

ALVERSTOKE EVANGELICAL CHURCH

(Looking to take on one or two trainees for September 2010)

Background—Alverstoke Evangelical Church is located on the coast in Gosport, Hampshire, just across the harbour from Portsmouth. We have a wide spread of ages with about 130 meeting on a Sunday morning and 70 in the evening. We meet in a Secondary School, but we also have two teams involved in other works within the town on a Sunday—one with another church—and the other with a children's work.

Our emphasis is on regular, consecutive Bible exposition, evangelism and discipleship. We also seek a growing experience of the Spirit's work among us, through what God says in the Bible. We have a leadership team with two pastors full-time and the preaching ministry is shared by the team and others. Our current trainee finishes in July of this year.

General role—This is a voluntary position to which the trainee makes a voluntary, and willing commitment. Our commitment is to provide training opportunities dependent on the person's gifts and growing experience. We aim to give a varied experience of church service and life. A trainee would definitely spend time within the youth sections of the church as well as involvement with adult ministry.

Aims for a trainee

a) To develop a fuller Biblical understanding including:

- An overview of the Bible, while completing a four module course on Bible Understanding and Interpretation covering all the major types of literature in the Bible.
- An appreciation and understanding of the theology of the Bible.
- An understanding of the gospel and the need to communicate this.
- A growing understanding of how to communicate what the Bible says in our current world.

b) To develop their personal life in such a way as to:

- Have a consistent walk with God where the Bible is understood, meditated upon, and lived.
- See prayer as a necessity and a joyful opportunity.
- See Jesus Christ more clearly and be changed by this sight.
- Order life in a way that prioritises the gospel, through hard work—making the most of life's opportunities.

c) To experience life within the local church by:

- Gaining an experience and taste of serving in a local church in its various facets.
- Serving others, behind the scenes as well as using more noticeable gifts such as teaching.
- Working with others among young people in the various groups and opportunities we have.
- Involvement in the Home Groups and any evangelistic courses.

d) To begin to see God's guidance more clearly

- We hope that a trainee's experience of ministry will help equip them for gospel work—whether this leads to full-time gospel ministry or not. Our hope is that they will know both God, and themselves, more clearly.

Weekly Involvement—The trainee will spend time each week with one or other of the leadership team. This will include teaching, planning, interactive study, and guidance on their training. The rest of the time will be split between various tasks including practical work, preparation and involvement in ministry. The trainee commits to being fully involved in the life of the church including Sunday services and the midweek programme.

Duration—These are one year appointments, with the possibility of an extension to two.

Personal attributes—An applicant must have a personal faith in Jesus Christ together with a life that is consistent to His way and teaching. There must be a passion to make the gospel known, a willingness to learn, and to serve, humbly accepting godly guidance from others.

Practical details—Board and accommodation will be provided as necessary, together with a training grant. The amount of this training grant is dependent on the needs and situation of the individual concerned. We are looking for some personal support, to contribute to this grant. There will be a day off a week, with 30 days holiday a year (including Bank Holidays). Costs of books, travel, and conferences etc. will be covered by the church. The trainee will attend the Formation Conference, and other conferences as deemed helpful.

For further information—contact Colin Dyer, 143 Privett Road, Gosport, Hants PO12 3SS.

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