



St Luke's College Foundation

St Luke's Chaplain, University of Exeter (0.5FTE)



Thank you for your interest in the role of St Luke's Chaplain with the Anglican Chaplaincy at the University of Exeter.

St Luke's Campus and Chapel

St Luke's Campus was opened in 1854 and had a rich history as an Anglican Teacher Training College, eventually becoming part of the University of Exeter in 1978. It is now a busy campus of approximately 4,500 students, and continues to be the home of the Postgraduate School of Education including the PGCE teacher training programme, as well as the Department of Sports and Exercise Science, and Exeter Medical School, which trains nurses, radiographers and doctors as well as being a place of world-leading medical research.

St Luke's Chapel is located at the front of campus and has adapted over its history from being a traditional Chapel where trainee teachers were gathered each day for morning and evening prayer, to becoming a space which is used creatively not only by Christian students and staff, but by members of the campus community from a wide range of backgrounds and beliefs.

In 2024, the Chapel was reopened after a major refurbishment which has created a flexible multi-use Chapel space, and two large lounge/meeting rooms. Already, the Chapel is well used for a variety of activities including student Christian society meetings, a staff choir, activities for international students, hosting receptions and inaugural lectures, and occasional teaching.

The Anglican and Multifaith Chaplaincies

Our new St Luke's Chaplain would be part of both the Anglican and Multifaith Chaplaincy teams.

The Anglican Chaplaincy team consists of the Lazenby Chaplain, Director of Chapel Music, Administrator, Licensed Lay Minister, Priest with PTO and two paid student Chaplaincy Assistants. Most of our activity currently takes place around the Mary Harris Memorial Chapel on Streatham Campus, and each week we run a varied programme of services and activities, including both choral and informal Sunday worship, morning prayer, Choral Evensong, a theology group and bible study. We have a nationally renowned choir of 26 auditioned scholars which sings three times a week at Mary Harris Chapel. We have good links with the University's growing Student Christian Movement (SCM) society. Many of our more informal services are run jointly with the Free Church Chaplain.

The Multifaith Chaplaincy is based in the Sarah Turvill Multifaith Centre on Streatham campus. The team consists of approximately 18 Chaplains, most of whom are volunteers, and represent the major world faiths, various Christian denominations, and non-religious worldviews. Chaplains each run their own faith activities, as well as social events such as Connections Café and Mindful Craft which endeavour to nurture friendships between students and staff from diverse backgrounds.

The St Luke's Chaplain

We are looking for an innovative, creative person with a gentle pioneering spirit to step into the new St Luke's Chaplain role.

The St Luke's Chaplain will be primarily based at the University of Exeter's St Luke's Campus and, reporting to the Lazenby Chaplain, will be part of the Anglican Chaplaincy Team and the University's Multi-faith Chaplaincy. The post-holder will be a practising Christian within the Anglican tradition, whether lay or ordained.

Our ideal candidate would relish the challenge of starting new activities and initiatives. There is much that could be done in this new Chapel space, and we would like someone who is excited to bring their ideas to the Chapel. We have recently seen a real increase in the number of students who are interested in exploring faith. The St Luke's Chaplain should be someone who would enjoy sharing the Christian message anew, finding different ways to connect and express the Christian faith, and to working with students and staff who are exploring their faith, as well as connecting with and providing support to members of the campus community from across the faith-spectrum to enable them to flourish. We have found that students from minority groups, including a significant number of LGBTQ+ students, are drawn to Chaplaincy, and the St Luke's Chaplain would need to enjoy working inclusively and nurturing Chaplaincy as a safe space for all.

While the St Luke's Chaplain is the only member of the Multifaith Chaplaincy team based primarily at St Luke's, all of the Chaplains in the wider team have a responsibility for St Luke's as well as Streatham campus. We hope that the new St Luke's Chaplain can facilitate opportunities for Multifaith work on St Luke's, and challenge colleagues to engage well with our smaller campus.

While there is a strong element of starting this role with a clean sheet, the ability to pioneer new initiatives with very few preconceived ideas from the University or the wider team, the new Chaplain will not be completely 'starting from scratch.' The Chaplaincy team already has good contacts at St Luke's, and many of our Chaplains have been involved in things such running a session for nursing students about the religious needs of patients, running a small group session for medical students about spirituality, attending induction sessions, and involvement in the staff choir and St Luke's community garden. It is hoped that the St Luke's Chaplain will make use of these friendly links, and explore how Chaplaincy could further be involved in the life of campus.

The St Luke's Chaplain will work with the support of the wider Anglican Chaplaincy team and will report to the Lazenby Chaplain who leads the whole team. Each academic year, we appoint ~~two~~ student Chaplaincy assistants. For the 2026-27 academic year, the Chaplaincy Assistants will be involved in supporting new activities at St Luke's. We hope the new Chaplain will also make the most of the resource provided by the Chapel Choir for special services.

The Chaplaincy is a vibrant and interesting place to work. We do hope you will consider joining us for the coming academic year. Please contact Rev Hannah Alderson on h.alderson@exeter.ac.uk or 07342 025846 if you have any questions about the post. Please see below on how to apply.

To apply

Applications should be made by email to the Director of St Luke's College Foundation, Revd Chris Martin: director@stlukescf.org.uk

Your email should attach the following as separate documents in either Word or PDF format:

- A Curriculum Vitae setting out your qualifications, relevant experience, attributes and contact details for two suitable referees.
- A Letter of application setting out what you would bring to the post; the ways in which you meet the job description and person specification; and any intention to hold/continue to hold another part-time position elsewhere.

Please ensure that each of these two documents is no more than 3 pages long and is set in a font size of 12 points or more.