

Pastorate Profile Summary

Ref. Number:

11

Pastorate Details:

Name of pastorate: St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Brockley (with St Michael's)
Churches in pastorate: Two
Date of declaration of vacancy: 01/02/2017 Scoping (%) & Term: 100%

Mission Context:

(e.g. inner city/urban/suburban/market town/rural; population size and composition; ecumenical scene, etc.)

St Andrew's is a vibrant, inner city church located in Brockley within the London Borough of Lewisham which is undergoing extensive re-generation. It has a diverse population and in some parts a high level of socio-economic deprivations. Brockley is a well-defined community set in a largely residential area of mixed housing both of owner occupiers and social housing. The church is situated on a prime site in the middle of Brockley parades of shops and has a diverse congregation mainly Caribbean & African averaging 120 each Sunday (Church Membership 153). It is very much the local 'community church' serving the community.

Mission Opportunities and Priorities:

We are a church who wants to build upon its current position as a community church with strong links into the local community and as a church who responds to people's needs with warmth, love, compassion and in a non-judgemental manner. Our mission is to proclaim God's love in Christ through prayers, worship and discipleship. The church wants to grow both spiritually and in numbers, with the development of a prayer group and the Junior Church, other activities for older members of the community along with the continuing development of the Church and Community Centre outreach.

Theology and Worship Style:

St Andrew's is a broad church where a range of theologies are accepted. Our worship is bible based; it is vibrant, lively and informal but not casual. The congregation is used to dramas /sketches, visual aids, music, choir and pictures to support worship. The congregation has indicated that it wishes to maintain this philosophy, including its warm, non-judgemental approach to all comers, whether they attend church regularly or not. Baptisms of children feature frequently in the services and are an important part of the church life as it seeks to share God's love through the congregation and the wider community.

Minister's Role Priorities and Ministry Arrangements:

(e.g. other colleagues, pattern of team work, relationship to congregations in joint or group pastorate, etc.)

The Minister will join with the Elders to provide pastoral care to the congregation of St Andrew's. The Minister has responsibility to support the Ministry of St Michael's United Church (URC/Anglican) in New Cross, which has provision for a half-time Minister. The Minister usually preaches at St Michael's every 4th Sunday as well as St Andrew's. Both churches have Community Centres, after school clubs, youth groups and holiday play schemes. St Andrew's has a day nursery.

Personal Specification for Prospective Minister:

We are seeking a Minister with the vision to continue the development of the life of the Church and Centre, who is lively and engaging with their preaching and able to bring scripture to life for all ages. A good communicator with strong leadership skills. Someone who is sensitive and responsive to people's needs, flexible and with an understanding of what diversity is about. Open and accepting of various traditions, cultures and heritages within a diverse community. Someone who is a good confidante, approachable and non-judgemental. A minister with a good sense of humour.

Any Other Relevant Information?: