



Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the role of **Social Action Coordinator** at Emmanuel Community Church.

Emmanuel Community Church is an independent Evangelical Church which serves Stockport and Southeast Manchester. The church was formed in 1969 as Heaton Moor Evangelical Church and renamed in 2015 following our acquisition of new premises in Reddish to accommodate our growing congregation. We have retained our original premises in Heaton Moor and are now one church on two sites stretching across two communities. We are affiliated to the FIEC and fully subscribe to their doctrinal basis.

Emmanuel Community Church is at a defining stage in its development following numerical growth, the move to multisite in 2024, and the implementation of our Mission and Vision document.

If you have relevant experience, a proven track record, and a passion for mobilising Emmanuel Community Church to serve the last, least, and lost through developing a social action ministry, we would love to hear from you.

Please find below the following information:

- 1. Church Background**
- 2. Mission and Vision document**
- 3. Job Description and Person Specification**
- 4. Questions for Applicants**

If you wish to be considered for the post then please email your **CV** and **answers to the Questions** for Applicants to office@emmanuelcc.co.uk or send by post to: 55 Green Lane, Heaton Moor, Stockport for the attention of The Administrator and marked **Private and Confidential**.

If you have questions concerning the post, then please contact me by email at adam@emmanuelcc.co.uk

The closing date is **Thursday 28th May (12 noon)** with interviews on the week commencing the **8th June**. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Peace of Our Lord,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adam Bradley', is positioned below the text 'The Peace of Our Lord,'.

Adam Bradley (on behalf of the Elders)

1. Church Background

Our History

Heaton Moor Evangelical Church (HMEC) was formed in 1969 to provide a Gospel Ministry to the four Heatons (Heaton Moor, Heaton Chapel, Heaton Mersey and Heaton Norris). Following growth of the church particularly amongst families and young adults we unsuccessfully sought new premises in the four Heatons for a number of years. In 2015 the elders led the Church to new premises at a mill in the adjoining area of Reddish, believing that God was directing us to an additional locality in which to minister.

More recently, with the appointment of a new pastor in 2023, we have moved to being a multisite Church, which means we are one church that meets on two sites. The first Sunday of the month sees both sites meet at our Reddish Site, while the remaining Sundays sees a morning Service at 1030 at the Mill and an afternoon Service at 4pm at our Heaton Moor site. At all our Services we have provision for children and youth up to Year 9. Our mid-week activities mainly run from our Heaton Moor site, including our Friday children and youth work, although we are keen to explore beginning a work in Reddish too.

The church has grown in recent years to a Sunday gathering of about 180 adults and 50-60 children. Our Friday evening activities sees between 40-50 children from the church family and local community in attendance.

Our Structure

We are an elder lead church, headed up by our lead pastor. The elders, a team of 5, are responsible for the spiritual oversight of the church. We have 3 managing deacons, who together with the elders form our charity trustees, and a broad range of deacons who run various ministries and report to the elders. We have 5 paid staff; the lead pastor, associate pastor, a families worker (reaching out to families in the community with under 5s), an interim children and youth worker and an administrator.

We have recently applied to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

2. Mission and vision document

Mission

We exist to treasure and proclaim Christ together.

Exist

Why are we here? This existential question really matters when it comes to healthy church life. Too often, secondary things, not necessarily wrong, but just not primary things can consume a church's imagination and focus. This, in the long run, will rob the church of the joy of single-mindedly being part of God's manifold wisdom on display (Eph 3:10). So, trying to answer the 'why' question, requires a ruthless commitment to digging down to first principles!

Treasure

In Matthew 13:44 we read these arresting words: 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field'. This parable is hugely instructive for us because it describes the Christian life as a joy-saturated commitment to the kingdom of God, which if we consider for long enough, we will realise is none other than a pleasure-filled pursuit of Christ himself. Why, because the kingdom is the rule and realm of Christ the king (Mark 1:15; 10:14). Put differently, it is impossible to separate the kingdom from the king.

So, why do we exist? We exist to treasure or value Christ above all things. This is a radical picture of discipleship, yet one that lines up with Jesus' own teaching. He instructed people to love him more than money (Luke 18:22), family (Matthew 10:37), life itself (Matt 16:24-26) and just to make sure we've got hold of this idea 'all things' (Luke 14:33). Following Christ is always a call to a single-minded commitment to him.

However, Jesus' parable in Matthew 13 goes further in that it uses the words treasure and joy. Sometimes discipleship can only sound like a painful giving up of things. It can seem like a heavy-handed parent taking the dummy from the mouth of a nursing infant. Yet, this parable paints a completely different picture. When Christ is seen for who he really is, all other things, including good things, are worth giving up, for his sake. Why? Because his treasure-ness outshines everything. Yet there is more, the Christian life is also a glorious call to enjoyment and gladness. Again in this parable, we don't see a begrudging selling of all that this person has, no we're told 'in his joy'! The Westminster Shorter Catechism captures this idea so well: Question 'What is the chief end of man? Answer 'Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever'. Sam Storms intensifies the glorious truth we're reaching for here when he said: 'God is most glorified in us when our knowledge and experience of Him ignite a forest fire of joy that consumes all competing pleasures and He alone becomes the treasure that we prize'. So, we exist to create disciples who will on the one hand willingly abandon all for Christ and yet at the same time do it with joy-saturated hearts because Christ is the ultimate treasure! Let John Piper have the last word on this whole section 'If Christ is not embraced as our supreme treasure, he is not embraced for who he is'

And

To authentically treasure Christ always leads to an 'and' Or put differently, when we truly treasure Christ, and then look around us and see how millions and millions of people are treasuring counterfeit treasures it should/must provoke a response with in us. And so...

Proclaim Christ

We proclaim Christ. Our love and enjoyment of Christ must overflow in evangelistic and missionary endeavours because Christ is the treasure that every human soul was made to enjoy (yet currently millions are dead to Him, see Eph 2)! Furthermore, Christ is of such value that even if every person on planet Earth

were to fall on their knees in adoration of him, his value would not have been exhausted. He is the pearl 'of great value' (Matt 13:46), and rightfully deserves all the worship and adoration of people from every tribe and tongue (Rev 7:9) and even the whole creation (Col 1:15-20; Is 55:12).

And so we commit ourselves to being people who proclaim Christ (2 Cor 4:5)! Only the real and authentic Christ can rescue people from their sins and this present evil age (Gal 1:3-4). Only the real and authentic Christ can take spiritually dead people and make them alive (Eph 2:1, 5). Only the real and authentic Christ can transform rebellious and stubborn-hearted people into God-loving and other people preferring people (Ez 36:26-27). Finally, only the true Christ can bring his people (John 14:6) into the everlasting enjoyment of God himself (Ps 16:11).

Together

Finally, we do this together. Ephesians 2 shows us that one of the goals or outworkings of salvation is the unification of people in Christ. Paul reminds the church in Ephesus 'For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups [Jew and gentile] one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility (v14-16). These verses have so many implications, yet for the purpose of this paper, I want us to focus on how central unity is to Christ's cross-work. Put differently, a disunified people cannot effectively proclaim Christ, because Christ is the great unifier of people in him. If we're disunified, our message will ring untrue when people look at our lives. As a result, we need to hold onto Christ's prayer for unity (John 20:21) and cherish the diversity of gifts and yet oneness we see in the body of Christ (1 Cor 12) and put to death me-myself-and-I ministries and instead embrace what God is doing in and through us as the church.

And so we look to treasure and proclaim Christ together.

Vision

This is our direction of travel for the next season. Or one might say, this is the next way marker on our journey towards fulfilling our mission. So what is our vision:

Our vision is to grow a large gospel-loving church that, along with other gospel churches, will help hundreds of people come to treasure and proclaim Christ across Stockport & South East Manchester.

In order for us to accomplish this vision we will look to be clear and ***unchanging*** in our proclamation of the gospel whilst ***flexible*** in our methodology.

3. Job description and person specification

Social Action Worker

Responsible to: Lead Pastor.

Key Relationships: Associate Pastor, & Staff Team

Status: The candidate is expected to be a Christian, become a member of ECC, to serve as part of the staff team, as well as be appointed, by the church, as the Social Action Deacon.

Hours: 17 hours per week

Contract: Two years

Salary: £31,457 (FTE)

Purpose and Objectives

- To offer initiative and energy to the church's social action ministry.
- To work with the Lead Pastor to establish and develop this ministry.
- To work as part of a team with other ministry leaders to incorporate this ministry into the vision of the church.
- To encourage and empower the church's membership to participate effectively in this ministry.
- To develop the church's links with its communities so as to enable needs to be identified and addressed.

Character

- Strong and consistent example of **FAST** leadership (Faithful, Accountable, Servant-hearted and Teachable) and the ability to help others grow in these characteristics.

Core Competencies

- This role requires a combination of high levels of **people skills** and the ability to develop and **grow systems and processes**.

Role Specific Competences

- To take a leading role in developing this key ministry.
- To recruit volunteers for activities that fall under the social action umbrella
- To recruit and then coordinate a church Social Action Team.
- To establish new links and strengthen existing links with other organisations e.g. schools, medical services and community groups, through which we can identify and address relevant needs.
- To set up and coordinate regular events which meet identified community needs and through which we can build up relationships and trust.
- To develop and coordinate a system of and protocol for supporting individuals and families with acute/long-term needs
- To have a good working knowledge of local organisations which can provide relevant support above that which ECC can offer.
- To secure external funding for the social action work through grant applications.
- To monitor and submit reports to funders.

- To ensure that all relevant policies and procedures are in place
- To coordinate and provide support to volunteers.
- To undertake and provide relevant training.
- To monitor the impact of the work and to make regular reports to the elders and social action deacon.
- To fulfil other duties consistent with the role as agreed with the line manager and as time permits.

Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable	Application/ Interview/ References
Education and Qualifications Able to demonstrate a good level of general education	Yes		A
Participated in higher or further education		Yes	A
Skills and Experience Experience of working/volunteering in a people-centred role Experience of working/volunteering in social action projects	Yes Yes		A/I /R
Experience in setting up / coordinating projects	Yes		A/I/R
Experience in networking with individuals and organisations		Yes	A/I/R
Experience in working as a member of a team Experience in recruiting, training and mobilising volunteers Ability to work on own initiative Good interpersonal skills	Yes Yes Yes	Yes	A/I/R
Good organisational skills	Yes		A/I/R
Good social media skills		Yes	A
Experience of fundraising		Yes	A/I
Qualities and Attributes Warm, friendly and welcoming	Yes		A/I/R
Strong and consistent example of FAST leadership (Faithful, Accountable, Servant-hearted and Teachable) and the ability to help others grow in these characteristics.	Yes		A/I/R
A committed and active member of the church	Yes		A/I/R
Committed to the Mission and Vision of the Church as well as the 4 theological distinctives of ECC	Yes		A/I
A heart for social action	Yes		A/I/R

4. Questions for applicants

- 1. What is your understanding of the Gospel and what does this mean in your life?**
- 2. How does your understanding of the gospel shape your approach to social action and serving those in need?**
- 3. Why are you applying for the post?**
- 4. What skills and experience would you bring to the post?**
- 5. Tell us about your vision for this role/ministry?**