



Fulwood Free Methodist Church Co-Lead Pastor

Candidate Pack
May 2026



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CHARITY RECRUITMENT

**Fulwood
Free Methodist Church**



About us

Welcome from the Chair of Trustees

Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in this post. We are looking to make this key appointment as we develop the mission God has given us **“to be a loving and welcoming community of people who follow Jesus and aim to make Him known”**.

We are a large evangelical, charismatic church at the northern edge of Preston in Lancashire. We are a multi-generational church family who love to worship God and serve Him in every aspect of our lives. We have a strong commitment to base our lives on the teaching and authority of the Bible and a commitment to the person and work of the Holy Spirit in both our personal and corporate life.

We are looking for someone with experience in leadership within a larger church to work in partnership with our Co-lead Pastor for Teaching and Leadership Development to take us forward with passion and vision to see the Kingdom of God expanding in our community. Our co-leadership model reflects our commitment to collaborative ministry and shared decision-making. Our ideal candidate will:

- Have a passion for evangelism and outreach
- Be experienced in pastoral care ministry
- Have experience in team leadership and staff management

Eight years ago, our church sat at the edge of Preston looking north onto green fields. Since then, the local authority has given planning permission for 5000 new homes and most of these homes are within 10 minutes' drive of our church. The building programme is well under way and when finished there will also be a new high school about a mile away from church. We see all this as a God given opportunity (imperative!) to take the message of the Gospel of Jesus to the people in these new homes and to make our church a blessing to this new community.

About us



In response to this opportunity, our vision for the next five years is to:

- Increase our effectiveness with the young adults 18-30 age group, establishing a thriving, growing group with more leaders
- Continue to increase our inclusion of all ethnic groups across the church, recognising gifts and talents
- Grow our congregation considerably to support the planting of at least one new church community

Our prayer is that as you read through this profile, if you are the person God is calling to join our leadership team, you will have a growing sense of excitement and vision for our church, and that this will be confirmed to you and to us as we meet, share and pray together.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Dave Brown

Chair of Trustees





About us

About Fulwood Free Methodist Church

Fulwood Free Methodist Church exists to be a loving and welcoming community of people who follow Jesus and aim to make Him known. We believe that authentic worship, biblical teaching, genuine community, and active service are essential to a vibrant growing church. Our co leadership model reflects our commitment to collaborative ministry and shared decision-making.

Who we are and what we do

Established 48 years ago, we have grown to our current size and planted two churches – both now independent churches within the Free Methodist movement. We see around 400 people attending across our two Sunday morning services and one Sunday evening service. We have a thriving worship group who lead us in contemporary songs at our Sunday services. We have a gifted group of lay speakers who support the Pastoral Team in bringing Sunday messages. We are blessed with a thriving youth and children's work both on Sundays and midweek. We believe in home groups and have around 220 adults meeting in 20 groups and 60 "high-schoolers" attending 4 homegroups.

For our community we run Toddlers, Carpet Bowls, Lunch Break cafe, Inspiration Crafts, Alpha and a CAP Centre.

For our discipleship we run Freedom in Christ, the Grace Course, Keys to Health, Wholeness and Fruitfulness, and the Bereavement Course

Alongside our Co-Lead Pastor for Teaching & Leadership Development and many volunteers, we employ a small team of part-time staff to help deliver our vision: a Children and Youth Coordinator, a CAP Centre Manager, a Senior Church Administrator, a Property Manager and two Housekeepers.

You will find out more information about the Free Methodist Movement in the UK from the national website: <https://freemethodist.org.uk/>

And more about us from <https://fulwoodfmc.net/>

Please note Free Methodist theology is Wesleyan Arminian and the person appointed would need to be fully in line with this.

About us



Our vision

Our vision at Fulwood Free Methodist Church is to be a Loving and welcoming community of people who follow Jesus and aim to make Him known.

Our values

Welcoming everyone

- We believe that the church is primarily a family and that its relationships are more important than its services. We do all we can to make sure new people are invited in and feel part of the church family.

Treating people with grace

- We tell the truth with love, acting with integrity and never knowingly deceiving others. We speak in a way that honours and encourages, and we avoid gossip.

Putting others before self

- We recognise that none of us is perfect, and we avoid being boastful. We seek to learn from others and not assume we know it all.

Working together

- We recognise that we work better together than alone, enabling others to fulfil their God-given mission through responsibility with authority, encouraging everyone to share new ideas and ways of doing things.

Giving wholeheartedly

- We give wholeheartedly of our time, finances and abilities in God's service and the service of others.

Job description



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| Job title | Co-Lead Pastor - Community Outreach & Pastoral Care |
| Hours | Full time (40 hours) |
| Salary | £41,000 - £44,000 |
| Location | Fulwood Free Methodist Church, Preston, PR2 3LT |
| Relocation Allowance | Will cover reasonable costs for moving |
| DBS | Enhanced |
| Annual leave | 25 days plus bank holidays |
| Pension | 8% employer contribution with NEST |
| Key benefits | Employee Support Service Death in Service Cover Two leadership conferences annually (expenses paid for) |



Job description



Position overview

Fulwood Free Methodist Church seeks a Co-Lead Pastor to serve in a collaborative co-leadership model with a focus on community outreach, pastoral care, and ministry to young adults. This full time role is vital to creating a growing, vibrant and caring community where individuals are nurtured and empowered to live out their faith actively. Being passionate and energised by team working is vital for this role.

Key responsibilities

Spiritual leadership & vision

- Shared with the Co-Lead Pastor, setting and enabling the strategic spiritual direction of the church in partnership with Trustees
- Provide theological and pastoral oversight for all church ministries and activities
- Co-Lead and inspire the staff team, fostering a culture of collaboration, growth, and mutual support

Team leadership & facilitation

- Co-Lead and coordinate the church staff team, ensuring clear communication, accountability, and unified direction
- Facilitate regular staff meetings, planning sessions, and professional development opportunities
- Work collaboratively with the other Co-Lead Pastor in a co-leadership model, sharing decision making and strategic planning

Community outreach

- Demonstrate and cultivate a heart for evangelism, actively seeking opportunities to share the gospel within the church and broader community
- Lead and equip the congregation in outreach initiatives and community engagement
- Partner with the other Co-Lead Pastor and ministry teams to develop outreach strategies

Pastoral care & support

- Oversee and coordinate comprehensive pastoral care for the congregation, including hospital visits, crisis support, counselling, and ongoing spiritual care
- Organise, train, and support a pastoral care team of volunteers to extend care throughout the congregation
- Develop systems and processes for identifying and responding to pastoral care needs
- Provide resources, training materials, and ongoing support for lay pastoral caregivers

Job description

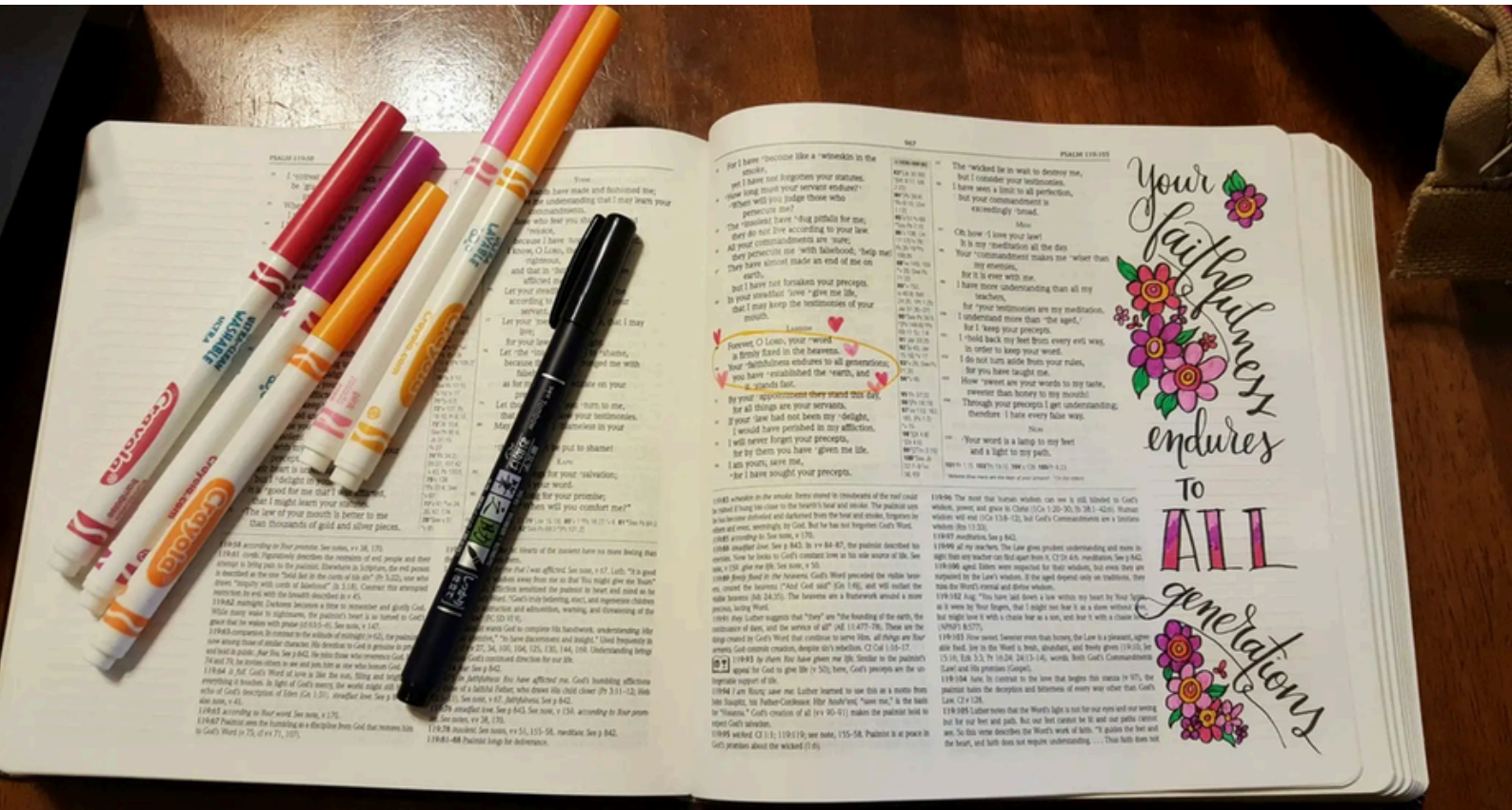


Young adults ministry (18 - 30 years)

- Establish and develop vibrant ministry programs specifically designed for young adults aged 18-30
- Create opportunities for young adults to connect, grow in faith, and serve
- Provide pastoral support and mentorship to this age group, addressing their unique spiritual and life challenges
- Build bridges between young adults and the broader church community

Homegroups

- Training new and existing group leaders
- Oversee group leaders both as a team and individually
- Develop and gather relevant resources and material for homegroups
- Determine measurable goals for growth in homegroups
- Developing new groups
- Create cluster groups
- Train and support cluster group leaders



Person specification



Qualifications & requirements

Essential

- Ordained, or eligible for ordination, and able to be recognised for ministry within the Free Methodist Church (including those ordained in other denominations).
- Proven experience in pastoral leadership roles
- Demonstrated passion for evangelism and outreach
- Proven experience in pastoral care ministry
- Excellent leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills
- Experience in team leadership and staff management
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Commitment to collaborative ministry and shared leadership
- Understanding of safeguarding in a church setting

Desired

- Theological degree or equivalent ministerial training
- Experience working with young adults (18-30 age group)
- Training in counselling or spiritual direction
- Experience in church planting
- Experience in establishing a flourishing network of homegroups

Personal attributes

- Deep personal relationship with Jesus Christ and commitment to spiritual growth
- Servant-hearted with humility and integrity
- Collaborative team player who values partnership in ministry
- Compassionate heart with genuine care for people
- Patient listener with strong emotional intelligence
- Organised and detail-oriented with ability to manage multiple priorities

How to apply



Your application should be submitted through the [Charisma website](#), and include:

- A comprehensive CV
- A supporting statement, explaining how you believe you match the requirements of the role, including the genuine occupational requirement to be a practicing Christian. Please also describe any potential conflicts of interest.

For an informal and confidential discussion about the role, please contact:

Nick Thomas, Senior Consultant, Charisma Charity Recruitment, info@charismarecruitment.co.uk or 01962 813300.

We welcome and encourage applications from people of all backgrounds. We do not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, colour, ethnicity, gender, religion*, sexual orientation, age, veteran status, or other category protected by law.

*In accordance with the equality act 2010 it is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a practicing Christian.

Closing date: Applications are being reviewed on receipt and interviews will be conducted on a rolling basis. When a suitable candidate is found the role will close, so please apply without delay to avoid disappointment.





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