

Banbridge Church of Ireland seeks an ordained colleague

Accommodation is available and we will consider part-time and/or full-time expressions of interest for this post. The post is initially a temporary contract for one year with the possibility of an extension. Start date and remuneration negotiable.

Please in the first instance contact Rev'd Willie Nixon.



Contact Rev'd Willie Nixon: 07764277771 Email: williesnixon@gmail.com

What are we looking for in an Ordained Colleague?

1. You have a Christ-centred, Bible believing faith and a desire to see followers of Christ maturing in their faith and to see the lost found. You are able to embrace fully, and enthusiastically, all that is part of our varied traditional and contemporary worship life in the Parish. You will demonstrate a convictional sense of call to ministry among us. You will hold to the Rector's conviction to seek in all things to 'empty hell and fill heaven' through:
 - the faithful and careful preaching of the Gospel as found in the Scriptures
 - the prayerful care of those in the reach of the Church and wider community
 - the leading of the Holy Spirit
 - an ongoing careful attention to your own spiritual walk with Jesus
2. You are someone who has a Godly Christian character and whose desire is to be a Godly ambassador for the Gospel of Christ in all your dealings within the life of the Church and in the wider community.
3. You possess a 'hard-working' ethic and will give yourself wholeheartedly to the work of the Lord. You have a passion for pastoral care and a compassionate heart for those on the fringe of the Church to be included in Christ.
4. You possess a warm and friendly demeanour, are comfortable in conversation with all ages and enjoy networking within a congregation. You will seek to build community and give a sense of value to all our parishioners through your warm and generous giving of yourself to the life of the Parish and community.
5. You are a good team player who will seek to work faithfully alongside the Rector, ministry team and wider Parish, as one who shares the vision and call of the Lord to minister in Banbridge and who seeks to work together for the good of the Lord, his people and those who have not yet found faith in Jesus!

6. You will give your wholehearted assent to 'The Vision', 'What we believe' and the 'Core Values' of Banbridge Church of Ireland as expressed in 'The Vision' as found on our website and below for your information.

Areas of focus for the Ordained Colleague:

- Delivering a programme of pastoral visitation with the purpose of **building community**, **maturing faith** and **giving value** to all (50 plus focus) in the care of the Parish. We would expect 12-15 pastoral visits a week.
- A pulpit ministry as necessary as part of the staff-team preaching rota.
- Sharing in a 'week about on-call' hospital visiting ministry with the Rector
- Sharing in a funeral cover ministry with the Rector as necessary.
- Sharing in a weekend rota for pastoral care.
- Leading and overseeing the Village Hall Life Group Ministry in the Village Church and developing this from a monthly ministry to a fortnightly ministry with the aim of facilitating and establishing new Life Groups in the Village Church Community.
- Taking responsibility for a monthly 'nursing home' service in Iveagh Nursing Home alongside empowering lay people to become actively involved in our three nursing home ministries.

The 'Banbridge Church of Ireland Vision' is to be:

Rooted in Christ through: Calling and equipping everyone to build their life on Christ and what He says to us in the Bible.

Alive in the Spirit through: Always seeking God, the Holy Spirit, to lead us in spirit filled worship, prayer, and everyday living.

Serving in God's power through: Growing and shepherding God's people, of all ages, to love and serve Jesus, and all people, at home and away.

Core Values

1. Leading people to Christ – focussed evangelism
2. Bible teaching for all – focussed discipleship
3. Calling & equipping God's church to pray and in prayer ministry
4. Equipping people, and growing leaders, to serve and to minister through the gifting and empowerment of the Holy Spirit
5. Calling and sending people (and leaders) into mission and ministry
6. Shepherding God's Church through pastoral care and service
7. Spirit-filled & Spirit-led worship and prayer
8. Building, maintaining and constantly growing an all-age faith community

9. Possessing a missional 'servant-hearted' mindset locally and globally

Definition of our identity at Banbridge Church of Ireland:

- *We are a parish who holds dear both traditional Prayer Book worship and alongside that a more contemporary 'service of the word' style. We are committed to our church services and gatherings being spirit-filled and spirit led as we minister God's Word.*
- *We value traditional models of pastoral care whilst at the same exploring fresh ways of delivering good pastoral care through the people of the Parish and Prayer Ministry.*
- *We seek to make disciples through our Bible-based teaching programmes and are always looking to find the lost through empowering personal evangelism, corporate outreach and working on the fringe of the Church.*
- *We have a heart to be constant in empowering mission locally in Ireland and further afield and seek to culture a heart of compassion for all who are in need. We define Mission as God's call to love all people by making the Good News of Jesus known to them, alongside offering compassionate practical care to all in any kind of need. We want to grow and release leaders into ministry locally and globally.*
- *We are committed to a church culture whose heart is 'to empty hell and fill heaven' through being a welcoming, praying, caring, wholesome and Bible-honouring family of faith. We are doctrinally evangelical.*

What we believe and what helps to shape our ministry:

We hold to and are committed to the teaching of the Church of Ireland as expressed in the Prayer Book (*lex orandi lex credendi*) and upheld in the Canons of the Church and the 39 Articles of Religion. We are motivated by and teach our faith in alignment with an evangelical doctrinal understanding of the Gospel. Therefore, we are committed to:

1. The sovereignty of the one true God, who is to be honoured, obeyed and glorified. We express our love for God regularly in worship and in prayer, both personally and corporately (Ps 95:6; Eph 6:18; Col 1:15-20).

We believe that the Lord our God is one: Father, Son and Holy Spirit and there are no other Gods but Him.

2. The inspiration, authority and truth of the Bible which is to be read regularly and which guides our work (Ps 119; Is 40:8; Matt 5:17-19; 2 Tim 3:16-17).

We believe that all Scripture, canonically the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments, is 'God breathed' and as such is Inspired, Infallible and Inerrant. It is to be used to teach, rebuke, correct and train the church in righteousness and in calling the lost to Christ.

3. The supremacy of Christ, his atoning death, the necessity of personal repentance and faith, and of bearing witness to Christ in word and deed. We are commissioned

to share our faith regularly with others (Matt 28:16-20; Acts 2:38; 1 Pet 3:15-18, Eph 1:22-23).

We believe we are called to repent and believe the 'good news' that Christ died for sins once for all; the righteous for the unrighteous to bring us to God. Christ is 'head over all' and we must make this known to all. We are called to make Christ known to the lost.

4. That new birth means we belong to God, that our true identity is found 'in Christ' and that the Holy Spirit dwells in us (1 Cor 3:16; Eph 2:10; 1 Pet 2:9; 2 Cor 5:17, Eph 1:13-14, John 3:5).

We believe that all must be born again and sealed with the Holy Spirit to inherit the Kingdom of God. This new birth is expressed in the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion and in works of service.

5. That God created all human life in his image, and therefore every person is sacred and worthy of dignity and respect. That God loves and cares for all people in their physical, cultural and ethnic diversity. That human beings are created to love, worship and honour God, and to relate to one another with love, justice and compassion (Gen 12:3; Lev 19:15; Deut 16:19, 24:19; Amos 5:24; Jn 15:12).

We believe we are called to be a loving, welcoming church family for all, where we seek to train and grow disciples to live according to the will of the Lord as made plain in Scripture.

6. That God created human beings in his image, both male and female. Man and woman are distinct, possessing equal value, made to glorify him and together reflect his image. As Christians, we are called to live in accordance with his creative intent, in which the human body, including biological sex determined by God at conception, is integral to personhood and not intended for change (Gen 1:27; Gen 2:23; Eph 5:21-33; 1 Cor 6:19).

We believe we are called to uphold the sanctity of human life.

7. The importance of friendship, family and marriage. Marriage is a gift from God intended to be a self-sacrificial, life-long covenant between one man and one woman, and is the proper place for sexual relations. God calls for fidelity within marriage and chaste singleness outside of marriage (Gen 2:20-24; Mal 2:13-16; Matt 19:1-12; 1 Cor 6:9-10; 1 Cor 7:8-16).

We believe we are called to uphold the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman and are committed to empowering God's church to honour Christ in all our relationships.

8. The importance for the Christian life of participation in the local church, while framing local participation within the context of the church universal (Rom 12:3-21; Eph 4:11-16; 1 Pet 4:10-11).

We believe we are called to regular attendance at worship and corporate prayer and Bible study gatherings. We are committed to serving Christ through local and global evangelisation, concern for the poor, discipleship and missionary endeavour. We are committing to growing leaders and to sending mature disciples into the 'Harvest Field'.

9. The importance of prayer and discipleship. In prayer, we recognise our dependence on God and our need to listen to the Holy Spirit. We also recognise the importance of discipleship that nourishes the spiritual life and is fully committed to developing it. (Matt 28:16-20; Jn 3:1-21; Eph 6:18; 2 Tim 2:2, 1 Corinthians 1:23).

We believe we are called to a spirit-filled, prayerful and Word based biblical expository ministry, which preaches Christ crucified. We seek to call and equip believers to live a life worthy of our calling heavenward in Christ Jesus through the careful discipleship of all church members in the context of spirit-filled prayer and reliance on the Lord.

10. The importance of choices and actions that are informed by love for, and a concern to look after, the good creation that God has made and entrusted to us.

We believe we are called to be good stewards of the natural world (Gen 2:15; Ps 8).

Who are we as a Parish?

Ministry Team

Rector – Rev'd Willie Nixon

NSM (Part-time) – Rev'd Rory Corbett

Associate Minister (Full-time) (*Worship, Discipleship & Evangelism*) – Raymond McClure

Youth & Children's Associate Minister (Full-time) – Ava Jordan-Curasi

Diocesan Lay Reader (Volunteer) (*Pastoral Visitation and Prayer Ministry*) – Diane Ruddock

Parish Reader & Licenced Preacher (*Sunday ministry only*) – Claire Jones

Diocesan Bible Teacher & Catechist (*ad hoc ministry*) – Wilf Carter

Office Administrator and Rector's PA (*30hrs/week*) – Dorothy Craig

The Parish

- Two Church buildings and two parish halls (Holy Trinity and The Village)
- Robed choir for 9.45am, Praise Band for 11.15am and Parish Choir for 10am
- Weekly Prayerbook Services (8.30am/9.45am) and two Service of Word services.
- 1046 households (*400 people attend on average each Sunday across four services*)
- Four services each Sunday – 8.30am, 9.45am, 10am (The Village), 11.15am
- Youth Group (Inspire with 50plus 12-18yrs)
- Sunday School with 75 children in Holy Trinity and 20 children in the Village Church
- Weekly After School 11-18's ministry with 12-15 attending
- Weekly Kids Club with 15-20 attending
- Six Life Groups meeting fortnightly (56 people attending)

- Weekly Parish Prayer Meeting (upwards of 20 regularly attending)
- Prayer Ministry Team with 12 members
- Mother's Union (Monthly in Holy Trinity with 30 attending)
- Ladies Guild (Monthly in The Village with 20 members)
- Women Together (monthly 20-50's fellowship/social group for women – 35 attending)
- Men's Group (monthly men's fellowship/social group – 40 attending)
- Coffee & Chat (weekly Holy Trinity & monthly The Village)
- Monday Club (Senior Citizens group meets monthly)
- Bowling Club (weekly - 30 members)
- Affiliation with Scouting and Guiding that meet in Holy Trinity Parish Hall.
- Walking Group (Weekly in the summer months)
- Missional partnerships are being developed with a Diocesan Church Plant in Warrenpoint, a Crosslinks Church Plant in Southern Ireland and a Diocesan partnership with Pakistan are being explored.

The Call of God:

**1 Thessalonians 2:1-20, Acts 8:26-40, 2 Timothy 3:10-17,
2 Corinthians 5:11-21, Ephesians 3:14-21**