McQuiston Memorial Presbyterian Church

83 Castlereagh Road, Belfast, BT5 5FE

[www.mcquistonpc.org](http://www.mcquistonpc.org/)

Telephone: Office – 028 90458155 Minister – 02890650526

**Ministry Intern Scheme**

**2013-2014**

**(With a focus on family and children’s ministry)**

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**Ministry Intern Scheme 2013 - 2014**

**About McQuiston**

McQuiston Church is a warm and friendly community of believers who have a passion to reach others with the good news of Jesus. Over the last ten years we as a congregation have been on a journey of change as we intentionally seek to relate better the good news of Jesus to those in our families, places of work and our surrounding community.

McQuiston Memorial is located on the Castlereagh Road, Inner East Belfast. The parish area is diverse and parts have benefited from various regeneration projects however there remain significant levels of deprivation for some sections in the community. In recent years we have seen a rise in the population of ethnic minority groups.

As a church on mission to see lives changed and transformed by Jesus, we have recently launched our latest Vision Strategy 2013 -2017 “Making Ministering Members”. This vision document contains 7 core principles that we have committed to implementing into the life and witness of the congregation. These include prayer, true hospitality, centrality of the Bible to our lives and the development of community ministries. The full document can be found on the church website.

Our aim is to build and develop on our current ministries to become truly “Jesus Centred and People Focused”. At present there are a wide range of organisations and ministries at work within the congregation. Our children’s ministries include:

Parent and Toddlers

“Transformers” children’s Youth Club

Youth Club for teenagers

Rainbows and Brownies.

In addition we have recently redeveloped our Sunday morning children’s programme

“M &M Kids” which takes place during our service of worship. We have also been blessed with something of a baby boom and as a result have a full and busy crèche.

As well as these regular ministries we also host Holiday Bible Clubs and fun days on an annual or occasional basis.

At McQuiston adult ministries are equally important to us and there are a wide range of groups and organisations to help us grow in faith, in fellowship and in community. These include:

5 Fortnightly discipleship groups

Ladies Fellowship

SHED (men’s group)

Lunch Club (for seniors)

Seniors Meeting

For a fuller flavour of the congregation and what else goes on during the week we would encourage you to explore our website [www.mcquistonpc.org](http://www.mcquistonpc.org).

The ministry team consists of the Minister- Robert Beggs and Assistant Minister – Gareth Simpson. There is a strong possibility that we will be joined by a student youth worker on a part-time basis, in conjunction with Belfast Bible College.

**Purpose of Intern Scheme**

The Purpose of the intern scheme is twofold:

1. To provide the intern with the opportunity to explore and develop their God given gifts and gain experience of gospel ministry through study, training, and practical exposure to a wide range of ministry areas.
2. To help the Church in the outworking of our vision to be ‘**Jesus centred; people focused** especially with regard to family and children’s ministry.

**Who can apply?**

The Intern Programme this year will focus mainly on family and children’s ministry. You will be part of the Ministry Team at the Church and participate in a variety of programmes.

Applications are welcome from all Christians who are in sympathy with the aims and objectives of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and in agreement with the purposes and standards of McQuiston.

The Intern will more likely be twenty plus than in their teens, postgraduate rather than pre-university gap year students, though a past or potential degree is not a requirement and anyone may apply. Aptitude for ministry in its widest form and empathy with our congregation’s ethos will be the primary reasons for acceptance.

**The Intern will be a committed Christian with**:

* Good communication and interpersonal skills
* A good working knowledge of the Bible
* Strong Christian character

and:

* Be capable of working as part of a team as well as on their own initiative
* Be self-disciplined and self-motivated
* Have some experience in working (paid or voluntary) with children and adults in a church or Christian organisation
* Possess good computer and administrative skills
* Have a working knowledge of Child Protection issues although training in this area will be provided.

Normal checks will be made in respect of references, health and legal requirements. As a member of the ministry team the Intern will be expected to worship in McQuiston each Sunday; be in broad agreement with the ethos of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and able to work within this tradition.

**Funding**

**This is not a salaried position** and a potential Intern will be required to largely self-fund the year. An allowance of £300 per month is payable to cover personal expenses, subsistence, and travel. Expenditure on materials used specifically in ministry for which prior approval has been obtained is also refundable.

A training course approved by the Kirk Session (elders’ body) in an appropriate aspect of ministry may also be funded by the church.

**Responsible to**

Day to day the work of the Intern will be supervised by the Minister, but he or she will also report monthly to a small management group, and may occasionally be supervised by the Assistant Minister. The intern will spend some time each week working closely with the student youth worker if appointed.

Additionally the Intern will be allocated a Mentor from outside the Ministry Team with whom they can reflect upon the experience in all its aspects and in particular seek to discern what God is saying concerning their lives and future.

**Duration**

August 2013 to August 2014. The exact dates will be agreed with person appointed. There will be a probationary period of 2 months.

**Areas of ministry**

The intern will be involved in and have responsibility in the following aspects of ministry:

* Weekly schools’ ministry (SU Groups, Lunchtime visitation)
* Children’s clubs
* Parent & Toddlers
* Pastoral visitation of young families
* Occasional school assemblies and RE lessons through contacts in the local primary schools established by the outgoing Youth and Children’s Worker
* Other aspects of outreach in the local community, for example, door to door work, community outreach events such as Fun Days

As well as this; depending on the gifts, aptitude, and interests of the person appointed they will have the opportunity to be involved in other aspects of church life such as:

* Leading Discipleship Groups
* Pastoral visitation
* Bible teaching or short courses

**The working week and holidays.**

* Excluding Sunday the Intern will work for 25 hours per week the core days being Tuesday, Wednesday (daytime hours), and Thursday evenings from 6pm. This may allow the successful applicant to combine the internship with part time employment if desired.
* The successful applicant will be based in the Church Halls where office facilities will be available
* Holiday entitlement will be 20 days per annum plus statutory holidays
* There is no sick pay entitlement with this position.

**The Application Process**

Application forms may be downloaded from the Church Website [www.mcquistonpc.org](http://www.mcquistonpc.org) or obtained from Rev Robert Beggs Tel: 9045 8155 (office) or 90650526 (home) or by email [robertjbeggs@hotmail.com](mailto:robertjbeggs@hotmail.com)

Applicants are invited to submit their completed application form by **Monday 17th June 2013** to:

McQuiston Memorial Presbyterian Church

(Intern Scheme)

83 Castlereagh Road

Belfast

BT5 5FE

Interviews for the internship are expected to take place during the week beginning 23rd June 2013.