

**Bethel Baptist Church**

Calamine Street, Macclesfield, SK11 7HU

Office Phone: 01625 617393

[www.bethelmacclesfield.org.uk](http://www.bethelmacclesfield.org.uk)

Pastor: Harry Pritchard (07867 687510)

[harry@bethelmacclesfield.org.uk](mailto:harry@bethelmacclesfield.org.uk)



"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you; plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29 v 11)

Bethel Baptist Church is going through a process of change. Part of this transition has been to look afresh at our vision and mission. As a result, we are excited about the future and are, amongst other things, seeking to appoint a Children and Families Worker. Jesus has a special place in His heart for children (Mark 10 v 13 – 16) and this is our heart as we seek to follow Him.

We believe it is important for both you and ourselves that we appoint the right person, the one whom the Lord is calling to this work. Part of our Vision Statement is: "... ministering with the compassion of Jesus to the people of Macclesfield...." With this in mind, and in accordance with the enclosed Job Description and Person Specification, the person appointed will:

- 1) Have a sense of God's call to this work at Bethel
- 2) Be a committed Christian of good standing in their local church
- 3) Have experience of working with children and families
- 4) Be an innovative, creative, fun-person whom children like to be around and parents / carers are confident with
- 5) Be a person who can start new initiatives, and develop existing works from small beginnings, and see them grow

Could this be you? If so, please contact me if you want to first have a talk about it, or send in an application form to:

[harry@bethelmacclesfield.org.uk](mailto:harry@bethelmacclesfield.org.uk) / mob: 07867687510 / or postal address as on cover sheet.

Every blessing,

Harry Pritchard (Pastor)

## **BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER**

### **JOB DESCRIPTION AND PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**Job Title:** Children and Families Worker

**Location:** Macclesfield

**Hours:** 35 hours per week including 2 or 3 evenings and Sunday morning

**Start Date:** To be agreed between Bethel Baptist Church and the candidate

**Pay Scale:** £23,000 p.a.

**Contract length:** This is not a permanent position but for a fixed term of two years; we would like it to be longer but this is subject to obtaining additional funding. There will be a probationary period of 3 months.

**Budget:** a fund of £1000 p.a. is available for the use of the Worker in support of his/her duties.

---

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**1. Overall Purpose:** To develop the Children and Families work at Bethel Baptist Church in line with the overall vision of becoming a Family Church.

**2. Main Duties:**

- Build up relationships with Children and their families in the community
- Develop existing relationships with schools and start new ones
- Train and develop Church Members to work in teams to assist with the overall purpose
- Run Children's Clubs and Family Groups each week
- To lead appropriate outreach events with Children and Families e.g. Holiday Clubs
- Organise Children's Church on Sunday mornings
- Support the work of those responsible for ensuring adherence to safeguarding legislation (in line with the Bethel Safeguarding policy)

We would encourage the person appointed to attend appropriate training events from time to time with a view to further development. There is scope also, by mutual agreement, to shape the role in order to develop and grow our ministry with and for children and families.

## **PERSON SPECIFICATION**

### **The person appointed will have:**

- Experience of working with Children key stage 1 and 2 and their parents / carers
- Good communication and pastoral skills with Children and their families that come from a variety of backgrounds
- A sound understanding of the Christian faith
- A willingness to live daily as a Christian in the Church and Community
- A good standing with their existing Church
- A passion to see the Gospel communicated relevantly to Children and their families
- A knowledge of the legal implications of working with Children and current safeguarding best practice and able to respect matters of confidentiality and sensitivity
- Knowledge of child development

### **In addition, he/she will:**

- Be able to work as part of a team and develop others
- Be self-motivated, able to take the initiative and work flexibly
- Have good up-front presentation skills
- Be able to pioneer additional ministries and play his/her part in shaping the role
- Display a level of maturity and authority relevant to the post
- Have relevant organisational and IT skills
- Be competent in their understanding and knowledge of social media platforms and their appropriate application in the ministry to children and families
- Be an innovative and creative person who can design and implement relevant ideas
- Be flexible and open to further requirements as the work develops
- Residency in the area would be an advantage
- Be a 'people person' that children love to be around and parents / carers have confidence in
- Bring creativity, energy, fun and a passion for nurturing age-appropriate Christian faith

**The successful candidate will be required to apply for an Enhanced Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service**

**It is an occupational requirement that the post holder must be a committed Christian able to commit to the OBU Statement of Faith and is expected to become a member of Bethel Baptist Church for the duration of the appointment.**

## **BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH PROFILE**

### **1. Introduction**

Bethel Baptist Church has 32 members, with around 10 people on the fringe, and is located in the South of Macclesfield, just to the east of Mill Lane. The address is: Bethel Baptist Church, Calamine Street, Macclesfield, SK11 7HU. The Church was planted in 1895 by the Old Baptist Union (OBU), a group of evangelical churches formed in 1880. Bethel is one of some thirty churches in and around the town and is one of two Baptist churches, the other (St George's Street Chapel) being less than half a mile to the west. Our nearest neighbour is St Peter's (C of E) on the opposite side of Windmill Street.

### **2. Macclesfield**

Macclesfield is a market town within the unitary authority of Cheshire East and the county of Cheshire, England. The population of the Macclesfield urban sub-area at the time of the 2011 census was 51,739. Macclesfield, like many other areas in Cheshire, is considered to be a relatively affluent town. Macclesfield has a District Hospital and was the administrative centre of the Borough of Macclesfield until the unitary authority of Cheshire East was established a few years ago. Many jobs in the council were relocated to Sandbach at that time. It has four state and two private secondary schools.

The largest single private employer in Macclesfield is AstraZeneca, which has a large industrial complex in the North of the town. Due to changes in the pharmaceutical industry it closed its research establishment a few miles to the west at Alderley Park and relocated in Cambridge. Manchester Science Partnerships, one of the leading Science and Technology Park operators in Europe, has bought the Alderley Park site, with a view to support pioneering innovation, and, through its partnership connections and support services, open doors to new regional and national networks. It offers exceptional bioscience facilities for R&D focussed life science companies at every stage of their life-cycle, from start-up to global corporate, with state-of-the-art chemistry, biology, and pathology labs, dedicated incubator facilities, and a range of shared scientific services.

There are four secondary schools, twelve Primary schools, and a large number of pre-schools in the vicinity. One of our members is part of an Open the Book team that covers 14 primary schools in the area. Also, we take an assembly in Puss Bank Primary school each month.

Macclesfield has a small theatre and cinema and its cultural scene received a boost in 2010 with the creation of the Barnaby Festival, a celebration of art, culture and heritage, reinventing the centuries old tradition of marking St Barnabas day.

Our neighbourhood – the immediate area around the Church – splits broadly into two: to the North is mostly housing, comprising about two-thirds social housing and one-third owner-occupied housing. Most of the social housing is in multiple occupancy blocks and many of the occupants are retired. To the south is an area of industrial premises, with a little housing around the fringes. When the Church uses leaflets to inform people of an event, about 800 leaflets are needed to cover the houses in these areas. Although a few members live in the vicinity of the church, the majority live in the suburbs around the town. Added to this, around 90 new houses are being built, and nearing completion, on what was formerly industrial

premises very near to Bethel, and on another site, about a quarter of a mile away, construction has just started on some new blocks of flats.

### **3. The Church**

Bethel is a member church of the OBU and belongs to the North Western Baptist Association, the Evangelical Alliance and Hope in North-East Cheshire. The Old Baptist Union is a group of evangelical Baptist churches in the United Kingdom and was founded in 1880 owing largely to the labours of Henry Squire, an itinerant preacher. Currently the Old Baptist Union has 16 member churches (in England and Wales) with about 700 members. The churches of the Old Baptist Union are General Baptist, believing in general atonement (that in His death, Jesus atoned generally for the sins of all). They historically put more emphasis on the laying on of hands, divine healing and personal holiness than some other Baptist affiliations.

The Union is a member of both the Free Churches Council and the Evangelical Alliance, and most of its churches are members of local geographic Associations of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

Bethel is actively involved in Hope in North-East Cheshire, having been involved in many of the events organised. We attend most of the combined services. One of the initiatives of Hope in North East Cheshire is the Hope Youth Forum: around once a quarter there are meetings to explore how churches can work together and support one another in reaching and nurturing young people, with additional ad hoc devotional and youth worship events taking place. We expect our Children and Families' Worker to have some involvement here.

#### **Bethel Vision Statement:**

"Bethel, a lighthouse in the darkness; a Family Church looking to the Father, empowered by the Spirit, reaching out with the compassion of Jesus to the people of Macclesfield; including the poor, the broken, the vulnerable, the lost; those living in quiet desperation; those who are unwell, physically, mentally and emotionally. To bring healing, freedom, transformation, and intimacy with God. To proclaim: 'This is the day of the Lord's favour.'"

Church can be likened to a bird with two wings: one wing is the gathering on Sundays in larger groups and the other is in small cell groups in mid-week. As both wings operate effectively the Church will rise up and fly.

**Bethel mission statement:** "Looking up, reaching out, seeing lives transformed":

**"Looking up"** – our focus is always on the Lord, who is building His church, and on His vision for Bethel. To Him all authority has been given and He commands us to go, reach out.

**"Reaching out"** - people of every generation matter to God. He wants them to know Him and be wholly devoted to Him. His chosen method of contact is through a local church. He has entrusted the Good News about His Son, Jesus Christ, to us, and we seek to obey our Lord's words in the Great Commission: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matthew 28 v 18 – 20).

**"Seeing lives transformed"** – As we know Jesus wants us to go and make disciples

### 3.1 Membership

Bethel currently has 32 members and attendances fluctuate between 20 - 40 at the morning services and 8 – 16 at evening services. The members divide into the following categories: **Working** - single = 7; - families with no children, or no children at home = 6; **Not Working due to illness** = 3; **Retired** = 16; **Total** = 32.

In past years a much higher proportion of members lived in the neighbourhood but today only 5 members live in the immediate area, with most of the others living elsewhere in Macclesfield. As you can see from the statistics, we are an aging Church hence the need to appoint a Children and Families Worker. At present we have up to 4 children attending (with varying degrees of regularity).

### 3.2 Regular Activities

**Sunday Morning Worship:** this is our main worship service attended by most members and a fringe group of about 10 people. Children usually leave part way through for Children's Church. Worship is a mix of traditional and modern and lead by one of a group of 7 worship leaders.

**Sunday Evenings:** this is a round-table, informal evening service. It is usually held in the church lounge and starts with tea and coffee.

**Calamine Corner:** this is a monthly meeting for older (mostly retired) people and incorporates craft-based activity in which most of the time is spent making something; a few minutes at the end are spent on devotions.

**Cell Groups x 3:** these meet once a fortnight in homes, two on Tuesday, one in the afternoon and one in the evening, and one on a Wednesday evening, and alternate with the **prayer meeting** held in various homes on a Wednesday evening every other week.

**Christianity Explored:** an informal Christian evangelistic teaching course is run fairly frequently, on Monday evenings, as required

### 3.3 Worship

We have a Rota of 7 Worship leaders including 4 from the Music Group, (3 singers, a Clarinetist and Keyboards). Our worship style is a mix of traditional and contemporary.

### **3.4 Outreach**

Bethel is an evangelical church and holds to the OBU Statement of Faith. We have recently produced a Church Brochure in two parts, containing the testimonies of various Church members and are in the process of distributing these to people living in the houses around Bethel. Also, Church Members will distribute copies to their friends, families, work colleagues, neighbours, etc.

‘Remembrance Day Service’ and ‘Carols by Candlelight’ - both these services are aimed at people who are not churchgoers, and use music, poetry, video, short readings from the Bible and a brief, evangelistic message. Before each service we distribute invitations in our neighbourhood and a small number of people usually come to these services.

One of our regular activities, Calamine Corner, addresses social needs in our community and has regular attendees, although some of these go to other churches in the town. Each year we have a Bonfire-Night with food and drink and invite all the folk in our community to this well-attended event.

### **3.5 Resources**

We have a leadership team currently comprising the Minister, two Elders, three Deacons, a Treasurer and a Secretary. Bethel Church is a few minutes’ walk from the nearest bus stop and has a small amount of car parking. The church buildings comprise the worship area, a sports hall with wooden floor and toilets off, an entrance lobby and the lounge with a kitchen off. There are also three upstairs rooms: currently a prayer room, the Pastor’s office and a storeroom. Our worship area can seat 120 in pews and an extra 30 in chairs. The pews are tiered and the layout is with a raised area at the front with a baptistry underneath. There is no pulpit: services are led from a movable lectern. We use a video projector and screen for songs and have an effective PA system with an induction loop.

### **3.6 Future**

See the Vision Statement above

We have recently begun to pray about the future of our building and in the early summer we had a visit from a Christian Firm of Architects who have advised us about a number of options available to us in regard to the current building.

## **4 Practical Issues**

The Church has no manse at the moment. The Church is a member of the Baptist Union Pension Scheme. The Church budget is currently about £55,000 per year. Our income comes mostly from a stewardship scheme and offerings. Part of our income comes from rental of the premises by outside organisations (a children’s dance group, Splat Messy Play for infants, Live at Home Lunch Club, etc.) A ministers’ fraternal group meets regularly in the town, and Hope in North East Cheshire arranges frequent events.

<b>APPLICATION FORM for EMPLOYMENT</b>
--

- The information on this form will be treated as strictly private and confidential.
- To be completed in CAPITALS IN BLACK INK or TYPED.
- Once completed your form should be returned to:  
Rev Harry J H Pritchard, Bethel Baptist Church, Calamine Street, Macclesfield,  
Cheshire, SK11 7HU  
Or send the scanned form to [harry@bethelmacclesfield.org.uk](mailto:harry@bethelmacclesfield.org.uk).

Position applied for:
-----------------------

**Personal Details**

Surname	Preferred Title
First Names	
Address including postcode	
Telephone	<i>Tick the preferred number to contact you</i>
	Daytime
	Evening
	Mobile
Email	

*Please tick*

Do you hold a current, valid driving licence?      Yes ☐      No ☐

If yes, what type?      Full ☐      Provisional ☐

What length of notice period do you need to give your current employer?

*Please tick*

Are you eligible to work in the UK?      Yes ☐      No ☐

**Education and Training** (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary).

<b>Secondary Education</b>		
<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Examinations passed / grades</i>
<b>Further / Higher Education</b>		
<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Examinations passed / grades</i>
Training relevant to this application (if any)		
Current membership of any professional/ technical organisations (if applicable)		

**Employment Record** (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary).

**Current / most recent employer**

Employer's Name and address

Job Title

Date Commenced

Notice Required

Reason for leaving

Please describe the duties and responsibilities of your present / last job. Indicate to whom you are / were responsible for and to.

Please give details of all jobs held, including part-time and unpaid work. (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary).

**Employer's Name and Address**

**Position held, main duties and reason for leaving**

**Dates of employment - From:**

**To:**

**Employer's Name and Address**

**Position held, main duties and reason for leaving**

**Dates of employment - From:**

**To:**

**Employer's Name and Address**

**Position held, main duties and reason for leaving**

**Dates of employment - From:**

**To:**

**Christian Life and Experience**

Briefly describe something of your faith journey in Jesus Christ.

**Please give details of your current church.**

What involvement/ responsibilities do you have in your church or other Christian groups?

**Relevant skills / knowledge / experience**

Please outline below how your skills / knowledge / experience meet the requirements of the Person Specification. You may draw on past employment and / or out of work activities. (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary).

**References** - Please give the names and addresses of two people who know you well and would be willing to provide a reference.

**Church Leader:** Name  
Address

Phone numbers  
Email address

**Employer's Reference:** Name  
Organisation / Company

Address

Phone numbers  
Email address

Because of the nature of the work for which you are applying, this post is exempt from the provisions of Section 4(2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) Order 1975. This means that you are not entitled to withhold information about convictions which for other purposes are 'spent' under provisions of the Act. In the event of employment, failure to disclose such convictions could lead to disciplinary action being taken. Any information will be treated in the strictest confidence & used solely in relation to this application. This position involves substantial access to children & young people and the post will be subject to an enhanced disclosure from the **DBS**.

Have you ever been convicted or cautioned with respect to a criminal offence? Yes / No

If "Yes" please give full details:

**Declaration**

- I confirm that the information contained in this application form is correct and complete.

*(If it is discovered that you have given any information, which you know to be false, or withhold any relevant information, your application may be rejected or any subsequent employment terminated).*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*The information on this form will be used for recruitment, selection and statistical purposes only. If your application is successful, it will form part of your employment record. Please sign that you are in agreement with this.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**There is a Genuine Occupational Requirement (GOR) that the holder of this post is a Christian as this is a Christian ministry post. Equality act 2010 part 1**