

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Temporary Assistant Minister to the Archdeacon for Rural Mission

Archdeacon Sally Gaze will need to step back and work shorter hours as Archdeacon for Rural Mission, Leader of the Lightwave Community for 6 – 9 months. During this time, the “Growing in God in the Countryside Project” of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich would like to appoint someone to an 0.5 incumbent level post, starting as soon as possible. This is to be responsible for particular parts of the role which cannot be fulfilled by existing colleagues within the Growing in God in the Countryside Project or wider Diocese.

This is likely to be a secondment.

DIOCESAN VISION & MISSION

The Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich’s four mission priorities are to grow in ‘depth’ and ‘influence’, so as to enable an increase in ‘number’ and become ‘younger’; in achieving the vision of “Growing in God” by being “Flourishing Congregations, Making a Difference”.

GROWING GOD IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Over £2m of Church Commissioner’s Strategic Development Funding [SDF] has been allocated to support the 6-year Growing in God in the Countryside project (2019-2024) that will create a rural landscape, rich and diverse in its worshipping communities, that reflect the needs and interests of local rural populations. The development of a Lightwave as countywide Fresh Expressions Community, supported by larger Rural Resourcing Churches is proving fruitful in growing new Christian rural disciples and the project is now in the phase of establishing sustainability for long term growth.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this role is to

Enable the Lightwave Community to continue to grow towards sustainability during the period of the Leader’s reduced hours by:-

- a) Overseeing the implementation of the Project plan for financial sustainability through increasing giving, stewardship, partnerships, synergies with diocesan ministries and external grants.
- b) Furthering the development of the Board of Trustees of the Lightwave Community CIO, so that it is less dependent on paid roles and in a manner which is fitting for a Bishops Mission Order.
- c) Leading on the development of the “Love Rural” initiative within the Lightwave Community
- d) Other ministry tasks as needed e.g. Mission Accompaniment of particular rural pioneers and/or clergy; presiding at holy communion to enable lay-led fresh expressions of Church to receive the sacrament

REPORTING TO

Sally Gaze, Archdeacon for Rural Mission (when available) Bishop Mike Marrison, Bishop of Dunwich (in her absence)

KEY CONTACTS

- Lightwave Community staff team - Andrew Gosden (Project Manager), Becky Luetchford (Communications Missioner), Nina Seaman (Administrator and Prayer Coordinator), Fundraiser and bidwriter (currently being recruited)
- Rural Lightwave group leaders, pioneers and clergy including Love Rural
- Key council, charity sector and Community leaders in rural Suffolk
- Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) staff, especially Ministry and Mission department and Phil Dykes, Diocesan Mission Enabler(covering the formation and development part of the ARM's role)

MAIN TASKS

- Pray regularly for Mission in Rural Suffolk, the Lightwave Community and its members, needs and its growth. This to include becoming part of the Central Lightwave Zoom Group for Prayer, Bible Study and Missional Listening.
- Actively facilitate the Core Lightwave Hubs to develop their own financial sustainability plans including
 - Comprehensive list of anticipated costs
 - draft plan as to how the funds may be raised – different costs from different sources e.g. Giving (local/county), External grants (local/national), Partners (especially ecumenical), Synergies with diocesan ministries (e.g. curacy), Trading
 - Oversee the creation of materials and timed plan for local and county-wide stewardship (with help of the Project team)
 - Make or enable others to make grant applications on basis of statement of need/impact
 - Follow up the beginnings of church made through Covid-19 and engage in ongoing missional listening to shape a new Rural Resourcing Church with a special focus on young adults, youth and families
- Be involved in the recruitment of, and line-manage the new (p/t) fundraiser
- Train key volunteers and/or clergy in each hub in the skills they need to establish sustainability
- Work with Bishop's Visitor (Bishop Mike) and Archdeacon for Rural Mission (when available) to recruit Trustees with particular gifts and to develop task groups around key areas of the CIO work e.g. Fundraising, training (NB: Safeguarding group already exists.)
- Lead "Love Rural", line-managing "Love Rural" champion, volunteer Graham Reardon
- Lead on Love Rural Initiatives – Doorstep Carols (county-wide with Radio Suffolk) and "Winter Warm Spaces" in Rural Areas, collaborating closely with others especially those leading in Ipswich.
- Offer mission-accompaniment to one or two key rural mission pioneers if required.

Qualifications/Knowledge and Experience

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Experience of leading fruitful mission, evangelism and church growth	Rural experience
Experience of financial planning and fundraising e.g. through running your own business or charity	Understanding of the worldviews and mind sets of people outside the church
Demonstrable track record of innovation, identifying and responding effectively to key opportunities for mission	Have started a contextually appropriate church or congregation and led through early years
Demonstrable experience of releasing and equipping others for pioneering ministry, identifying and investing in future pioneering leaders.	Interprets the Bible contextually and articulates how missional ministry is shaped by culture and context.
Experience of leading small missional groups, working successfully in a mixed economy context on the tension between new and old.	Experience of coaching in evangelism and coaching small groups for multiplication
Existing good relationship with the Archdeacon for Rural Mission in order to be able to start to cover the role without a long period of induction	

Skills and Abilities / Aptitudes

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Translating strategy into a deliverable plan	
Overseeing and encouraging the ministries of others especially in the areas of stewardship and fundraising	
Promoting Stewardship Effectively to make new churches sustainable	
Fundraising Strategy development and developing relationships with funders.	
Bid-writing	
Ability to discern the gifts and potential of others	
Ability to release and equip others for pioneering ministry	Ability to supervise and train leaders of small missional ecclesial groups
Ability to communicate clearly and attractively about the vision and practice of Lightwave to local church leaders and members, seeking creative synergies.	

Role-Related Personal Qualities

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Person of prayer with a mature and well-developed devotional life, committed to personal discipleship and growth	Well-developed abilities to handle complexity and initiate change, including conflict management skills
Generous hearted. Lays aside personal preference for the sake of the community being served	
Maturity and robustness to face the demands of pioneering mission and ministry	
Enthusiastic about evangelism and mission in the countryside	Established love for and knowledge of rural Suffolk
Values community as the context for Christian growth and evangelism and embraces the Suffolk Fresh Expressions Community Values - All Involved, Becoming Disciples, Creating Community, Doing Evangelism, Encountering God	
Able strategic leader who is also a generous-hearted team member	Approachable and fun

GENERAL INFORMATION

About Us

The Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich has 445 parishes, 18 deaneries with 478 churches and around 115 stipendiary clergy. It serves approximately 631,000 people living in a geographical area of more than 1,400 square miles.

The Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) serves and supports our parishes and schools offering the people of Suffolk the opportunity to encounter God and grow in Christian faith. We strive to do this in line with our Values of Respect, Transparency, Quality and Support.

Remuneration package	<p>The post will be open to ordained candidates and will be on Common Tenure for a fixed term of up to 9 months The post may be on a secondment basis.</p> <p>The office associated with the post is a 0.5 (3 days per week) stipendiary post and is entitled to a stipend of at least the National Minimum Stipend specified by the Central Stipends Authority; and a house of residence under section 4(1) of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Measure 2009.</p> <p>Secondment from another post/diocese will be considered</p>
Place of work	Location to be agreed. Travel to and within Suffolk is required.

NOTES: The current main duties and responsibilities of this post are outlined in the job description. The list is not meant to be exhaustive. The need for flexibility, shared accountability and team working is required. The post-holder is expected to carry out other related duties that are within the employees' skills and abilities, commensurate with the post's banding and whenever reasonably instructed.

Applicants should first contact Canon Sally Gaze, Archdeacon for Rural Mission: 01473 890404 or 07446 933129 or email archdeacon.sally@cofesuffolk.org

Application packs available from Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Website
<http://www.cofesuffolk.org/vacancies>

Please note: Applications will only be accepted on our Diocesan application forms. Please do not apply directly from online jobsites or send CVs.

Closing Date for Applications: Friday 7th October 2022, 5pm

Interview Date: TBD