

# Job Description – Shropshire & Marches Methodist Circuit

- Job Title:** New People New Place (NPNP) Pioneer.
- Location:** Shropshire and Marches Methodist Circuit - Northern End (covering the area above Shrewsbury up to the Wrexham border) An area with 13 active chapels, namely Pant, Oswestry, Chirk, St.Martin's, Chapel Lane, Ellesmere, Welshampton, Lee Bridges, Wem, Welsh End, Prees, Prees Green, Ellerdine Heath
- Responsible to:** The Lay Employee will be employed by the Shropshire and Marches Circuit and will line managed by a Minister and supported by circuit staff and stewards.
- Responsible for:** Pioneering ministry in an exciting wide ranging role, not constrained within the boundaries of traditional ministry. Principally leading and building on the existing work of the Mobile Outreach Project (MEMO), which is a bespoke converted horsebox with awning, hob, seating, lighting, electrics and many other features. The role is to pioneer new ways of working outside the church walls, but also to be involved in existing outreach projects specifically Forest Church at our Welsh End site which incorporates a site for motorhomes. It is intended the area be used for camping and uniformed organisations, community groups and schools. We envisage the role dovetailing into our current NPNP projects. There is scope in this role to develop the justice seeking church in this very rural area.
- The role is collaborative and involves working in a team of ordained Ministers and Volunteers. It involves arranging and facilitating events and bookings, and forming a team of volunteers, to tour within the northern end of the circuit and towed by the NPNP Pioneer or other volunteers.
- Hours of work:** It is envisaged that the role will require 28 hours per week to be worked flexibly across the year to allow more hours in busier and less in quieter times. The pioneer will be required to work weekends, but on those when unavailable, will need to co-ordinate volunteers, and to plan events.
- Purpose and Objectives:**
- The project aims to go out beyond our church buildings, using the trailer to enable a visual presence across a wide area, currently in the form of fairs, carnivals and community events. In gentle ways, the project offers God's hope, Christ's light, and encouragement with the Holy Spirit; through welcome, hospitality, a listening ear, and opportunities for prayer.
- The Pioneer will work in collaboration with the Northern Circuit staff, stewards and volunteers to explore possibilities of creating and developing new Christian communities and strengthen existing and established relationships with schools and communities by:
- Using the particular gifts and skills which you will bring to this role
  - Promoting, encouraging and enabling the mobile outreach and its ministry

- Building life-enhancing relationships with unchurched people through listening, acts of loving service and opportunities to experience Christian community.
- Creating, adapting, leading and delivering appropriate forms and expressions of worship beyond church walls, to people of all ages with no church background.
- Building teams of volunteers to enable God's grace to be shared in sustainable and appropriate ways.
- Creating new and expanding existing relationships with ecumenical partners and stakeholders.
- Listening to the Holy Spirit to discern creative ways of working.

This is a pioneering role which will rely on the creativity and resourcefulness of the successful applicant and who will be relied upon to explore using their own initiative, supported with appropriate training resources, as well as being tested and affirmed by the rest of the team.

- Terms of appointment: Permanent
- 28 days annual leave entitlement per year (pro-rata for part-time Workers).
- At least one day free of responsibilities each week.
- The salary will be: £22,500 per annum.
- Normal working pattern: 28 hours per week or to be worked flexibly as seasons and festivals require
- All agreed expenses will be reimbursed
- There is a contributory pension scheme to which eligible lay employees will be auto enrolled. Lay employees who do not meet the auto enrolment criteria are eligible to join the scheme subject to certain provisions.
- Appointment will be subject to:
  - satisfactory references.
  - satisfactory completion of up to six month probationary period.
  - proof of eligibility to work in the UK – documents must be produced at interview
  - satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure & Debarring Service (DBS) disclosure.

### **Main Responsibilities:**

1. To be responsible for the day-to-day running and development of the mobile outreach project.
2. To use the mobile trailer as the focus of pioneering ministry, going to spaces beyond our church congregations and buildings, and enabling new encounters with Christ.
3. Develop and lead new initiatives in collaboration with the ministry team and support group to develop sustainably.
4. Enable the advertising and promotion of events and ideas.
5. To build a team by safely recruiting appropriate volunteers giving them support, and encouragement to both accompany the trailer at events and to be behind the scenes with maintenance and towing of the trailer.

6. To appraise and review existing initiatives and activities and change where necessary the action and focus of work after consultation with, and agreement from, the line manager and staff.
7. To work ecumenically where appropriate and in partnership with other local church colleagues or stakeholders.
8. To understand, implement and promote best practice in safeguarding and health and safety policies within the church and keep adequate records of contacts and of the work undertaken.
9. To develop links with community groups
10. Attend church and staff meetings as required, as well as with the Line Manager.
11. To undertake any work, duties and responsibilities that relate to the role that might be reasonably required, as identified by the ministers, to meet the missional needs of the church and project.

## Person Specification

### Post: New People New Places Pioneer

Based at the Shropshire and Marches Circuit- Northern End.

Attributes	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
<b>Qualifications</b>	Educated to GCSE Grade C level or equivalent	Relevant professional qualification at degree level, and/or membership of a professional body and/or a recognised Biblical, theological or practical mission qualification	Q
<b>Proven Ability</b>	Evidence of Christian Discipleship through experience of church stewardship, worship or leadership.  Evidence of leading and coordinating Christian activities	Member of the Methodist Church or other denomination  Proven ability to pioneer new ways of being church.	A/I/
	Proven ability of networking and establishing working relationships/partnerships	Proven ability of working within and understanding life in a rural community.	A/I
	Able to contribute effectively to a team		A/I

	An awareness of the needs and issues affecting families today, within a rural context.		
<b>Knowledge &amp; Skills</b>	An understanding of innovative and creative ways of discipleship and worship		A/I
	High level of IT skills to aid communication including use of social media, flexibility to sustain work both online and in person		A/I
	Willingness to attend ongoing training in all aspects of pioneering		A/I
<b>Special Qualities or Aptitudes</b>	Have a personal Christian faith, active and in good standing in a church community		A/I
	Self-motivated with ability to plan and execute own work, to deadlines where appropriate.		A/I
	Ability to work on your own and as part of a team		A/I
	Ability to establish positive and productive relationships both within and outside of the church.		A/I
	Ability to recognise and develop the gifts of others and foster an environment of participation.		A/I
	Able to work with, encourage and equip volunteers, both in person and online, with sensitivity towards existing leadership.		A/I
	Working knowledge of and commitment to safeguarding and to promoting the safety and welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.  Willingness to attend training		A/I
	Able to relate to and communicate effectively with a wide spectrum of age groups/abilities		A/I
<b>Any Other</b>	This post holds a genuine		A/I

<b>Requirements</b>	occupational requirement for the post holder to be a Christian, and to lead worshipfully and prayerfully according to Methodist doctrines		
	Due to the nature of the role, a full, driving licence must be held, or other ability to travel to very rural locations with and without the mobile outreach trailer.	Ability, or willingness to be trained, to tow the trailer.	Q

A – Application form; I – Interview; E – Exercise; Q – proof of qualification (certificates or transcripts)