Full time with two days off per week. Weekend working will be required. **Salary range:** £24 000 – 26 000 per annum, depending on experience (Pension, NI contributions and expenses will be provided)

**St Albright’s Pioneer Ministry Team Vision Statement**

Our vision is to see what God is doing in our community, and to join Him in fanning into flame His love and presence in our midst, enabling flourishing. Working primarily in the new housing developments, together with the Pioneer Ministry team and the existing church family, we long to share God’s love with those in our community who don’t yet know Him, building community and enabling spiritual growth.

We have recently been awarded Strategic Development Funding from the Diocese and Church Commissioners to support the implementation of a strategy to engage with people moving into and living in the new housing in the parish. This five-year strategic funding is supporting this post, together with the Lead Pioneer Minister (already in post), a new Pioneer Curate and a part-time administrator to support the Pioneer Ministry Team. The post would initially be a two year contract with a view to extending it to five years.

Our outline hopes for this work are:

- Growing 3 new worshipping communities. These may, for example, be built around pre-existing children and families groups, a café church in one of the local coffee shops and/or a community church located in the new school. In total we are praying for about 150 people across the new worshipping communities
- To be an incarnational presence in the community, enabling closer community identification with the love of God and His church
- To build an active team of lay and ordained, voluntary and paid ministers with a commitment to God’s mission across the parish
Main areas of engagement for the post are:

• Taking a lead in initiating and running activity mornings or adventure days through the year including an annual holiday club.
• Developing links with and providing support to schools, such as occasional school assemblies, annual Soul Space in schools and after school club/s.
• Working alongside or leading, as appropriate, groups linked to the church such as Rise ‘n Shine, Tots group and Messy Church.
• Creating imaginative opportunities to engage in conversation and build relationships with children and families out in the community and places of hospitality, for example community sport, gardening or art trails.
• Assessing the needs of the children and families in the community and working collaboratively to engage with these needs.
• Creatively exploring ways to serve our community, developing opportunities for faith conversations and discipleship.
• Working with other community groups such as the Parish Council and Active Essex to develop joint initiatives for the wellbeing and flourishing of children and families, including the most vulnerable.
• Fostering good relationships and working ecumenically with ‘Love Stanway’, particularly in joint events such as pop-up Nativities, Easter Walks of Witness and Stanway Family Fun Days.
• Engaging with other Children, Families and Youth workers in our neighbouring churches and emerging MMU.

Lines of Management

The Children, Families and Community Pioneer is employed by the PCC of St Albright’s Church. They will work as part of the Pioneer Ministry Team and will be line managed by the Lead Pioneer Minister. We take seriously professional
development and accountability, therefore written reports and reflective practice will be expected, in line with the requirements of the SDF and New Worshipping Communities Diocesan team. Training and Development will be provided both through one to one meetings with your line manager and through courses such as the Mission Shaped Ministry (pioneering) course and appropriate Diocesan Training.

Success in the role will be…
To establish, together with the church family and Pioneer Team, sustainable New Worshipping Communities with a focus on young people. To develop a culture of mission and discipleship in the church enabling growth and the flourishing of relationships with one another and with God.

Job Description
• To foster and develop opportunities for children, young people and families to grow in faith.
• To play an active part in the local community, in partnership with the church family and ministry team
• To be integrated with existing church worship and groups, particularly those ministering to and with children and families.
• To initiate pioneering opportunities which engage the wider, un-churched community in thinking about faith and God.
• To create opportunities for the exploration of faith and Christian values in schools, liaising with appropriate staff.
• To encourage, resource, nurture and support community groups to undertake work with children, young people and families, assisting them with the development of new inclusive initiatives.
• To encourage children and young people to grow in leadership skills.
• To lead, co-ordinate and develop a group of volunteers to assist in running regular activities, with support from the pioneer team and church leadership.
• To encourage the church congregation to become involved in and support activities through volunteering their time, skills and funding.
• To maintain and develop contacts and good working relationships with the leaders and workers of other Christian youth groups in the area.
• To liaise with other agencies including the Parish Council, Health Care Professionals, Social Services and Community Officers as appropriate.
To work with the Pioneer Ministry Team to **promote events** through church newsletters, social media and advertising, and to **be an advocate** for the children, families and young people of Stanway.

To be responsible, together with the Pioneering Ministry Team, for effective **administration, producing reports and papers** as required.

To **work within safeguarding guidelines** and with the support of the Chelmsford Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

**The successful candidate will be:**

- involved in regular worship and prayer in the church and community
- supported in their own private prayer, study and retreat
- involved in regular reviews of their work and tasks
- expected to attend relevant courses and professional development opportunities
- given the opportunity to attend associated and relevant meetings where appropriate and when time permits
- supported by a spiritual mentor

**Person specification:**

**Essential**

- Have a living Christian faith.
- Be pioneering and risk taking by nature, possessing the resilience needed to deal with set-backs.
- Approach challenging situations with a positive mindset.
- Demonstrate sensitivity and empathy toward children, young people and families.
- Be able to work effectively in a team and independently.
- Be adaptable and creative with ideas and initiatives.
- Exercise appropriate and flexible styles of working within the community.
- Demonstrate excellent communication skills.
- Be comfortable in the use of relevant social media platforms.
- Be confident in and passionate about sharing their vision for children and young people with others.
- Apply knowledge and understanding of a range of youth work methods, particularly within the context of Christian communities.
- Have a clear understanding of how to handle Safeguarding and Child Protection issues and know who to ask when needing advice.

**Desirable:**

- A qualification in children, youth and community work and/or ministry, ideally with at least two years’ experience.
- Have experience of handling Safeguarding and Child Protection issues.
- Experience with relevant office software.
- Hold a full driving license.
- Live within Stanway.