Ministry Position Description

Title: Children’s and Families’ Worker

The ministry role

A paid ministry role to develop and grow our children’s and families’ ministry 24 hours a week position (0.6 FTE), for a 3 year minimum commitment (working on a Sunday plus other days).

We've been building our families’ ministry since 2007, and want to further strengthen this ministry by appointing the right candidate to this exciting and potentially demanding role that has great gospel potential for both evangelism and discipleship.

The exact role will be open to negotiation with the applicant – we want to play to their strengths – though that will be tempered by our ministry needs.

Qualities/Attributes

We’re looking for someone who has:

i. **Evangelical reformed Christian convictions** – ie. loves Jesus and has a passion for others to follow Him to their fullest God-given potential

ii. **Godly character** – a humble teachable servant-hearted Christ-centred person who lives out their convictions about Jesus in everyday life and models Godly discipleship for others.

iii. The **competence** to grow our children’s and families’ ministry. This role is open to all potential candidates and, although welcomed, is not dependent on formal ministry or theological training. We are looking for a candidate with the following attributes:
   a) Previous experience within a ministry leadership role, preferable a previous children’s, families’ or other pastoral ministry
   b) Can engage with a wide range of people from many cultural and socio-economic backgrounds
   c) Has developed a vision and strategy for growing a ministry portfolio and has effectively implemented this strategy with demonstrable results
   d) Can efficiently and effectively administer a ministry portfolio
   e) Can engage with local organisations
   f) Has the ability to effectively communicate the Gospel in a wide range of environments
   g) Can mentor fellow workers, leading and inspiring them in the work of the ministry
iv. A **passion** to invest in the growth of Jesus’ kingdom **with us**, and who will **fit well** into our church and work cheerfully, positively and cooperatively as a part of our staff team.

v. The **capacity** to grow in the role with a commitment to ongoing training and developing their leadership and ministry skills – which we would support and encourage.

vi. The **commitment** to this ministry role for at least 3 years. We’re about long term deep lasting change and growth and would value this type of commitment.

**Key Responsibilities:**

It is the role of the Children’s and Families’ Worker to seek under God to grow our church’s ministry to children and families – in both discipleship and evangelism. To do this they will:

- **Pray** regularly for this ministry and set an **example** of Godly living and enthusiastic participation in our church life

- Continue to **develop a Vision** to grow our children’s and families’ ministry (in consultation with the Vicar and children’s ministry leaders) in accordance with the mission statement of our church.

- Build healthy ministry relationships with children and their families where they are influenced to **become and grow as fully devoted disciples of Jesus**, using their gifts for ministry and **taking their part** in the life of our church community.

- Keep in **regular pastoral contact** with our church families and seek to promote the **growth of community, bonding and relationships** amongst the families within our church and help them **connect and engage** with the rest of our church community, and vice-versa.

- **Lead the team** running pre & primary aged children’s program during Sunday 9.30am family service, and take responsibility for this ministry of growing children as disciple-making disciples of Christ. This would include: sourcing/developing ministry curriculum; taking an active role in leading in this ministry; enhancing parental engagement; enabling children to minister to others at church and in the community; and recruiting, nurturing, coordinating and rostering volunteer leaders, ensuring they are trained in safe working with children.

- Work with our existing Honeybees and Mainly Music teams to **enhance our pre-evangelism & evangelism** with the non-Christian parents of preschoolers participating in these programs.

- Help time-poor parents grow as disciples, **equipping them** to disciple their children.

- Assist children – at an age and developmentally appropriate time – to **transition** into our existing CHAOS youth ministry (for Grade 5+, begun May 2015)

- Undertake other duties as required by the Vicar

**Length of Tenure:**

A minimum three year contract, subject to satisfactory completion of both an initial three month trial and a twelve-month review period.
Accountability/Communication:

Report to, and be supervised by, the Vicar with regular supervision meetings (initially weekly or fortnightly, then as frequently as needed). Prepare occasional brief reports for the Parish Council.

Remuneration and Licensing:

Payment and allowances will be in line with the Stipend Determination of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne. If not ordained, the Children’s and Families’ Worker will apply to be licensed as an Authorised Stipendiary Lay Minister (ASLM) by the Archbishop of Melbourne.

Application Process

Applications can be submitted

- by email to: office@lpac.org.au
- by post to: James Connor, 185 North Road, Langwarrin VIC 3910

Applications will be subject to a reference check, a Working with Children check and Police check clearance – as per the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne’s Professional Standards.

Applications close when the position is filled by a suitable applicant.

If you would like to apply for this position, please submit the following:

- A covering letter addressing your fit with the above position description – especially qualities/attributes and the key areas of responsibility – outlining the qualifications, experience and contribution you would bring to the role and to our church

- A curriculum vitae including the names and contact details of three referees who know you well – people able to comment on your faith and ministry (eg. a ministry supervisor; a ministry peer who has worked with you; someone who has benefitted from your ministry/leadership...)

- Answers to the questions below (Bullet points will suffice)

  1. Please outline your Christian experience: When and how did you become a Christian? What have been some of the significant points in your spiritual journey?

  2. Please give a brief outline of the key points of the Gospel, as you would explain them to:
     i) A pre-school aged child,
     ii) A primary-school child,
     iii) A secondary-school child,
     iv) And, by comparison, an adult with low bible literacy.

  3. Please explain your understanding of biblical authority, and the place of the Bible in Christian ministry.

  4. What are key factors in helping a child become and grow as a disciple of Jesus?
Langwarrin-Pearcedale Parish core values (DNA)

We value and are committed to...

- Believing, teaching, learning from and living by the Word of God (Bible)
- Proclaiming the Gospel, making and maturing disciples of Christ (Evangelism and Discipleship)
- Loving, supporting, challenging, caring for and learning from each other regardless of our age (Fellowship and Pastoral Care)
- Purity and accountability in relationships (Integrity)
- Developing a clear direction for our future and being willing to change and grow (Leadership)
- Loving God, our neighbours and our fellow Christians especially through generosity, sacrifice, forgiveness and reconciliation (Love and Generosity)
- Depending on God in everything we do, and so growing a culture of prayer, both individually and corporately as the foundation of our ministry (Prayer)
- Serving our local community with Christ’s love and compassion, being creative in our outreach (Service)
- Growing together in our unity in Christ and his truth, and helping every church member take their part in our ministry and mission (Unity)
- Warmly welcoming regular members, guests and strangers in appearance and reality, and integrating them into our church (Welcoming)
- Joyfully praising, obeying, listening to, depending on, and offering ourselves to, God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – in both our gathered community and individual living (Worship)