

Introducing St James and St Peters Yeovil

Thankyou for your interest in this job! We'd like to introduce ourselves, so you know a bit about our two churches, and the area we serve.

St James and St Peters are two informal evangelical CofE churches, who serve the NW of Yeovil. We believe in helping people encounter God, grow in faith, and live out the gospel in their daily settings. We're committed to prayer, community, welcome and service. And Jesus!



About St James: St James is the parish church, we refitted the 600 year old building in 2016 to give us a warm flexible space for worship and events. It has 120 members, including several families with children.

About St Peters: St Peters sits right in the middle of the Westfield estate. It has grown from 15 to 45 members in the last 10 years, and has built a brand new community centre to serve the area. It hosts the monthly Messy Church, and serves superb coffee.

About our parish: The parish is home to 16,000 people, in several distinct neighbourhoods (Westfield, Larkhill, Abbey Manor, Preston Rd). We work in three local primary schools (Preston, Kingfisher and Oaklands) and have a youth worker who works in the 2 local secondaries. It includes the most deprived area in South Somerset, as well as executive housing, popular parks and shops, and Yeovil football club.



Current Family and Children's Work:

St James currently has 'Junior Church' twice a month for children aged 3-13, and an All-Age service with children present and involved on another Sunday. On the other weekend in the month, families go to Messy Church at St Peters. There are 3-4 regular families with children in this age group at St James, and the couple who have been the mainstay of the families work there are leaving us this summer (hence this post!). A weekly evening youth group for 12-18s is run by our youth worker.

St Peters main families ministry is the monthly Messy Church, and on a busy Saturday there are around 50 people there, about half of them children, with a strong team of volunteers from both churches. The new St Peters Community Centre gives us a great opportunity to connect more with local families.



We run a weekly group 'Abbey Toddlers' from the Abbey Manor community centre, with help from local parents and childminders. This has 20-30 regular families and is a great place to connect with people. Until recently there was a weekly parent and baby group in St James church room, which was a valuable support to new mums, and there is scope to revisit this.



We have contact with 3 local primary schools, and have input to assemblies and RE. Christmas and Easter give us major opportunities for outreach events and family activity sessions. A parish youth worker leads our work in the 2 secondary schools in the parish, in partnership with other churches.

Prior to covid, St James had 15-20 baptisms of children a year, and this is slowly rebuilding. This gives us a superb opportunity to engage with families about the Christian faith.

Church Staff: the church has a Vicar, part time administrator, part time youth worker, and a large team of volunteers at both churches. We have a parish Safeguarding officer, who oversees all safeguarding clearance and training. There is a leadership team at both churches, and we will make sure you are well supported and prayed for.

If you would like to know any more about the post, or would like to pay us a visit, then we would love to help you work out if God is calling you here. Please contact Rev David Keen, the vicar, on 01935 422286 or revdmkeen@btinternet.com

