

The London Baptist Association

Regional Minister (Mission)

Job Description and Person Specification

Job Description

Preamble - The Regional Ministry Team

The Regional Ministers will be members of the Board of Directors of the Association and, in partnership with the Board of Directors, will help to develop and work out the vision and priorities of the Association. They will each have their own designated responsibilities, but are expected to work collaboratively with other members of the Association team, fostering an atmosphere of mutual support. In fulfilling their respective roles they will share in

- promoting mission-minded congregations
- offering pastoral support to ministers and churches
- developing an integrated programme of training
- encouraging and strengthening the sense of belonging within the Association and the Districts
- promoting Home Mission

Each Regional Minister will be encouraged to represent the Association as appropriate

- at inductions and ordinations
- in appropriate networks and committees of the Baptist Union
- in ecumenical networks and forums
- in developing the interface between the Association and London's governmental institutions

REGIONAL MINISTER (MISSION)

The Association wishes to encourage its churches to participate fully in Christ's mission. We understand the church's mission to be holistic, serving the needs of the whole person and the whole community. Many of our churches are seeking to be gospel communities in areas of social deprivation, or in the context of multi-ethnic and multi-faith communities. We wish to enable our churches to reflect deeply on what it means to be church in their particular social context, and to engage in appropriate forms of mission.

The Purpose

The purpose of the appointment is to resource principally churches, but also clusters, districts and individuals in all aspects of mission by

- provoking creative thinking about appropriate forms of mission and ways of being church in twenty-first century London
- encouraging strategic networks and partnerships within the Association
- offering consultation, advice and training

The task

The task will include the following:

- to identify training needs and facilitate training and resourcing opportunities for churches and individuals in their mission
- to assist churches in reflecting on and appraising their current mission activities
- to facilitate and develop a network to support small churches
- to explore the formation of an 'emerging church' network,
- to support churches as they seek funding for projects, particularly in relation to urban regeneration
- in collaboration with the Regional Minister (Racial Justice) to assist churches engaged in cross-cultural mission
- develop a database of resources, specialists, advisers and trainers
- represent the Association on the National Strategy Forum
- report to the Board and Association as required

Person Specification

A Regional Minister will

- be a Baptist Christian involved in the life of our churches and normally (but not necessarily) an Accredited Minister of the Baptist Union of Great Britain
- have experience and competence in issues of theology and pastoral care as they relate to the work of ministers and churches
- be a person who models in himself/herself a spirituality that is committed to a growing relationship with God in the fellowship of the Church
- be an effective communicator of the Christian gospel and an encourager of commitment to mission
- be able to work in a team, build trust, and when so called, to lead and facilitate a team
- be able to take initiatives in within the scope of the designated role
- be able to work collaboratively and build trust with churches, ministers, staff colleagues (both regionally and nationally), College staff, representatives of other denominations
- be able to communicate in both oral and written forms and to present concepts and programmes using the appropriate information and communication technology
- be able to work with churches from different cultural, theological traditions etc
- be willing to continue personal and professional development

The Regional Minister (Mission) will have

Essential

- an holistic understanding of mission and a desire to see churches participate fully in God's mission in the world
- the ability to reflect theologically and think creatively about mission issues
- a proven record in helping churches and individuals to engage in mission

Desirable

- firsthand experience of mission in an urban context
- experience of promoting mission in a trans-local setting
- skills and experience as a trainer or tutor
- experience of working in a multi-cultural setting
- awareness of sources of funding available to churches in regeneration areas