

Background Information for the post of Resources Co-ordinator

Before completing the Application Form, please read this background information, the Role Description and Person Specification

Who are we?

The [Methodist Church in Great Britain](http://www.methodistchurch.org.uk) is one of the main denominations of the Christian Faith, with members across the country. We express *Our Calling* through:

- **WORSHIP** - *The Church exists to increase awareness of God's presence and to celebrate God's love.*
- **LEARNING & CARING** - *The Church exists to help people to grow and learn as Christians, through mutual support and care.*
- **SERVICE** - *The Church exists to be a good neighbour to people in need and to challenge injustice.*
- **EVANGELISM** - *The Church exists to make more followers of Jesus Christ.*

The [Lincoln Circuit](http://www.lincolnmethodistcircuit.org) has about 600 members based in 17 churches. The Circuit sits within the [Lincolnshire District](http://www.lincolnmethodistcircuit.org). We have just updated our [Mission, Vision and Values Statement](http://www.lincolnmethodistcircuit.org).

Where are we?

This post is based in the city of Lincoln, being employed by the Lincoln Methodist Circuit. The Circuit spreads from the centre of Lincoln out into the suburbs of Lincoln and the rural community beyond including a number of commuter villages along the way.

How are we organised?

At present each local church has its own trustee body. These are supported by ministers and local preachers who are organised through a gathering of resources into a "circuit", an historic term used since the founding of the Methodist Church.

The Circuit Leadership Team (CLT) comprises three full time presbyters, two part time presbyters (one is also the District Agricultural Chaplain), two part time active retired ministers (supernumerary ministers), a community worker seconded by The Message Trust, three support posts and four volunteer Circuit Stewards.

The Circuit has been considering how we can improve the way in which our churches can be supported in their organisational functions so that they can spend more time on mission and service to their communities and members. In reviewing the trustee arrangements, we

anticipate that worshipping communities will collaborate with each other and with the circuit to become more effective.

Opportunities and threats

We believe that everyone has spiritual needs, even though many people choose not to express these in a religious way by belonging to a church. We know too that people have physical needs that are not always met by statutory authorities. As a church with a strong ethos of social justice, we aim to be active in our communities helping people beyond the church as well as those within it.

The Greater Lincoln area will grow considerably over the next 15 years as more houses are built to match demand and economic growth. There is every reason to believe that there will be much for us to do in helping a greater number of people to meet their physical, social and spiritual needs.

Our churches want to be “worshipping communities”, who seek to serve their communities. Following discussions and consultations we found that the greatest threat to these ambitions is a potential lack of people within the churches to cover all the required roles. Lack of relevant skills; tiredness through age or having carried out a role for a long time; or lack of younger members were identified as barriers. This situation is made more difficult as legal requirements and societal expectations change.

How will we support this work?

The precise support needed by each church will vary. Some are self-sufficient, others are in extreme difficulty in maintaining themselves as self-governing entities. Probably, most need some support for specific tasks or roles. Our aim is to employ people with various skills to complement the work of volunteers and ministers.

Who are you?

You are someone who has an empathy with what we want to achieve.

You have particular skills, maybe even professional qualifications, in finance, property management and organising tasks and information.

You are able to deliver what others have decided while feeling sufficiently confident to offer advice to them. You like working in a team and with volunteer trustees while being capable of working on your own initiative.

You like to follow good practice while loving the challenge of finding creative ways to solve new problems.

You are proud of what you achieve and know that there is more to learn.

September 2022

ORGANISATION CHART

