

Job Title	Church Community Development Worker		
Reports to	Rev'd Kathie Heathcoat	Location	Home based (an office base is available if preferred) but working with the churches of Central in Todmorden, Hebden Royd, Blackshaw Head, St Paul's in Sowerby Bridge and Stones in Ripponden.
Circuit	Calderdale Methodist Circuit	Rate of Pay	£18.52 per hour

Job Purpose and Objectives

The Church Community Development Worker will:

- Be an active member of the staff team for the Upper Valleys section of the Circuit;
- Share in the Christian faith activities of the different communities we serve, working across the five churches as needed;
- Encourage relationship building and a sense of belonging across the church communities by being a noticeable presence at the churches where they are working;
- Help the congregations to build links with the local communities and nurture links with community organisations and ecumenical partners;
- Work alongside local congregations to identify and develop specific mission-focused projects appropriate for the local communities e.g. Messy Church, Café-based community activities, New Places for New People etc;
- As a person of prayer, offer prayerful insight to churches and be open to God's guiding in partnership with others for the flourishing of new initiatives;
- Help congregations to develop their Christian profile in local communities;
- Offer a Christian ministry of accompaniment and hope, providing opportunities for people to explore faith or go deeper in their faith journeys;
- Help people find ways to live out their faith and develop their spirituality;
- Encourage, motivate and, where required, enable training of church members to develop skills and expertise.

Responsibilities

Responsible to:	The Lay Employee will be employed by the Calderdale Methodist Circuit Meeting and will be line managed by Rev'd Kathie Heathcoat. The appointed person will be required to participate in the reflective supervision of their work.
Responsible for:	N/A

Main Responsibilities

- Support the day to day activities of the churches.
- Engage with the existing activities of the churches, whilst being mission-minded, developing an understanding of what is happening in the communities and identifying the spiritual and social needs not currently being met, initiating and developing a Christian response with new activities to meet those needs as appropriate.
- Develop work across all generations, from the youngest to the oldest. Examples might include toddler groups, warm spaces, new worship groups.
- Support the growing digital outreach across the Upper Valleys.
- Develop awareness of work in progress with ecumenical partners e.g. Churches Together.
- Raise awareness of the Christian faith in communities and the roles the churches already play in those communities.
- Establish relationships with users of our church buildings and help the churches develop and strengthen those relationships.
- Encourage, motivate and, where required, facilitate training of church members to apply their skills and expertise, to enable them to take responsibility for those areas of work.
- Help people to explore and deepen their Christian faith and live faithfully in the way of Jesus.
- Assist and lead worship, if appropriately qualified.
- Keep adequate records of contacts and of work undertaken.
- Appraise and review initiatives set up and activities undertaken and change where necessary the action and focus of work after discussion with, and agreement, from the Circuit Leadership Team (CLT).
- Comply with the Circuit's policies in respect of Health & Safety, Equality Diversity & Inclusion and Safeguarding.
- Any other duties and responsibilities, identified by the Line Manager as are within the Lay Employee's capability and level of responsibility, in order to meet the needs of the churches.

Terms and Conditions

- Terms of appointment: Permanent
- The rate of pay will be £18.52 per hour.
- Normal working pattern: 20 hours a week worked flexibly, Monday to Sunday, in agreement with your Line Manager, which will include some evening working. Actual days, start and finish times will be variable in accordance with the needs of the Employer. You will not be expected to work on more than five days in a calendar week.
- Whilst undertaking training required by your Employer, you will be paid at your normal hourly rate and the cost of the training will be covered by the Circuit, providing it has been agreed in advance with your Line Manager.
- There is a contributory pension scheme to which eligible lay employees will be auto enrolled. Lay employees who do not meet the auto-enrolment criteria are eligible to join the scheme subject to certain provisions.
- Appointment will be subject to satisfactory references.
- Appointment will be subject to the satisfactory completion of a four month probationary period.
- 33 days annual leave entitlement (including public holidays) per year (pro-rata for part-time employees), which equates to 132 hours for this post.
- Appointment will be subject to a satisfactory enhanced Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) disclosure.