



Children and Families Pioneer

to help us grow three new worshipping communities in Stanway



Full time (40 hours) with two days off per week. Weekend working will be necessary.

Salary range: £24,000 – 26,000 per annum, depending on experience (Pension, NI contributions and expenses will be provided).

Closing Date: 18 January 2021; **Desirable start date:** 22nd February 2021

St Albright's Pioneer Ministry Team Vision Statement

Our vision is:

- to see what God is already doing in our community and join in with him;
- to share the love of Jesus and to bring the community together, especially with families in Stanway's New Housing Developments;
- to plant and grow new worshipping, discipling and missional communities.

We have recently been awarded Strategic Development Funding from the Church of England 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, as well as the posts of the Lead Pioneer Minister, the part-time Administrator and a new Pioneer Curate starting in September 2021. We work closely with St Albright's, the parish church, including with the Priest in Charge and curate. The funding is for a five-year post, subject to the successful completion of a six-month probation, and a two year review.

Our hopes and prayers for this work are:

- To grow three new worshipping communities in five years. Possible examples include Café Church, Messy Church and Home-churches.
- To be an incarnational presence in the community.
- To build an active team drawn from the whole church family and the wider community, who are committed to God's mission in Stanway.

Main areas of engagement for the post are:

- Pioneering new initiatives which will lead to children, young people and families exploring faith and experiencing the transforming presence of Jesus.
- Creating imaginative opportunities to engage in conversation and build relationships with families out in the community and places of hospitality, for example community sport, gardening or art trails or movie making (within current Covid guidelines).
- Assessing the needs of the children and families in the community and exploring ways of serving them, both in term time and holiday time.
- Working collaboratively 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 supportive relationships with pre-existing groups linked to the church such as Rise 'n Shine, St Albright's Tots and uniformed groups.
- Developing links with and providing support to schools, such as occasional school assemblies, Soul Space and after school clubs.
- Fostering healthy relationships with other churches in Stanway and working together ecumenically, where possible.
- Engaging with other Children, Families and Youth workers and pioneers in our neighboring churches and the emerging MMU.
- Developing the online presence of the church and engaging with children and families through virtual services such as Café Church.



A Flourishing Faith Community is our aim. We hope, pray and work towards: the establishing of sustainable New Worshipping Communities with a focus on the whole family, together with the church family and Pioneer team; the fostering of 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 **pray for the pioneering work**, both alone and with others.
- To **initiate pioneering opportunities** which engage the whole community in thinking about faith and God.
- To **foster and develop opportunities for children, young people and families to grow in faith and leadership**.
- To play an **active part in the local community**, in partnership with local agencies, the church family and ministry team.
- To **create opportunities for the exploration of faith and Christian values in schools**, in particular with Lakelands Primary School.
- To be **integrated with existing church worship and groups**, particularly those ministering to and with children and families.
- To **encourage, resource, nurture and support community groups** who undertake work with children and families, assisting them with developing new inclusive initiatives.
- To **lead, co-ordinate and develop a group of volunteers** to assist in running regular activities and leading worship 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 foster** good working relationships with other pioneers.
- To work with the Pioneer Ministry Team to **promote events** through church newsletters, social media and advertising.
- To **be an advocate** for the children and families in Stanway.
- To be responsible, for effective **administration, producing timely reports and papers**, together with the Pioneer Ministry Team.
- To **work within safeguarding guidelines** and with the support of the Chelmsford Diocesan Safeguarding Team.
- To take a lead in **virtual services** as well as face to face worship.



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 by their line manager, the lead pioneer.
- given opportunity to attend relevant courses and professional development opportunities, as well as finding and honing their Pioneer Charism
- 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 and families.
- Be confident in and passionate about sharing their vision for children and families with others.
- 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.
- 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.
- Have experience in children and families' ministry.



Desirable:

- A qualification in children, youth and community work and/or ministry.
- Experience of handling Safeguarding and Child Protection issues.
- Experience with relevant office software.
- Experience with streaming virtual services
- A full driving license.

Lines of Management, Support and Training

The Children and Families Pioneer is employed by the PCC of St Albright's Church. They will work as part of the Pioneer Ministry Team of five people 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 Diocesan practice. Training and Development will be provided through one-to-one meetings with your line manager, through courses such as the Mission Shaped Ministry (pioneering) course and through appropriate Diocesan Training.

For enquiries, contact Rev Wendy, the Lead Pioneer: pioneer@stalbrights.org or 07816 039832