

Position: Pastor (New Harvest Community Church)

New Harvest Community Church is looking for an experienced Pastor with a strong biblical grounding, who has a heart for outreach and church planting. The person needs to be comfortable shepherding people, with the ability to build teams and mentor future leaders within the church. The role requires someone who is people focussed and able to relate to different age groups.

Salary Range: £35,000 to £48,000 per annum (pro rata); Expecting 4 days a week.

Reports To: Trustees (for employment purposes) and National Leader (for FM purposes)

Context

Sawley and Long Eaton are in south Derbyshire with a joint population of around 50,000 people (around 40,000 in Long Eaton and 10,000 in Sawley). Located between the cities of Derby and Nottingham. The town expanded rapidly during the Industrial Revolution with Long Eaton now serving as the centre for 'UK Upholstery'. The area is well served by motorways, train lines, and the nearby East Midlands airport. There are two state local secondary schools and thirteen primary schools.

Demographically, the locality is composed of people from a range of backgrounds, wealthy young professionals, council estates facing a lot of poverty, alcoholism and loneliness. Long Eaton has a significantly older population, with over 60% aged 65+ in 2024 estimates. It is predominantly White British, with modest ethnic diversity and a mix of owner-occupied and rented housing. As a church we passionately believe that Jesus is the only one who can bring the life, joy, forgiveness and friendship with God that people in our community so desperately need.

New Harvest Community Church currently has an average congregation of around 30 people meeting every Sunday. We currently don't employ any staff but recognise that employing a pastor is an important next step in growing as a healthy church. We're excited about the future of New Harvest, the potential for outreach, and the power of the gospel. As a church, we're seeking to be Biblically Rooted, Spirit Filled and Christ Focussed.

New Harvest began as a small online gathering during the pandemic. A group of us had left the Methodist Church in the UK and Ireland because of concerns about its theological trajectory. While we couldn't join other churches during lockdown this small group met for prayer, worship, and bible reading. During that period, we were introduced to The National Leader of the Free Methodist Church in the UK, who explained their heart for Jesus, evangelical conviction, and vision for planting 100 churches or more by 2034. We were then invited to become a church plant with their Kingdom Ministries church planting initiative.

After careful thought and prayer, we began meeting as a church in an old school hall in Long Eaton in 2021. At the beginning of 2025 we began renting Sawley Community Hall for our Sunday morning gatherings. A number of our members are heavily involved with local Christian charities, Bundles of Hope and The Canaan Trust; there is an opportunity to build on these relationships.

This role serves New Harvest Community Church which is a local church within the Free Methodist Church in the UK and Ireland, a movement rooted in evangelical Wesleyan-Arminian theology ([Free Methodist Church UK](#) | [Free Methodist](#) | [FMUK](#)). The Free Methodist Church is committed to being *Bible-inspired, Spirit-led, and mission-driven*. It places a high priority on discipleship, evangelism, and serving communities with the transformative gospel message.

Job Description

Key Responsibilities

Vision and Collaboration

- Work with the leadership team to discern and implement God's vision for the church and its community.

Preaching and Teaching

- Preach and teach biblically-sound, Spirit-led messages that communicate the gospel and inspire spiritual growth.
- Support the development and delivery of discipleship courses and small group content.

Discipleship and Evangelism

- Equip and disciple the congregation to live out their faith and reach others with the gospel (through existing homegroups and ministries as appropriate).
- Develop and participate in outreach initiatives, such as Alpha or community events.

Pastoral Care

- Collaborate with the pastoral care team to ensure consistent support across the congregation.

Community Engagement and Mission

- Build relationships and represent the church to schools, churches, and community organisations to serve the local area.

Charity Governance and Policy Implementation

- Collaborate with the trustees to ensure good charity governance is maintained, adhering to legal and denominational requirements. Work together to develop, review, and implement policies that align with the church's mission and legal obligations, ensuring safeguarding, financial stewardship, and operational practices meet the highest standards of accountability and care.
- Promote a culture where these policies are understood, embraced, and integrated into the church's daily life, embedding them into the values and practices of the church through collaboration with leadership and the congregation.

Leadership Development

- Mentor and support volunteers, ministry leaders and ministry trainees, empowering them to serve effectively.

Administrative Support

- Assist in church administration, including planning meetings, reporting, ministry oversight and communications.

Person Specification

Qualities

- A vibrant and growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ, demonstrated by a prayerful dependence on the Holy Spirit.
- Passionate about God's Word, discipleship, and evangelism, with a heart for people and community transformation.
- Models shepherd leadership with integrity, humility, and spiritual maturity in both church leadership and personal life.

Qualifications

- Theologically trained with a commitment to evangelical Wesleyan-Arminian theology.
- Experience in church leadership or ministry, preferably in a team-oriented context.
- Ideally, experience of church planting.

Skills and Competencies

- An effective communicator who can preach and teach in a way that inspires and equips people of all ages and backgrounds
- Organised, flexible and capable of balancing multiple responsibilities.

Work Environment and Opportunities

- Serve in a supportive, prayerful church community with opportunities for growth.
- Work within the framework of the Free Methodist Church UK, benefiting from national support.
- New Harvest does not own a building; therefore we are currently unable to provide a dedicated office space.
- We would expect the pastor to live in the Sawley/Long Eaton area if practicable.

What We Offer

- A welcoming, prayerful church family committed to spiritual growth and mission.
- A competitive salary of £35,000–£48,000 per annum (pro rata), depending on time and experience.
- Opportunities for professional development and service with the Free Methodist Church UK & Ireland at a national level.

Application Process

To apply, please send your CV and a covering letter to newharvestlongeaton@gmail.com explaining why you feel called to this role and how you meet the Person Specification and Key Responsibilities. If you would like to contact us with any enquiries please contact us on the above email address.

Application Deadline: 31st October 2026

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for interviews and church visits in accordance with FM processes.

For further information please refer to our website <https://www.newharvestlongeaton.org/>