

Withywood Church



Job Title:	Community Missioner
Location:	Withywood Church, Bristol
Salary:	Up to £ 30,900 p.a. FTE, (£18,540 p.a.)
Hours:	22.5 hours a week, to be worked flexibly across the week including regular evenings and occasional weekend work.
Reports to:	Priest-in-Charge
Start:	ASAP
Contract:	Fixed term contract to 31 December 2028
Benefits:	Paid annual leave (28 days plus bank holidays pro rata), plus an additional 3 days over Christmas. NEST workplace pension

Withywood Church vision

Withywood Church is seeking to become a thriving, intergenerational Christian community whose life reflects the diversity of the neighbourhood around it.

Located within the Withywood Centre, the church is uniquely placed at the heart of local community life. We are known for our warmth, hospitality, and pastoral care, and we believe God is calling us to build on these strengths to engage more intentionally with children, young people, families, and working-age adults. We are seeking a Community Missioner who will help develop a visible and relational Christian presence within the Withywood Centre and wider neighbourhood, building trusted relationships, strengthening partnerships, and creating accessible pathways into worship, discipleship, and leadership.

Priority Communities Network (PCN)

The PCN is a parish-based holistic project that looks to deploy substantial resource into churches in the areas of greatest disadvantage in the Diocese of Bristol. The programme aims to enable and cultivate sustainable, good growth across areas of multiple deprivation so that we see numerical growth of people and finances, deeper discipleship, and social transformation in these communities. The PCN Programme is funding this role for Withywood Church in equal partnership with the Methodist Church.

Job summary

The Community Missioner is a new role created to encourage, enable, and grow Christ-centred mission, discipleship, and community engagement within Withywood.

The role will focus on building relationships with local residents, families, schools, charities, and community organisations, while helping the church become increasingly accessible and welcoming to younger generations and those currently underrepresented in the life of the church.

The successful candidate will help develop sustainable pathways from community engagement into worship, faith exploration, discipleship, volunteering, and leadership.

Main responsibilities

Community Presence and Mission

- Be a visible, approachable Christian presence in the Withywood Centre and wider neighbourhood, building trusted relationships with residents, families, children, young people, and community leaders.
- Develop accessible activities, events, and welcoming spaces that respond to local needs and create opportunities for belonging, faith exploration, and discipleship.
- Create pathways connecting community engagement with worship, prayer, Christian faith, and the wider life of the church.

Partnership and Church Development

- Build and maintain positive relationships with local schools, charities, support agencies, community organisations, and churches across BS13.
- Develop collaborative initiatives that support community wellbeing and strengthen the church's engagement with the neighbourhood.
- Help Withywood Church become increasingly welcoming and accessible to younger generations and families, encouraging a culture of hospitality, pastoral care, and relational mission.

Leadership and Discipleship

- Recruit, encourage, train, and support volunteers involved in community engagement and discipleship.

- Identify and nurture emerging lay leaders, particularly from within the local community, encouraging greater participation and ownership.
- Support the development of intergenerational activities, small groups, mentoring, and other opportunities for discipleship and belonging.

Teamwork, Safeguarding and Administration

- Work collaboratively with church leaders, volunteers, the St Andrews Hartcliffe team, the PCN Operations Hub Manager, and the wider Diocese Priority Communities Network.
- Maintain appropriate records and contribute to reporting, evaluation, communication, and publicity.
- Work with clergy and Parish Safeguarding Officers to ensure safeguarding policies and procedures are followed.
- Participate in regular supervision, team meetings, prayer, planning, training, and relevant diocesan gatherings.
- Play an active part in the worshipping life of Withywood Church and maintain personal Christian faith through prayer, worship, study, and reflection.

Priority Communities Network (PCN)

- Work with colleagues and the Diocese PCN Team to capture metrics and measurements across agreed areas of activity.
- Play an active part in the PCN Lay Missioners' Network, attending the regular meetings, sharing learning, and being willing to adapt and develop the role in light of this shared learning.

Additional support and opportunities

- Regular 1:1 supervision, management, and pastoral support from the ministry and leadership team.
- Collaboration with St Andrew's Hartcliffe, the Diocese Priority Communities Network, and the PCN Operations Hub Manager at St Barnabas, Filwood.
- Opportunities for relevant training, conferences, mentoring, and professional development.
- Flexibility to meet the needs of the role, with Time Off In Lieu (TOIL) available where appropriate.

Person Specification

We are looking for an engaging, relational, and mission-minded leader with a heart for local community engagement and a passion for helping people encounter Jesus and become part of the life of the church.

The successful candidate will have the energy, initiative, and sensitivity to help develop sustainable relationships, partnerships, and discipleship pathways within a diverse and changing community.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA
Experience
● Experience of community engagement, mission, outreach, or organising activities within a church or community setting. ● Experience of building relationships with people from diverse backgrounds and working collaboratively with volunteers or community partners.
Skills and abilities
● Strong interpersonal and communication skills, with the ability to listen well, build trust, and respond sensitively to others. ● Ability to take initiative, work collaboratively, and encourage and support volunteers and emerging leaders. ● Good organisational and administrative skills, including confidence using IT. ● Ability to work flexibly and respond creatively to the needs of the community.
Personal Qualities
● A committed Christian faith, with a passion for mission, evangelism, and discipleship. ● A heart for local churches and communities experiencing social disadvantage. ● Warmth, emotional intelligence, self-awareness, and the ability to handle challenging situations constructively.
Other Requirements
● Willingness to work occasional evenings and weekends and travel independently across the parish and Diocese. ● Commitment to safeguarding, confidentiality, and relevant health and safety procedures.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA
● Experience of urban ministry, particularly in areas of social disadvantage. ● Experience of helping people explore or come to faith, and of family, schools, or intergenerational ministry. ● Relevant theological, ministry, youth work, or community work training. ● Experience of partnership working, digital communications, or organising activities involving risk assessments and first aid.

We are committed to being a fair, respectful and inclusive organisation. We believe that diversity enables us to thrive and develop and we are committed to race equality, welcoming applications from all under-represented groups.

This post is subject to an occupational requirement that the postholder be a practising Christian under part 1 of Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.

The Diocese of Bristol is committed to safeguarding, safer recruiting practice and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This role will involve working with vulnerable adults and children, so an enhanced DBS check will be required.

Please note that we are unable to accept international applications requiring a visa.

HOW TO APPLY

For more information or an informal conversation regarding this post please contact the Priest-in-Charge, Josh Bradshaw: Josh@standrewshartcliffe.org

If you feel God is calling you to work with us then please apply by completing the application form (no CVs please), which is available at:

<https://www.bristol.anglican.org/aboutus/vacancies-xdb/parish-vacancies/>

Please send completed applications to: jobs@bristoldiocese.org

Closing date for applications: Monday, 2nd November 2026 at 9:00am

Expected interview date: Wednesday, 25th November 2026.