

½ Time Pastoral Opening—Cromhall Chapel (www.cromhallchapel.org)

Application Deadline: Open

Start Date: Open.

Description of Village

- Cromhall is a village in the South Gloucestershire located just north of Bristol east of the M5 junction 14 between the Severn River and Cotswold Edge.
- The village has an active Church of England school, a pub, village shop and village hall. It is also home to HMP Leyhill.
- Its demographic is comprised of both historic residents and new commuter residents. A partial snapshot of the Parish according to the 2011 census can be seen [here](#) (p.20).

History of Chapel

- Our Chapel was founded in 1813, though Independents had existed in the area previous to this. In 1819 the Chapel building was built and it has since known extensive upgrades, including a hall (1984), a porch (1990), modern audio-visual (2015) and a new platform and baptistery (2018). Post-WWII the Congregational Chapel became baptistic in practice, and in 1970/1 did not join the URC, remaining independent. In 2005 we became affiliated with the FIEC.

Description of Chapel

- Though we have existed for over 200 years we find our identity in what the Lord is calling us to in the future.
- We regularly have around 40 at our morning service and 25–30 at our evening service.
- We have 27 members, 2 associate members and 13 regular hearers along with many occasional hearers and “friends” of the Chapel.
- We have a small Sunday School for children during the sermon with between 2 and 7 children.
- Whilst an older congregation demographically, we are a spritely fellowship with a desire to reach our community with the Gospel.
- We have two services each Lord’s Day; a monthly crafters outreach group; a growing weekly Tots ministry; very strong links with the school (our pastor is presently a governor and takes Collective Worship there weekly); a weekly Bible study and prayer meeting (of which a majority of members attending); a bi-monthly men’s and women’s breakfast (the latter of which is well attended, especially by many outside the Chapel).
- We have three partners in mission and many additional ministries that we support.
- Isa 37:31 describes our path well: *the surviving remnant...shall again take root downward and bear fruit upward*. Our Chapel represents a faithful remnant that has persevered and remained a faithful witness to the Gospel in a time when many rural churches have closed or apostatised. During the last several years of our present pastor we have been blessed as a fellowship and put many roots downward. Now we are looking for a man to continue this work and help us bear fruit upwards.

Description of Role

- Pastoral-Elder to chair the Eldership
- Approx. 20 hours/ week + Lord’s Days

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- Preach once a week, or one of our two services each Lord's Day (attend services otherwise, when not preaching elsewhere)
- Ideally engage with the local school as a governor and in collective worship
- Oversee:
 - Weekly Bible study
 - Pastoral visitation and care
 - Various ministries (see above)
 - Some administrative tasks
 - Vision and mission
- Engage with the FIEC as appropriate (i.e. local fraternal)

The successful man of God will:

- Meet the criteria of 1 Tim 3:1–7 and Tit 1:5–16
- Share in our *doctrinal beliefs* (available [online](#))
- Agree to our *Constitution* and *Handbook* as a CIO
- Have a heart for rural ministry
- Have a desire to become part of our fellowship, our community and be passionate about advancing our mission.
- Share our Acts 1:8 vision for mission and have a practical interest in it
- Ideally have gifting, not only as a pastor-teacher, but also that of an evangelist
- Work as part of a team of elders as a first among equals
- Work with our deacons and other officers and leaders
- Have some theological education (or equivalent)
- Have proven their pastoral/ministry gifting's, ideally with at least 2 years' experience
- Be open to being involved with the FIEC
- Be willing to relocate to the Parish, or the locality
- Provide at least 4 references (2 from Christian leaders, 2 from those in recent churches in which you have served)
- Be a UK citizen or resident

Remuneration

- Superannuation (3% of stipend)
- Starting from £11,500 dependent upon gifting, experience and education
- 4 Weeks Holiday
- 2 Weeks Continuing Education/Retreat/Conference allowance

For more information or to submit your cover letter and CV write Gordon James (Elder) @ janjam121@hotmail.co.uk

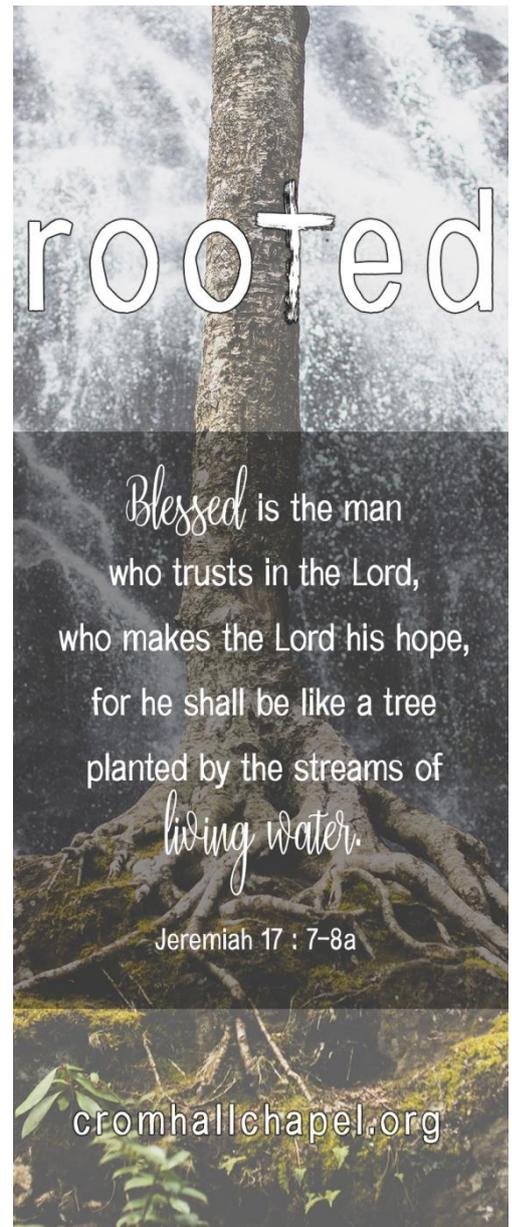


Figure 1 2019 Theme Verse