**FOREST HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH - YOUTH PASTOR**

**Our Church**

Forest Hill Community Church is a local Christian Faith community based in Forest Hill and Sydenham (South East London) where people from all walks of life can enter into a relationship with God, follow the teaching of Jesus, and together make a difference in the world. We have a congregation of around 200, including children. We are a wonderful variety of people from different backgrounds, aged between 0-94. The staff team currently consists of a Lead Pastor, Associate Pastor and Administrator; we also have many volunteers within the church community who serve in a variety of ways.

**Our Activities**

Some of our activities as a congregation and in the community include:

• Sunday services (including children’s church and youth groups), housegroups and discipleship groups

• Youth group open to the local community

• The Alpha course

• Supporting overseas workers around the world

• Lewisham Foodbank, Meeting Point (club for the elderly), Switch It! (football outreach and mentoring)

Three local buildings are important for our purposes. We hold our main weekly service in Sydenham High School. We own the Here for Good Centre on Sydenham Road (the local high street), which is used for church and community projects and also provides office space for the church as well as iNet (an overseas missions agency we are part of). We also lease the Hope Centre in Forest Hill which is the warehouse for Lewisham Foodbank.

**Our Values**

**Everyone Welcome**

Each person is an image-bearer of God and is loved, invited and sought by Jesus. As a church we aim to model that love, invitation, and welcome.

**Everyone Growing**

Discipleship is allowing Jesus to transform our lives to be more in his image. All we do as a church should facilitate that discipleship adventure.

**Everyone Involved**

We all bring something vital to the life of the church. Every follower of Jesus is equipped by the Holy Spirit with spiritual gifts to serve.

**Everyone Going**

As a church and as individuals, Jesus is inviting us to be a part of his mission in the world, wherever that might lead.

**We are:**

**Charismatic** – emphasis on a relationship with the person of the Holy Spirit and open to spiritual gifts. Aiming to hear from God regularly, and being receptive to the prophetic.

**Evangelical -** Bible-believing. Encouraging everyone to regularly study the Bible, hearing and obeying God’s word to us.

**Evangelistic** - committed to making the Gospel known. Seeing people come to know Jesus personally, and bringing in more of God’s Kingdom locally and globally.

We are a free church, and are part of Transform Network, a local group of churches. We are a member of the Pioneer network of churches. As a member of the Evangelical Alliance, we affirm its Basis of Faith.

**YOUTH PASTOR**

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

1.    To co-ordinate and develop the existing programme of activities for the youth (ages 11 to 18) in the church.

2.    To ensure all young people in the church are receiving good pastoral care.

3. In line with Forest Hill Community Church’s wider vision, to inspire fresh impetus in the youth work going forward.

4.    To develop links with young people in the community and build positive relationships between the church and our community.

5.    To enable the articulation of the views and concerns of young people to the wider church.

6.    To encourage young people to take an active part in church life, and to develop their gifts and talents. To support and mobilise young people with leadership gifts to take a lead themselves.

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1.    To co-ordinate the young people’s activities within the church

2.    To oversee the recruitment, training, encouraging and supporting of voluntary leaders, both practically and prayerfully. This will include building up the team through time spent together and identifying any training needs.

3. To confidently build relationships with young people outside of the church with a view to forging inclusive relationships between non-church and church-going young people.

4.    To undertake overall responsibility for the Friday evening youth group with the support of other volunteer leaders.

5.    To build relationships with parents of young people in the church and to support them in the discipling of their children.

6.    To spend time on one to one discipleship with young people, and to train others within the church to do the same.

7.    To foster and develop links with local secondary schools, and help out with other youth-related community projects.

8.    To keep up-to-date all necessary administration and records, and to meet all statutory and legal requirements.

9.    To maintain and develop his or her own spiritual life, faith and discipleship.

**PERSON SPECIFICATION**

**Essential Qualities**

It is **essential**that the candidate be:

1. Able to speak with sincerity about matters of Christian faith in an informed, effective and non-judgmental way.
2. In agreement with the Evangelical Alliance Statement of Faith and the Nicene and Apostles’ Creed
3. Able to show genuine desire and enthusiasm for leading young people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and for their ongoing discipleship.
4. Able to communicate effectively with a wide spectrum of people (i.e. parents, young people and children) in person and in writing.
5. Able to manage conflict well
6. Able to motivate self and others and to manage use of time.
7. Able to manage administration effectively.
8. Able to initiate and develop quality projects and adapt to changing priorities and circumstances.
9. Able to demonstrate working successfully in a range of social and cultural contexts.

**Essential skills, knowledge and experience**

1. Be an active member of a Christian church with a personal living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
2. Have a good knowledge of the Bible and what it means to be a Christian in the changing cultural landscape that we live in.
3. Have first-hand experience of leading or co-ordinating activities for youth.(at least two years’ experience)
4. Have experience of working within a team.
5. Have experience of leading and nurturing teams of volunteers.
6. A clear understanding of young people and principles of youth work, including discipleship.
7. Working knowledge and commitment to safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of young people.
8. Skills in working directly with young people.
9. IT literacy, (Word, Powerpoint, Notes, Zoom) including use of social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter).
10. Good people and communication skills, appropriate for connecting with young people, interacting with the church family and reaching the community.

**Desirable skills, knowledge and experience**

1. Experience of working as part of a staff team.
2. Experience of working in a local church context.
3. A nationally recognised qualification in Youth Work and/or Theology to Diploma level or above.
4. Safeguarding training.
5. Ability to produce creative online content.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

You will need to become a member of Forest Hill Community Church.

Hours: 24 hours per week (including Sunday services and some evenings per week). There might also be the need for some nights away from home from time to time.

Salary range: £15,000 - £16,800 (25,000-£28,000 FTE)

Contract: Permanent (after six month probation)

Pension: There is pension provision

Holidays: 25 days per annum plus Bank Holidays (pro-rata)

Reporting to: Lead or Associate Pastor

**How to apply**

Please complete the application form and email to Dragana Ivanovic: [dragana@foresthill.cc](mailto:dragana@foresthill.cc)

If you have any specific questions please email Dragana.

Closing date: 5pm 2nd July 2021