddler group, community youth club) and occasional events (e.g. light party, holiday club, family fun day).
- To play a full role as a member of the St Luke's staff team and in the life of the Church including involvement in the planning and delivery of church services and activities.

Key People Links

- Regular meetings with the (Associate) Rector who will pray with you, help you grow as a disciple of Jesus, and support you in developing the ministry to youth, children, and families.
- Collaborating with Lizzie Berry (Schools and Community Outreach Minister) and the rest of the St Luke's staff team and wider Cornerstone ministry team.
- Leading the voluntary youth and children's team, closely supported by our Parish Safeguarding Officers.
- Being an active part of the wider St Luke's Church community as a member of the church.
- Establishing and developing links and partnerships with other churches, organisations in the local area.

The Finer Details

As the job involves teaching and modelling the Christian faith to young people as well as playing a full part in the life of St Luke's, there is a Genuine Occupational Requirement that the person be a committed Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Employment: You will be employed by St Luke's PCC (registered charity #1133016) on an initial three-year contract with a six-month probationary period.

Salary: Starting salary will be between £21,573 to £28,280 (dependent on experience and qualifications). The salary will increase by annual increments on the anniversary of the start date, subject to a satisfactory appraisal, up to the maximum of £28,280. The salary will also be adjusted annually taking into account things like cost of living and inflation. You will also be entered into a pension scheme.

Location: We would like you to be based in or close by to Thurnby. Although we are unable to provide accommodation we will do as much as we possibly can to assist you if you need to relocate for the role.

Hours: This post is full time (37.5 hours) with hours worked with some flexibility but will include evenings and weekends. It is understood that you will have one full day per week, not being a Sunday, clear of any church work.

Holidays: The post holder will be entitled to 25 days of annual paid holiday and 8 days recognised holidays each year to be taken as such times as agreed with the line manager.

Safeguarding: We take all aspects of safeguarding seriously and expect every member of the team to do all that can be done to keep people safe. This post requires an enhanced disclosure by the Disclosure and Barring Service and will require the appropriate safeguarding training to be undertaken.