

**The United Protestant Church of Lyon - Parish of Lyon Rive Gauche  
is looking for a full-time pastor for a position with a strong missionary component.  
Start date: July 1, 2021**

The position is made up of two complementary missions, corresponding to two part time roles :

- **A mission of welcome and evangelisation** shared jointly between the parish of EPUdF Lyon Rive Gauche and the Anglican parish of Trinity Church Lyon.
- **A pastoral mission** for the EPUdF Lyon Rive Gauche



The creation of this new position is the fruit of a collaborative missionary partnership between the parishes of **Trinity Church Lyon** and the **United Protestant Church of Lyon**



**Together, the two communities wish to announce and share the Good News** in places where it's not currently circulated, with new generations, including non-French speakers and beyond the church walls. It is with this ambitious thinking that the two parishes wish to work together for new opportunities in outreach and testimony in Lyon.

*The mission in Lyon will be exciting, rich and extremely diverse.*

*You will be based in a large European city of grandeur, with a rich two-thousand-year-old Christian history and strong ecumenical dynamic today. Alongside a team spirit, you will also need to demonstrate a spirit of adventure because you will be a pioneer in this new ministry.*

*There will be a creative dynamic between a pastoral ministry in a lively French-speaking Protestant community plus a pioneering and forward-looking bilingual and bi-confessional ministry of the Fresh expression & Church multiplication type.*

*You'll be in daily contact with people of different origins, nationalities and faiths. You can count on the support and commitment of both the Protestant and Anglican team.*

## [Vidéo Link](#)

Registered within the framework of the Reuilly Accords, the post is open to ministers of the signatory churches of these agreements (Church of England, Church of Ireland, Episcopal Church of Scotland, Church in Wales, and of course Union of Churches Protestants of Alsace and Lorraine and United Protestant Church of France).



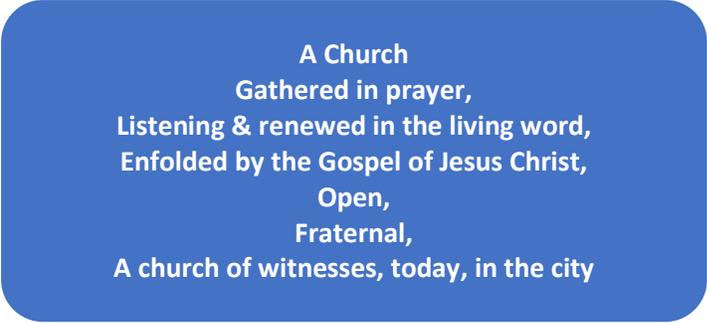
# Pastor role in Lyon : Call for applicants

## 1. Context

### 1.1 The parish of Lyon Rive Gauche (EPUdL)

The Lyon Rive Gauche parish is a city center parish with two places of worship (the Grand Temple for its celebrations and the Espace Bancel for all other activities) bringing together more than 630 households and 300 members. Attendance is usually on average 110 people for Sunday worship and between 250 and 300 on special celebration dates. In addition to this there are groups meeting regularly (for prayer, choir, bible study, eco church, fellowship, home church etc....). Catechism activities are available for approximately 50 children and teenagers and scouts for about 100. To reach its mission goals it relies on the support from a parish council of about 12 members and also upon help from a great team who fulfil a range of programs and responsibilities (about 50 people). The parish has 2 pastoral posts, one of which is in place already and the other refers to this job offer.

The Rive Gauche parish has highlighted its main guidelines in a document : VISION: A Church of Witnesses. This is the result of community reflection initiated by the parish council in 2017, which summarises what we aspire **to be, to become** and **to remain**.



A Church  
Gathered in prayer,  
Listening & renewed in the living word,  
Enfolded by the Gospel of Jesus Christ,  
Open,  
Fraternal,  
A church of witnesses, today, in the city

These orientations are fully in line with the reflection of the United Protestant Church of France on the mission of the Church and reflect **a desire to open up the current parish life to a missionary dimension. This can ensure we are more oriented towards what's going on outside our community, so that the word is announced and accessible to all, whether they are familiar or not with our places of worship.**

### 1.2 The parish of Lyon Trinity Church

Lyon Trinity Church has been accompanying the English-speaking faithful on their spiritual journey in the city of Lyon since the 1850s. We are a network of people, who come from many countries, at all possible stages of faith who live in the Lyon region and speak (some) English. It is estimated that there are between 80 and 100,000 English speakers residing in the Lyon region, some are expatriates and others are refugees seeking asylum and integration in France. We interpret our mission to be of help and encouragement in engaging this segment of the community with the Gospel.

Trinity Church Lyon is an international community of Christians from 33 different nationalities with different traditions, experiences and church backgrounds. We meet in small groups around the city and are about 120 children and adults who gather on Sunday mornings for worship. Among the current activities of the Church: Farsi outreach with local churches, youth ministry with groups meeting every Sunday, men's and women's groups, preacher & worship leader training, prayer ministry, CEMES internships, Student / Young Professional Networks, ecumenical partnerships and of course Zoom online activities for study, prayer and worship services during periods of lockdown and beyond!

### 1.3 Missionary cooperation and the context in Lyon

The Lyon context is characterized by a strong ecumenical dynamic, promoting links and projects between churches of different denominations: Catholic church, member churches of the Protestant Federation of France and foreign churches that have been planted in Lyon.

The EPUdF invites and encourages regions and local parishes to reflect on and live out their vocation as witnesses. Imagination and creativity are needed to fulfill these goals effectively. It is within this dimension of openness and creativity that the EPUdF Lyon Rive-Gauche parish wishes to recruit a second pastor in July 2021, to develop and incorporate this desire for openness and hospitality.

Other Churches in central Lyon are working on ministries for caring not only for each other within their community, but also by living out the Christian values in the heart of the society in which we live. This is the case in particular of the **Anglican Trinity Church Lyon (TCL)**, whose community has been welcomed regularly since September 2019 by the parish of **Lyon Rive-Gauche** in its Bancel premises. Both share the calling to announce and spread the gospel in Lyon. Fraternal ties have united our two church communities for many years through activities (lent reflections together, known as *Prière-Pain-Pommes*) or other initiatives (Emergency reception of migrants and creation of a temporary home in Valpré in collaboration with the Assumptionist community; setting up of the House of Unity in collaboration also with the Catholic Diocese of Lyon).

**These local fraternal relations are an expression of the close partnerships forged by our Churches at the national and international level through the statement of Reuilly agreements; signed in 2001 by the Reformed Protestant and Lutheran churches of France and Alsace-Lorraine with the Churches of England, from Scotland, Ireland and Wales.** These important agreements which seal a deep mutual recognition between the signatory Churches, commit them to share a common life of mission, to encourage common worships and to encourage ordained ministers to serve in other Churches in accordance with the discipline of the Churches concerned.

**This coming-togetherness between Protestants and Anglicans was particularly enhanced by the convergence between the "Church of witnesses" ethos which has characterized the EPUdF since its creation in 2013, and the missionary outreach and renewal efforts, implemented since the beginning of the 2000s by the Anglican Church.** The EPUdF is very interested in the dynamics of "fresh expressions" which has helped the renewal of the Church in the UK. The interest in this initiative has resulted in its incorporation into several ongoing pastoral training experiences within the framework of the Protestant Lutheran-Reformed Communion (CPLR). Although context needs to be considered, much of the research, innovation and findings from the Church of England can indeed be relevant to us in France and can help churches like the United Protestant Church of France to accompany new generations of believers in the Christian faith.

## 2. Missions

The role has two complementary missions, corresponding to two part time activities. It requires collaborative work in a pastoral team both with his/her colleague from Lyon Rive Gauche and with his/her colleague from Trinity Church as well as with the pastoral ministry of the EPUdF in Lyon.

## 2.1 A mission of welcome and evangelisation shared jointly between the parish of EPUdF Lyon Rive Gauche and the Anglican parish of Trinity Church Lyon.

**This missionary dimension of outreach & welcome will include:**

- Developing and offering moments of faith sharing in places that are not necessarily churches, where people far from the church can come and interact (alpha course or similar).
- Evangelisation projects aimed at communities with little contact with the church: refugees, expatriates, people who do not approach churches and whom churches do not approach.

**This mission is based on a dual dimension**

- welcoming those who knock on the door in one way or another and who must be welcomed, included and helped
- to go to those who do not come knocking on the door.

One of the challenges of this mission is to **bridge between 2 different linguistic and cultural spaces**: Anglophone and Francophone. The mission should help those who arrive in the city as well as those who are already there, to fit into the local churches.

## 2.2 A « classic » pastoral mission for the parish of EPUdF Lyon Rive Gauche

And especially :

- **Running youth activities**: encourage, enliven and coordinate the work and delivery of the different groups (bible study, groups of youngsters etc.).
- **Putting forward & leading proposals** for spaces, places and methods to help nourish the faith of parishioners (small groups for scripture, fellowship and sharing etc.). It's about rallying together a variety of proposals and encouraging parishioners to try out new activities and share their faith whilst fostering fraternal bonds between them.
- Active presence in the **preaching and running of worship services**.

It will be a question of not doing everything, but of being in a position of support and coordination of resources and initiatives already in place, or of those to be developed.

## 3. Salary package & administrative framework of the position

The post is a full-time United Protestant Church of France synod post. The salary is therefore in line with that of the United Protestant Church, to which are added the supplements for ministers with children and a contribution towards health insurance cover. In addition to the salary, the package includes the following benefits: Provision of official accommodation (water, heating and electricity costs included) and the use of a professional vehicle to help with his/her duties.

If the minister comes from a Church other than the EPUdF, he/she will benefit from the status of associate minister under the convention described in article 22 §8 of the Application Regulations. He or she will accept and respect the conditions for pastoral ministry in the EPUdF as described in the Constitution and in the Regulations. They will sit on the parish council and the Center-Alpes-Rhône regional synod and will have voting rights.

The experimental dimension of this collaboration between the 2 parishes, included in the framework of the Reuilly Agreements, gives the position certain specific aspects:

- Monitoring of the Minister and missions by a local steering committee
- An annual evaluation with involvement from partner bodies of the Reuilly agreements
- A limited period that can then be renewed

#### 4. Profile and skills expected

The candidate must have the following skills:

- **A conviction for ecumenical missionary:** the whole point of bearing witness to Christ, beyond just belonging to churches, is to be witnesses together. This expectation also comes from observing our parishioners and where they are at in their journeys: this is already part of how our church lives and is a part of our Lutheran-Reformed identity, benefitting from evangelization done elsewhere by others.
- **A posture of motivating, coordinating and making things happen:** it will be a question of getting things done, stimulating and inspiring others rather than doing it all yourself.
- **The ability to welcome, listen & be curious,** an intercultural as well as an interfaith sensitivity. Any previous expat experience would be helpful.
- **Creativity** – a background that's rich with diverse experiences, who knows how to propose solutions, ideas and who is able to explore new avenues and make suggestions. A "pioneer" rather than a "manager".
- **Organisation and structure:** being able to provide understanding and visibility of initiatives and to establish links with the 2 parishes.
- **Emotional intelligence** - identifying the unspoken, clearing up misunderstandings and supporting the alignment and convergence of our 2 churches and for increasing dialogue between them.
- **Ability to cooperate,** to fine tune and articulate the relationship between the 2 parishes and their diverse cultures. Any related experience (even if in a different field or context) would be beneficial.
- **Fluency in English and French** - Ability to preach, communicate and motivate in 2 languages and navigate between the 2 cultural spaces.
- **Pastoral experience**

#### 5. Application and Selection process

**Candidates must have sent their CV along with a cover letter, before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.**

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A local bipartite commission will support the two parish presidents in examining the applications and will keep the candidates informed if their application can be taken further for a preliminary informal video call.

There will be interviews (whenever possible, in person) with the parish councils of both Lyon Rive Gauche & Trinity Church Lyon and with the presbyteral council of the United Protestant Church of Lyon. Should it be the case that the

candidate has the status of an associate minister, then an interview will also be needed with the ministers commission who will then liaise with the secretary general of the United Protestant Church of France (EPUdF) to finalise the agreement between the church the candidate is leaving and the EPUdF. The nominated candidate will be confirmed only upon agreement of the council of the United Protestant Church of Lyon.