



# Mission Community leaders

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## Context

Across Cumbria three denominations, the Methodist Church, United Reformed Church and Church of England, recently joined by the Salvation Army, have together made a commitment that:

*By 2020 every person in Cumbria of all ages and backgrounds will have had an opportunity to discover more of God and God's purpose for their lives, so that they will discover more of Jesus and the Good News and become followers of Jesus within a Christian community.*

The range of activities to make this a reality comes under the banner of "God for All".

## Mission Communities

The overall strategy in Cumbria calls for the establishing of mission communities across the Diocese of Carlisle, the Cumbria Methodist District, the United Reformed Church in Cumbria and the Salvation Army. A mission community acts as an enabling and energizing missional 'umbrella' for a number of Anglican parishes, their churches and, where appropriate, Methodist churches, United Reformed churches and other congregations within its geographic area.

The desire to grow disciples is at the heart of a mission community – it is both what the community is about and what will sustain it and allow it to develop and flourish. Missional mission communities are core to the delivery of God for All in Cumbria.

Every mission community will be led by a leadership team with a designated mission community leader.

## Mission Community leaders will:

- Encourage the spiritual life and worship of churches and Christians within the mission community.
- Lead and inspire a team to develop and implement a shared vision for the ministry, mission and outreach of the mission community in pursuit of God for All and oversee the team's work to realise that vision.
- Have a personal focus on mission and outreach and ensuring that a clear focus on God for All is maintained across the mission community.
- Invest time with the members of the Mission Community Leadership Team both corporately and individually to help them be effective in their roles.
- Grow disciples for ministry, mission and outreach and develop vocations by encouraging others to consider how God is calling them to serve/ to be, so that they fulfil their full potential as part of the body of Christ.
- Have oversight of the smooth and effective running of the mission community.
- Be able to deal with, negotiate, and facilitate relationships when the mission community may not run smoothly.
- Be fully involved in the support and accountability network with other Mission Community leaders.
- Participate in ongoing training and support.

## East of Eden Mission Community Leader Role

The role of Mission Community Leader will include the following specific elements:

- To work with the other Mission Community Leader in the East on plans for mission.
- To build on the successful ecumenical partnership and make 'God for All' a reality
- To work with colleagues in Penrith and the West to establish the Penrith Mission Area.

The person will also be appointed Rector of Kirkoswald, Lazonby, Renwick with Croglinand Great Salkeld. Our Methodist MC Leader is due to retire in 2019 (when we plan to appoint another full time minister to exercise joint leadership) and our Anglican priest a couple of year's later (with a plan to move to a House for Duty role). You will have an opportunity to shape future resource plans.

## Penrith Mission Area

The Penrith Mission Area comprises the Mission Communities for the East of Eden, and Penrith Town, and the congregations to the West of Penrith.

## Person specification

### Essential criteria

- Has a deep reliance on the empowering love and grace of God, personal prayerfulness and grounding in the scriptures.
- Thinks strategically, can hold the vision of God for All and inspire people to make it happen.
- Is a natural team worker and leader, who values and respects the ideas, insights and abilities of others and seeks to turn them into positive actions.
- Evidence of an ability to teach and encourage disciples and equip them to serve in mission, ministry and outreach.
- Is an excellent communicator who exhibits warmth, humanity and humour.

### Desirable criteria

- Experience of leading people through a period of change.
- Experience of working fruitfully with ecumenical partners.

## Terms and conditions

The Mission Community Leader will be subject to Ministerial Development Review.

The Mission Community Leader may be provided with administrative support.

Both a personal mentor and action reflection group may be available to support this new post, and there will be a Mission Community Consultant working with the leadership team

***There is a long term Mission and Community Strategy in place within the Diocese of Carlisle, therefore at some point in time there will be pastoral reorganisation.***

## Appointment process

Application deadline: 26<sup>th</sup> March (12 noon)

Shortlisting: 27<sup>th</sup> March

Interviews: 12<sup>th</sup> April

Please contact The Venerable Lee Townend, Archdeacon of Carlisle, for more information or an informal conversation [archdeacon.north@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:archdeacon.north@carlisle-diocese.org.uk) tel: 07458016925

Application pack available on the diocesan website [www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk](http://www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk)

**Please address both the Mission Community leader and the Rector elements of the role and person specification when submitting an application.** Please carefully read both this Mission Community Leader profile and the Parish profile (separate attachment). Application pack can be found on the diocesan website [www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk](http://www.carlisle-diocese.org.uk)

Candidates are encouraged to see the Mission Community and 'God for All' websites: [www.eastofedenmc.org.uk](http://www.eastofedenmc.org.uk) and <http://www.godforall.org.uk>

27<sup>th</sup> January 2018