



Godalming Unitarian Chapel

Meadrow, Godalming GU7 3JB

Description of congregation

Godalming Unitarian Chapel is a medium sized Unitarian congregation of around 30 members and around 10 regular non-members who attend services and other events. Our membership has fluctuated over the last couple of years but is fairly stable. Our previous minister was Rev. Sheena Gabriel who was a regular attender for many years before serving as our minister for over 10 years.

Most of our members are based in Godalming, Guildford and surrounding area as well as a few regulars who attend from further afield or just on Zoom.

Who we are, history etc.

We have acquired Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) status. The Chapel is a listed building and also includes a cottage that we rent out to a local family. There is a separate Hall with kitchen facilities which is rented out to the wider local community.

The chapel can accommodate around 40 attenders and is well equipped with a sound system, an electronic piano for accompanying hymns and providing music and a laptop and large monitor for playing video clips or facilitating virtual participation via Zoom.

Current Service Pattern and resources available

Our chapel is currently used only for Unitarian worship purposes or quiet reflection. At the moment, we provide a regular Sunday service for all but one Sunday every month. Some services are in chapel with Zoom access and the rest are Zoom-only. We take pride in a varied program of service leaders but are looking for a minister to provide regular services and act as a figurehead and spiritual leader.

We are licensed to provide same sex weddings at the chapel and are very happy to have done several of these over the last few years.

Basis of Ministry

Ministry will be on a part time basis. Accommodation is not included but the stipend will include a proportion allocated to cover this. Ideally the minister will live locally or within a short commute. Some desk space can be provided within the chapel building if required and the trustees will support the costs of admin, equipment and other expenses.

What the congregation seeks

We are looking for a candidate who:

1. will work with the trustees to rebuild our community post-Covid and re-establish some of the activities and engagement groups we have previously been able to offer.
2. has good rapport with young (and old) people and an enthusiasm to bring in more families to our community and help with other growth initiatives.
3. has strong pastoral care skills and the ability to work with others including the trustees and volunteers in the congregation.
4. has inspirational preaching skills and the ability to reach out to a variety of religious outlooks and styles including those from a Christian, atheist/ non-religious or other spiritual background.
5. has good administrative and time management skills (ideally including confidence with basic IT systems, social media, etc.) and ability to conduct rites of passage services.

We are seeking a minister with the energy and vision to provide spiritual leadership and we are

open to new ideas or ways of doing things.

Remuneration Package

Around 0.5 full time, with the possibility of extending further, subject to finances.

The stipend will be based on the GA recommended package.

Congregation(s) webpage

<http://www.unitariangodalming.org.uk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/GodalmingUnitarians/>

Application process

Applicants should provide a detailed CV and if possible, a recorded service or address.

Candidates selected for interview will also be asked to give a service at the Chapel (in person if practical but otherwise on Zoom).

Applications and CVs should be submitted to sbland@unitarian.org.uk

If candidates wish to discuss any aspect of the role prior to their application, they may speak to our chair, Christine Martin in confidence on 07801915513