

PASTORATE PROFILE FOR EMMANUEL, BROADWAY, ST BARNABAS and TRINITY LEPs, EASTBOURNE

INTRODUCTION

1. WHY COME TO EASTBOURNE?

Eastbourne is a town where the population has risen markedly – in successive censuses it has gone up by 10,000 every ten years; the last census indicates a population of approximately 100,000, with a greater ethnic diversity than in the 20th century and a broader demographic than many would expect. Eastbourne is no longer a place primarily for older people and tourists, as it once may have been.

The town is in an ideal location, with the South Downs National Park to the west, the sea to the south, marsh land with interesting habitats to the east and Ashdown Forest to the north.

Eastbourne is a town for all ages.

It has a wide variety of schools, many of which are graded outstanding or good by OFSTED. It is also a university town, with a Brighton University campus as well as many overseas students learning English.

There are sports centres and golf courses, as well as outdoor and indoor activities for any age. Throughout the year, there are events that appeal to everyone – International tennis at Devonshire Park and Airbourne, the Eastbourne Air show, to name but two.

The town has four large theatres as well as other smaller ones. It has the award winning Towner Art Gallery which works with other smaller galleries.

Eastbourne is a diverse, multi-cultural town with areas of affluence and others of poverty and deprivation. The town centre primary school has 37 different home languages and is in one of the most deprived wards in the south of England. Eastbourne is also a multi-faith area with a new mosque, a synagogue and a Kingdom Hall as well as a Quaker meeting room.

Eastbourne is a Victorian town which is reflected in many buildings, especially along the seafront, but it is undergoing major investment and change. The existing shopping centre is being extended, the cultural area of the town is undergoing major works, a new restaurant is planned for the seafront and a new swimming complex is being approved for the east of the town. There are plans for more homes to be built, some on estates and some on infill sites.

2. THE CENTRAL SUSSEX UNITED AREA (CSUA)

The Central Sussex United Area (CSUA), formed in 2007, is a 'family' of United Reformed, Methodist and Local Ecumenical Partnership churches in central Sussex, an area stretching from Crowborough to Eastbourne but excluding Brighton. Currently there are 23 churches in the CSUA. The CSUA has two co-leaders, one Methodist and one URC. The Area Meeting, normally held twice a year, combines

the functions of a Methodist Circuit with a URC Synod Area (one of seven within the Southern Synod). The main decision-making body of the CSUA is the Pastoral Committee which normally meets every two months. Further information can be found at www.csua.org.uk

In June 2018, the CSUA Area Meeting agreed to divide the CSUA into four geographical areas, North, South, East and West, creating team ministry within each area. It is hoped there will be at least one URC and one Methodist minister in each area. The East Team covers Eastbourne with the following LEP churches: Emmanuel, St Barnabas, Trinity Willingdon and Broadway together with The Haven, which is a Methodist and Church of England church plant. The present appointment is primarily concerned with the first four of these churches, and it is to them that the minister will be called, although it is hoped that the minister would also preach in other churches in the area from time to time. The Methodist minister in post is the Revd Paul Tabraham. The following pages contain the pastorate profiles of these four churches. How the Team will operate and function has yet to be decided.

3. PASTORATE PROFILE – EMMANUEL

3.1 Context

Emmanuel is a newly-formed local ecumenical partnership between the United Reformed Church and the Methodist Church. Its present site is located in Old Town, Eastbourne, at the foot of the South Downs. Four quite different churches – two from each tradition – began worshipping together weekly in January 2018.



The new Emmanuel church building; an architect's drawing

The church currently worships at Greenfield Road, in an urban residential area, but it plans to erect a new building on the site of the former Upperton church, on the edge of the town centre. This will include a modern sanctuary, car park, coffee lounge and purpose-built nursery school space. This will be a building to serve the church and town for decades to come.

3.2 People

Bringing together the four former threads, Emmanuel has a membership of approximately 230, with ten to be welcomed into membership in September 2018. Membership covers a wide age-range, with up to a dozen younger people, most of whom are working parents, but the church predominantly consists of people who are over 60. At least 40 members are housebound or in care homes. There are also many additional worshippers who are not members. Many of the congregation are white British, however, there are some who have their origins in the Caribbean and Africa, Russia, Holland, Germany and SE Asia, diversity being a strength of the church. Emmanuel also has Footprints (junior church) Jenny Wren (nursery school) and Little Wrens (toddler group) which are important to church life.

3.3 Mission Statement

The mission statement, adopted in 2016 when Emmanuel was still a dream, can be summarised in five 'T's':

- Tell: to proclaim the good news of the kingdom.
- Teach: to teach, baptise and nurture believers
- Tend: to respond to human need by loving service
- Transform: to seek to transform unjust structures of society
- Treasure: to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth
- The mission statement can be read in full on the church website
<http://emmanueleastbourne.org.uk/our-mission/>

3.4 Spiritual activity

The church has developed a breadth of worship. Services can sometimes be formal and traditional, with monthly Holy Communion; some are more informal and specifically for all ages, when Footprints members remain throughout. Evening services are monthly communions, of a varied style and tend to be more reflective. Healing services are held twice a year and are well attended.

The worship style perhaps reflects the diversity of membership – worship is neither overly charismatic nor evangelical, neither is it overly liturgical or extremely formal – it reaches out to those who seek an enquiring faith, and worship relevant to their daily living.

Successful evangelism has taken place through members' personal contact with others – their own friends, circles, groups, and contacts. This has brought some people into the life of the church and, some previously at Greenfield, into adult baptism and membership. Evangelism through the nursery and toddler groups has brought people to Messy Church and Toddler Praise services.

Music is important to us, both modern and traditional; we want to include the best of traditional and contemporary elements in music, prayer and drama. The church has a choir made up of choristers from all four founding churches as well as a modern music group for more contemporary hymns and songs.

3.5 Pastoral Care

Pastoral Care is a significant part of what Emmanuel is about. Caring and supporting our many members who are housebound or in care homes is a major part of our church life. Care is also provided for younger members who are experiencing difficulties or problems in their lives. This care is extended to non-members, especially parents and carers who are connected to the church through Jenny Wren, Little Wren and Footprints.

Pastoral carers are in close contact with members, providing support and prayer where needed. The ministers work closely with pastoral visitors to supplement their care when necessary, visiting and assisting members who are vulnerable for whatever reason.

3.6 Church activities

Emmanuel has a wide range of activities which have come from the four churches and have been adopted by the new one. These include: Emmanuel Fellowship; Wesley Guild; Monday Prayers; Prayer Chain; Toddler Praise, Drama Group, and house groups.

Membership courses and groups are being held when needed.

The Lenten service and various lunches have been well supported since the birth of the new church.

The church also shares fellowship in more light hearted ways with the 'Making Time' craft group, table tennis club and bowls on the seafront (this ends at a local ice cream parlour!).

3.7 Ecumenical activity

Emmanuel is an active member of Churches Together in Old Town and will remain so when there is a change of premises.

Churches Together organises a variety of events throughout the year including a summer fete on a local recreation ground and a procession between various churches at Easter. An ecumenical Life and Witness group organises an annual away day and a holiday every two years.

3.8 Community presence and outreach

The community presence at Emmanuel is significant. Members support a local food bank, hospital services, visits to care homes and Street Pastors, which is an important feature of the night time economy in the town centre. The move to the new building will open up fresh opportunities to become involved in the community.

Funerals conducted by Emmanuel's ministers are a particular source of outreach.

3.9 Activities for the young

The Jenny Wren nursery is rated as Outstanding by OFSTED and forms a significant part of the church's outreach, providing Christian early-years education; the Little Wrens toddler group also provides a local service to young parents, and both include monthly worship Toddler Praise. This, together with the regular Messy Church, is a reaching out to children and their parents locally who otherwise would be unlikely to

come on a Sunday morning. This provision is highly rated by parents, who recommend it through word of mouth and social media.

Currently the church employs a part-time children's worker to look after the toddler group; the nursery staff are all employed by the church. It is planned that the church will seek to employ a full-time children and families worker who can oversee the children and young people's activities and reach out to teenagers.

3.10 And less young

The activities for older people – Emmanuel Fellowship and Guild, for example – have tended to be mostly for the church's own membership, though the fellowship draws on a wider group. The site and accessibility of the new building will provide new opportunities to welcome residents living nearby.

Emmanuel also supports a wide range of local charities and chaplaincies – hospital, hospice, shopping centre and Beachy Head. Sometimes this is an intentionally church-led activity, and sometimes through church members' own initiatives and work, which the church then tries to support.

3.11 Ministry

The Methodist minister, the Revd Paul Tabraham, and the retiring URC minister, the Revd David Yule, have developed a good working relationship which has helped the congregation gel.

There are supernumerary ministers within the church family of varying degrees of active involvement, as health and other commitments allow. There are also lay worship leaders and local preachers who can be relied upon to support ministers during services by such acts as leading prayers or serving at Communion.

A significant number of church members give a great deal of time for the life of the church and the area. Support for the various activities that take place in the church is dependent on members organising sessions. However, members are also involved in activities outside the church such as the local music festival, local singing societies and other undertakings which add to the life of the town.

3.12 Leadership and governance

A group of 12 'leaders' roughly fulfil the functions of Methodist stewards and URC elders. A model constitution for a single congregation local ecumenical partnership was adopted on 7 January 2018.

3.13 Finance

The property and financial affairs of Emmanuel are overseen by the trustees, appointed by the Church Meeting. There are 16 appointed trustees, plus the ministers, plus any co-opted trustees.

3.14 Communication

The church is in the infancy of developing its social media presence, with a new website and Facebook page.

There is a weekly news sheet which supplements the monthly magazine. This is available to all who are able to attend church and is delivered by pastoral visitors to the housebound or those in care homes.

3.15 Portrait of a minister

This sounds like the title for a book but is the result of a brainstorming session held by the Vacancy Group. It gives a flavour of what we would like to see in a new minister and gives an idea of what is important to Emmanuel:

- Importance of pastoral care.
- Someone who is interested in outreach and gathering people in.
- Adopt the modern but don't lose the traditional.
- Adaptable, able to relate to people of all ages
- Needs to be able to motivate all. Some need lifting again. Some need challenging.
- Needs to be able to encourage people to take leadership roles.
- Techno- savvy.
- Someone who is looking for the lifestyle change that Eastbourne can provide.
- Able and willing to drive a car.

3.16 Conclusion

Emmanuel has come a long way in a short time, but we are aware that we are on a journey and have much further to travel, to fulfil the five 'T's in our mission statement.

4. PASTORATE PROFILE – BROADWAY

4.1 History

Broadway United Church has evolved over time - a blend of three denominations, decades of worship and hundreds of Christian hearts.

Originally a Presbyterian Church in 1900, St. Luke's opened in a building that was originally a laundry. A Boys' Brigade, Sunday School and Youth Club flourished for a time, but eventually discussions began with friends at St. Stephen's Methodist Church, to consider the possibility of uniting.

St. Stephen's Methodist Church opened in 1960 and by the end of the following year had a Boys' Brigade Company, a Young Wives Group, a Brownie Pack, choir, Bible Study Group and Sunday School. As numbers grew, it was necessary to build a hall in 1971.

Both churches were involved in united services in Hampden Park and from this association came a joint Community Lunch Club. Volunteers from St. Stephen's and St. Luke's made a good team of helpers and numbers had to be limited to 45 due to its popularity. The association between the churches flourished, with social events and Christmas Eve services shared on a regular basis, until 2005 when a Local Ecumenical Project was formally created. St. Luke's closing service took place in May 2005, as the two churches merged.

The combined congregations began to worship from the premises now known as Broadway United Church, with a priority for rebuilding, using money from the sale of St. Luke's. Work began in September 2010 and the keys were handed back to the Elders in August 2011. The first formal service was Harvest Festival on 25 September, with a dedication of the redeveloped church on 15 October 2011. The URC Moderator and Methodist Chair of the District jointly led the service.

The Broadway United Church is situated in Hampden Park. Most of the employment is in the service industries, with some light industrial work. Within the area there is, possibly, the busiest level crossing in the country and a station where local trains stop twice – once on the approach to Eastbourne, and again on departure! Hampden Park itself has a pleasant, fair sized lake, Decoy Pond, attracting wildlife and walkers alike. Schools in the immediate area include Parklands, Heron Park and Oakwood, (all primary) Eastbourne Academy (secondary) and Sussex Downs College (tertiary).



4.2 Membership and services

Currently, membership stands at 63, with 10 adherents, of which an average of 40, plus children between the ages of 3 - 9 years, regularly worship on a Sunday morning. All Age Worship takes place once a month, when our children remain in church for the entire service. On other Sundays, Junior Church is led by a very dedicated team of ladies who work enthusiastically with between 2-9 young people. These children lead our Nativity Tableau at Christmas each year.

4.3 Church activities

We currently have a variety of meetings during the week:-

- A singing group (modern worship songs)
- Broadway Babes Carer and Toddler Group
- Wednesday Afternoon Fellowship
- Lunch Club
- "There are No Stupid Questions" discussion group

- Monthly coffee mornings, held in various homes
- August coffee evenings to include a quiz, a Beetle Drive and music (for charities)
- Brownies
- Various lettings - art group, dance group, drama group etc. The income generated from these lettings help us to ensure relatively healthy finances.

Over the years, we have forged positive links with St. Barnabas Church through the sharing of ministers. Our services at Christmas, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday are held in one church or the other, on a rotational basis. Our monthly magazine is a combined publication and we mutually support each other with some attendance at each other's Christmas Fair and August coffee evenings.

4.4 Pastoral work

We work hard to try to welcome everybody through our doors, whether it be for worship or for one of the other diverse activities that take place during the year. We prayerfully consider all our members, friends and acquaintances, particularly if they are in need due to their health, mobility or personal circumstances. Pastoral visitors each have oversight for a small, specific group of worshippers and will make visits when required.

4.5 The job for our new minister!

We need a minister who will help us to grow in faith and to bring others to know God's love. As stated, we have a few children and one or two younger families - we need an 'enthusiastic someone' who can help us to draw more young people into our worship and, thus, into furthering God's work in our church and in our area. Our mission field is on our doorstep, with several blocks of flats and a high density of privately owned, rental and social housing in the immediate area. We hope that, with our new minister, we could explore ways of engaging with the residents of Hampden Park, through a range of worship styles and approaches that will be relevant to non-church attenders, as well as to our existing congregation. In our worship, we are open to old and new hymns and songs as well as monthly communion in the style of both traditions. We are eager to grow and look forward to welcoming our new minister to help us to do so.

5. PASTORATE PROFILE - ST. BARNABAS UNITED CHURCH

5.1 History and setting

St. Barnabas United Church opened on 26 Jun 1976 as a three - denominational Local Ecumenical Partnership with the Methodist Church, The Baptist Union and The United Reformed Church and the building was jointly funded by all three denominations.

In July 1982 a new large multi-purpose hall seating 250, a small hall, kitchen and vestry were added to accommodate the growing fellowship. The money was raised by the members and from grants. Over the years, the kitchen has been upgraded, a disability toilet added and parking improved. The premises and garden are well looked after. Our previous ministers have been from all three denominations.

Langney is situated to the north of Eastbourne and is village like in character and make up, comprising social, private houses and bungalows and shopping centre. The community includes retired, young families, socially deprived and middle income. New houses continue to be built to the north and west of the church.

There are three Infant /Junior schools and two Secondary schools in the area. 2001 saw the opening of The Haven Church School, funded jointly by The Methodist Church and Church of England. The Haven is currently led by a Baptist minister, recognised by the Methodist Church, and he will be part of the new team ministry. Langney has two Anglican churches, a Roman Catholic church and two Community churches, one of which now shares our premises. Good ecumenical relations have been built up with these congregations.



5.2 Pastorate hopes

In a sentence: '42 year old Ecumenical Partnership prays for an enthusiastic activist to help further our growth and outreach in a growing area, as we have no desire to become an archivist fellowship'.

We are looking for someone with the energy and commitment to develop links with all the social groups in the community – a person with good communication skills and the ability to give in love and faith the pastoral care to any person in need.

We pray for one to show by word and deed that God's love encompasses all his children and that his House is open to anyone seeking renewal or awakening of faith but maintaining the needs of the established members.

Gender and age are no barrier to the needs of this fellowship, BUT commitment is.

Being able to work alongside our Methodist ministers in a team ministry will be vital.

The enjoyment of living in this beautiful part of the country and being renewed by it is an added incentive .

5.3 Worship

Our services are mainly traditional in style but we are open to new ideas. Our worship group leads occasional services and these can be more cafe style. Being an LEP, we have a range of hymn-books available. When our organist is on holiday a complete set of tune cd's is available if we are unable to find a substitute. We will soon have up to date technology installed.

5.4 Pastoral Care

We feel the pastoral care of our mainly elderly members would be an important part of the ministry, as would continuing to strengthen the links already established with the local infant schools.

We have our Pastoral Visitors who share in the important part of the ministry caring for all who attend our services and mostly live near the church. We have a coffee morning once a month, open to all. Lunch is provided before our church members' meetings and we share fellowship over coffee after morning worship. We see this as part of our ongoing pastoral care.

In the wider pastoral care there are large numbers of retired, widows, widowers and single parents in need.

This summer we teamed up with our sharing Community church to host and be part of the 'Make Lunch' scheme. This provides free lunches for local primary school children who are in receipt of free school meals. We see this as a vital part of community and pastoral service

5.5 Church Growth

We are a small fellowship of 33 members but, with non- members, average 26-28 for Sunday Worship. Newcomers find us very welcoming and friendly, which we appreciate and foster.

Having a mainly elderly congregation necessitates a growth in numbers but needs to be linked to evangelism for those with a non-Christian background. Langney is still a growing housing area with many needs and social problems.

5.6 Teaching and Preaching

Seeking a deeper spiritual life within the membership so that they can witness effectively within the local community.

A natural combination for both new and old Christians to help each grow in their faith.

A small group meet monthly for bible study and fellowship. This is run by a retired Methodist Minister who worships with us.

5.7 Ecumenical Relations

As we are a Local Ecumenical Partnership with members from all denominations worshipping as a single congregation, fostering good relations and remembering

each other's traditions needs to be maintained.

We are part of the Central Sussex United Area; the minister would be expected to attend area meetings and participate in area events.

We belong to Eastside Churches Together which is part of the Eastbourne, Pevensey and Westham group and take part in ecumenical services including the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the Women's World Day of Prayer and an Advent Service. Along with representatives from other Eastbourne churches, we participate in the Life and Witness Group.

Eastbourne District General Hospital broadcasts a Worship Service each Sunday evening and we, along with other local churches, lead a service on a rota basis.

We have also been involved with our Shopping Centre Chaplaincy and are their emergency evacuation centre.

We have been in a joint pastorate with The Broadway at Hampden Park for a number of years, sharing our two previous ministers. Our association goes back further with the fellowship of the St Lukes URC, part of Broadway, to when another former minister took pastoral charge of their fellowship.

We continue to share Easter and Christmas services with them as well as some social functions and we support each other's fund raising fairs. We also share a monthly newsletter. Until the untimely death of two of their organists, we also shared playing duties.

5.8 Finance

With most of our members being on fixed incomes we rely heavily on our lets to supplement our income. Groups renting our premises include Women's Institute, Weight Watchers, two craft clubs, Slimming World, Karate, Gilbert and Sullivan Society, pre-school singing club, dance club and U3A to name a few.

Our members, however, have been generous when special appeals were made.

A local community church member, in partnership, runs a very successful weekly lunch club for the elderly and also helps at our coffee morning. This is also an excellent outreach project.

Some of our members are active within a few of these groups but to others we are merely a social meeting place which is something we would wish to take further and develop.

We support our local Foodbank and through our monthly Communion Offertory annually give to three local charities chosen by our members.

We, through God's Grace, are always able to meet the financial requirements of all three of our partner denominations.

6. PASTORATE PROFILE – TRINITY, WILLINGDON

6.1 Church setting

Willingdon has become a suburb of Eastbourne, though the community has retained its own identity, and has a village 'feel' about it. There is a primary and secondary school. The church occupies an important site in Lower Willingdon, at the foot of the South Downs National Park and opposite the local shops and library. The church is a focal point for the village, seeking to serve the community by welcoming both individuals and organisations.

6.2 The Church

Trinity Church, formerly known as Willingdon United Free Church, originated as a Baptist and Congregational united church in 1938, to serve the growing population living on the new estates of Lower Willingdon. A partnership between the Baptist Union and United Reformed Church was formed in 1972. In 2004, members from Wish Hill Methodist Church joined the fellowship thus forming a new Local Ecumenical Partnership (Baptist, Methodist and United Reformed Church) with a new name. The church building was completed in 1938 and a new church hall and car park was opened in 1989. The building is in a good condition and the fellowship has invested heavily in improving it over the past few years. Most of this has been achieved from the church's own resources, with recourse to Synod and the Methodist Circuit for a grant towards the heating system and funding applications to local groups for the kitchen project.



The hall is a significant resource for both the church and the community and is used extensively throughout the week by local organisations ranging from youth groups through to our more mature folk and not forgetting our four-legged friends! The refurbishment project of 2012 has brought the kitchen up to current catering standards. Storage space is at a premium, which has led to the erection of sheds by the car park to alleviate this problem for our premises users. The car park is a major asset, and there is plenty of on-street parking available.

6.3 Our congregation

The membership is stable and mirrors the age profile of the local community, with a large percentage of 'recycled teenagers'! Current membership is 24, plus four friends who worship regularly. The average attendance at Sunday services is 18-20, with more friends joining us for Café Church. It is likely that we will continue to have a strong need to minister to the older generation and therefore see Pastoral Care as very important.

6.4 Our worship

The theology of our church is biblically based but, as a Local Ecumenical partnership, there is acceptance of differing views and this helps to promote discussion. We are receptive to a variety of ways of worshipping and enjoy the 'light and shade' of services.

Services are held each Sunday at 10.30am. Our Minister usually conducts one service in the month and we are well served by local retired ministers and lay-preachers for the remaining weeks. We have an active Worship Group who frequently plan and lead services and two members have been authorised to preside at the sacraments.

Our services can be varied in style and we are open to new forms of worship. Some embrace fresh expressions of worship and are run as café church. These have proved most successful, having brought new friends into the congregation, and is something we are keen to continue.

Our Friday morning service of Holy Communion, followed by time to chat over a cuppa, provides a valuable and enriching time of peace and reflection away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

We are fortunate to have an organist and deputy who provide music at all church events.

The church is authorised to conduct Baptisms and Weddings and we welcome Infant Baptism.

6.5 Church activities and interests

- **Congregational Meetings:** Quarterly Meetings are currently held on Saturday mornings. They follow a similar agenda between the traditions and incorporate pastoral concerns within the community.
- **Elders' Meeting:** We currently have six Elders. Meetings are usually held 10 times a year.
- **Pastoral Visitors:** Elders are allocated a pastoral list and have a Pastoral Visitor to assist them.
- **Worship Group:** The group meets to discuss and oversee worship matters.
- **Children's Work:** The enthusiasm of our Uniformed Organisations and their dedicated leaders opens up opportunities with the younger age range. We also foster links with the Mothers and Toddlers group who use our premises.

- **Life and Witness Group:** This is a joint pastorate group meeting to organise holidays, 'Away Days' and social activities.
- **Trinity Diners:** Our lunch club was established in 2011. Feedback tells us that this fills a real need for fellowship and dining together within the community. The Volunteer Team is drawn from both church and community members. We hold a Level 5 Food Hygiene Rating from Wealden District Council.

6.6 Ministry and mission

Trinity Church is a member of Churches Together in Polegate, Willingdon and Jevington. There is the opportunity to share in united services and the annual Day of Prayer and we host such services in turn.

Nearly all our members and friends live in the local community, so people are friends and neighbours, as well as worshippers at the church.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated each month on a Sunday. There is a twice-monthly Friday Morning Communion. At Christmas, Easter and Harvest, special evening services are held for the Uniformed Organisations.

Trinity is a welcoming Church, something that is often remarked upon by visitors who we welcome, and who often become regular worshippers. We also provide hospitality to people who attend special celebratory events like our recent 80th Anniversary Weekend, the annual Christmas Gala and one-off specials such as our Cultural Weekend.

We have occasional Bible Study sessions run by our Minister and enjoy 'Quiet Days' where we have the opportunity to draw aside from the pressures of daily life and reflect on our spiritual growth. We believe strongly in the power of prayer.

We are a Fair Trade Church and support charities such as Christian Aid, Action for Children, the Food Bank and 'People Matter' on a regular basis as well as holding collections for relief programmes such as victims of earthquakes and flooding.

We have a website and publish a monthly magazine - The Messenger - which is distributed to members of the community and other local churches. We use Social Media as a way of interacting with the community and advertising our events.

6.7 Priorities for the Church

Looking to the future we believe the following facets are central to our ministry:

- **Spiritual:** Worship
Teaching
Pastoral Care
Stewardship
- **Outreach:** Community Development
Developing Youth Work
Growth for the church

Strengths:

We see our strengths as being:

- A friendly and welcoming church in a good location
- Lay participation in Sunday services (readers, intercessory prayers)
- Outreach opportunities through concerts, community events, Trinity Diners
- A strong belief in the power of prayer
- Open to expand the potential of our ministry both within and beyond our church
- A modern church hall and versatile church which both serve the local community well and offer good facilities
- A willingness to develop closer relationships with our fellow East Team churches

Weaknesses:

We see our weaknesses as being:

- No young people directly involved in the life of the church
- A small, largely elderly congregation where key roles are held by a few

6.8 Our joint pastorate background

Trinity has been a joint-pastorate since 1990, initially sharing a minister with Polegate URC and then St. Andrew's URC Eastbourne which has now joined with three other churches to form Emmanuel. We have experience of shared ministry on which to build. As a member of the CSUA, Trinity is excited at the forthcoming changes and challenges of team ministry and getting to know our other team churches better.

6.9 Our minister

Our ideal minister will be someone who is:

- Able to support and guide us on our spiritual journey
- A good all-rounder – someone who is family orientated, versatile, receptive to change and new ideas and will help us achieve our priorities
- Accepting of all genders and ages
- Able to bring previous life experiences to enhance their ministry
- Not too 'charismatic' – well, not all the time!!

OTHER INFORMATION RELATING TO THE PASTORATE

7. THE MANSE

The manse is spacious, with five bedrooms, and is that which has been occupied by the previous URC minister and his wife (also a minister). It is in a well-established residential area. It is three quarters of a mile from the church currently occupied by the Emmanuel congregation and half a mile from the proposed new building. It is a short drive from the other three churches.



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8. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

The CSUA honours the Plan for Partnership. It should be noted that ministerial appointments to the CSUA are normally for a period of 7 years with the possibility of further extension, but this can be varied in some circumstances.

9. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information can be obtained from:

www.emmanueleastbourne.org.uk

www.broadwayunitedchurch.weebly.com/

www.trinitywillingdon.org.uk

www.csua.org.uk

www.lewes-eastbourne.gov.uk

www.visiteastbourne.com

- or by contacting one of the interim moderators: Mr Stuart Dew (for Emmanuel) 01273 841672 or Dr Graham Campling (for St Barnabas, Broadway and Trinity Willingdon) 01444 483539.