

## Ministry Associates at St Nicholas, Sevenoaks

Ministry Associates serve as part of the Ministry Team at St Nicholas Church. There is a further position responsible for Audio/Lighting/Sound, known as the Tech MA.

Ministry Associates at St Nicholas Church, Sevenoaks normally serve for one calendar year (but, upon review, a second year may be offered). This role is a gospel focused ministry among the various congregations and it is an opportunity to learn about ministry, Bible teaching skills, and Christian discipleship.

### About St Nicholas, Sevenoaks

Sevenoaks is located off Junction 5 of the M25, just half an hour southeast of central London by train. St Nicholas, the parish church of Sevenoaks, is situated in the middle of this commuter-belt town. Sevenoaks has the reputation for being a well-healed upper middle-class town but this belies the social and economic diversity of Sevenoaks. Yes: many young families do move to Sevenoaks for the purposes of private education, proximity to London without the hustle and bustle of London, and for the beauty of this part of Kent. But the richness of Sevenoaks also comes from long-time residents now retired, those currently employed in various trades and support business, and those whose families have a long history of residence in North West Kent.

The church building has always occupied an important position within the town of Sevenoaks. The current shape mostly dates from the 13th century, though the main part was rebuilt in the 15th century. The earliest reference to the church is in the *Textus Roffensis* (compiled c 1120). Probably the most famous clergyman from St Nicholas is the celebrated preacher and poet John Donne, who was Rector from 1616 until 1631. Since 1907 the Church has had an evangelical ministry with a clear focus on the gospel.

The church grew rapidly during the 1990s and, in February 2002, the main morning congregation divided to form two new congregations. In January 2006 we launched a new church plant in a local school, and in October 2010 we planted a second congregation in the same school. On Sundays, around 800-900 people come to our meetings. Being a large church, we encourage people, wherever possible, to be part of a small group – a place to learn, belong, and serve. The biggest area of growth has been amongst young families and professionals. We also have large numbers of babies, children, and teenagers within the church family. The Rev Canon Angus MacLeay has been Rector since 2001 and leads the ministry staff team that includes our Associate Rector, Curate, Women's Worker, Children and Families' Worker, and Youth Worker.

In addition, there is our Associate Rector, Assistant Minister, and Women & Children's Worker for Grace Church and the 4 O'clock Church – two plant/congregations. The support staff includes our Operations Director, Office staff, Bookstore Manager, Hospitality Manager and Facilities Manager.

## About the Role

**The Ministry Associate** role we are seeking to fill is to assist potentially

- Ministry to Children and Youth
- Teaching the Bible so that young people grow in loving and following Christ
- Developing Godly relationships
- Helping groups on Sundays and throughout the week
- Helping with music
- Disciple young people in 1-1 ministry
- Administrative support for various ministries
- Helping with practical jobs (e.g. setting up chairs for meetings and events)

**The Tech Ministry Associate**

- Will include some of the above mentioned features but also include
- Oversee the technical running of our church lighting, projection, sound, and recording
- Training church members to share in the sound and lighting operations and overseeing the rota for this ministry
- Uploading of sermons, talks, and lectures to the church web site

## For whom are we looking:

We are looking for men and women characterised by

- A commitment to Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Saviour, knowing it is only by grace and mercy, through the work of the Holy Spirit
- A desire to see the whole of life under the authority of God's Word, the Bible
- A willingness to take the role of humble servant and to initiate service
- A character that exemplifies a disciple of Jesus
- A passion and heartfelt concern for people to follow Christ
- An agreement with St Nicholas' vision and ethos
- A willingness to learn
- A desire to be part of a team

This role will require the holder to model appropriate Christian behaviours, and to develop safe, confidential and enriching relationships. So, a DBS clearance is necessary.

## **We can offer you**

Due to changes in UK employment regulations, our MA positions are technically voluntary rather than contractual employment. However, we provide a bursary to enable MAs to attend The Cornhill Training Course, associated with the Proclamation Trust see (<http://www.proctrust.org.uk/proclaimer/cornhill/>). This bursary enables MAs not only to attend the Cornhill Course but covers as well:

- All travel and transportation costs associated with attending the Cornhill Course
- Accommodation in Sevenoaks while attending the Cornhill Course and engaged in ‘voluntary’ service at St Nicholas Church (ministry and practical duties)

Additionally, we offer:

- Opportunity to meet with a church member for 1 to 1 Bible reading, prayer, and encouragement
- Regular ministry supervision with a ministry member of the Senior Staff
- Annual book allowance

## **Applications**

We are now receiving applications. If you are interested in applying, please send us a brief statement why you are interested in the post, a current C.V., and the contact details of three people whom we may approach for references. Please, state clearly if you are applying for the Tech MA position (including experience).

If appropriate, you may be invited to come to Sevenoaks for an interview to be arranged at a time mutually convenient.

Send your application to our Associate Rector, Dr Gavin McGrath:

[gavin.mcgrath@stnicholas-sevenoaks.org](mailto:gavin.mcgrath@stnicholas-sevenoaks.org)

## **Further information from St Nicholas, Sevenoaks web site:**

<http://www.stnicholas-sevenoaks.org/>

You will find under the Vacancies Section information related to the Ministry Associate Programme at St Nicholas, Sevenoaks. You will also find information about the MA Tech role.