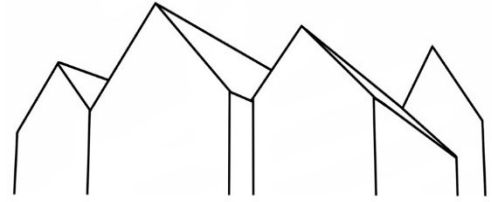


St Lawrence, Eastcote

2 Bridle Road, Eastcote
PINNER HA5 2SJ

<https://www.st-lawrence-eastcote.org.uk/>



The people of Eastcote are the treasure of God's church

Role description: Grant fundraising lead

FTE: 0.4 (negotiable)

Remuneration: Expenses of post will be met by the parish

Introduction

As a church community St Lawrence's has arrived at an exciting and decisive juncture in its collective life.

The Interim Ministry started in February 2020 has supported the parish to re-visit its identity and sense of purpose. The saint that the church is named after has provided inspiration: when the faith life of Lawrence's faith community was at risk in the fourth century, he took the radical step of giving away the church's property and wealth. Doing this, he modelled a compelling selflessness, imitating the transforming love seen at the heart of Christian belief in the person of Jesus Christ.

The high points of the parish events calendar for St Lawrence's are our summer and Christmas fairs, when large numbers of people from the local area visit the church site. These events bring an atmosphere of shared community and a sense of belonging that is deeply rewarding for members of the church community and, given the fairs' popularity and the warmth communicated, for the wider population too.

Audit work has suggested a range of local needs that the parish's resources make it well placed to respond to. The church is set in two acres of land and has a range of buildings and an area of woodland that are presently under-used. Alongside the church's charitable activities, these already provide meeting spaces for community organisations and groups that promote well-being. The needs currently being met relate to loneliness and isolation across age-groups; educational support, including for families of children with special educational needs, fitness, cultural activities, adult education, youth provision, the environment and the arts.

The worshipping community's conviction that the people of Eastcote are God's treasure brings with it an impetus for us to enhance our facilities to better meet other's needs and serve our community. The most visible enhancement made is to the church building, which is now a light and uplifting space. AV infrastructure has been installed which makes the building apt to use for public meetings, presentations and performances, as well as worship.



The statue of St Lawrence above the church entrance

What the worshipping community doesn't have is the capacity and skill base to invest in and transform the site and buildings it has inherited. We are therefore turning to our local community to ask for help to support a venture intended to bring enrichment and improved well-being for the residents of Eastcote.

Role context and purpose

The parish site has a range of buildings, which are used by a variety of community organisations, charities and small businesses for the work they undertake with residents of the parish. Most of these are directed to individuals' personal development, well-being and the integration and support of marginalised or vulnerable groups. St Lawrence's sees its mission as being extended through making this accommodation available for these activities.

The venues are aging and in need of renovation to meet users' needs and allow the parish to continue its mission in this way. The PCC has formulated priorities for the venues development. Taken together, these suggest the need to work towards development of the whole site in response to community stakeholders needs.

Examples of the work required include:

- **All buildings:** accessibility is limited; our architect has prepared a scheme for improved access; heating needs to be renewed to use sustainable energy sources
- **Parish hall** (constructed in 1950s): subsidence, requiring investigation and underpinning; toilets require upgrade; staging requires upgrade; AV requires upgrade; flooring needs to be resurfaced; roofing needs to be replaced;
- **Scout hut** (asbestos containing prefab dating from 1947): whilst currently still safe, the core infrastructure is at the end of its lifetime and will fail mechanically in the next 10 years and needs to be replaced and asbestos panels safely removed;
- **Church building:** has recently been renovated, but further improvements are needed to support community use, including replacement of seating, installation of portable monitors to support flexible use of space.

A community audit was undertaken in spring 2022 which identified a range of needs in the local population which would expand the use of the buildings on site. A parish group have reviewed a database of grant-making charities to identify how each might best align with the parish's mission and ambitions for renovation.

In 2022 a fundraising appeal was launched within the parish which saw parishioners' regular giving rise by approximately 30%. Targeted fundraising activities undertaken by parishioners raised in the region of £15,000 and a further £60,000 was given as direct donations.

The PCC has developed a four-phase development plan, directed towards renovation and renewal of the whole site, a sustainable business model and widening community use.

Key outcomes

- The lead for grant fundraising will work with the PCC to understand the parish's mission and ambitions for developing its outreach and offer, and with the community stakeholder engagement lead, to understand the needs of the local population
- Create and submit a series of grant fund bids to resource development of the parish's facilities for community use
- Establish relationships of trust over time with larger grant funders which will support larger bids.

Requirements, key relationships, and application process

This is a volunteer role and would suit anyone who is in sympathy with the parish's charitable purposes. There is no requirement for the person taking on the role to live or work in the parish or to be a Christian.

Key relationships for this role are with the interim minister as chair of trustees, the chair of the premises group, the community stakeholder engagement lead, the parish administrator (who currently runs the booking system for hire), and members of the finance team.

To apply, please submit a current CV to the interim minister outlining the relevant skills and experience you would bring to the role.



The Revd Dr John Seymour

Interim Minister

The Parish of St Lawrence, Eastcote

The Vicarage, 2, Bridle Road, Eastcote, PINNER HA5 2JD

Email: john.seymour@london.anglican.org; mobile: 0753 504 9710