

Church Profile



Cornerstone Church, Abergavenny



Application for:

Church Pastor

www.abercec.org.uk



Our Vision

Encouraging one another to be captivated by Christ in order to build a Spirit filled church that reaches out to our local community with the Father's love.

About Us

Cornerstone Church is a warm and friendly evangelical church based in Abergavenny, that aims to love God, each other and our community.

We have around 90 members, and regular attendance of 100-130 at our Sunday morning service, which includes 30-40 children and youth.

It is our aim as a church to:

- **Disciple** one another, encouraging one another in our faith and building each other up to know the power of God's grace at work in our lives and have a closer walk with Jesus.
- **Serve** one another by caring for each other's spiritual, physical and emotional needs, through gospel friendship, practical support and pastoral care.
- **Reach** the lost, whether it is where God has placed us in our local communities, or partnering with others in national and global mission.



Who we are

Cornerstone Church began in 2004. While we don't have a building of our own, we enjoy a good relationship with the local school where we hold Sunday morning services. We hold other activities at the Cornerstone Centre which we hire on a lease. We are actively searching for a permanent 'home' to call our own.



There is a diversity of pastoral needs across the church. Our congregation largely reflects the age profile of the area itself, with lots of families or single parents with children and teenagers, but fewer young adults or singles in their 20s. We are blessed to have a good group of children and young people, as well as many older retired people. Our working-age adults are mainly from professional backgrounds.

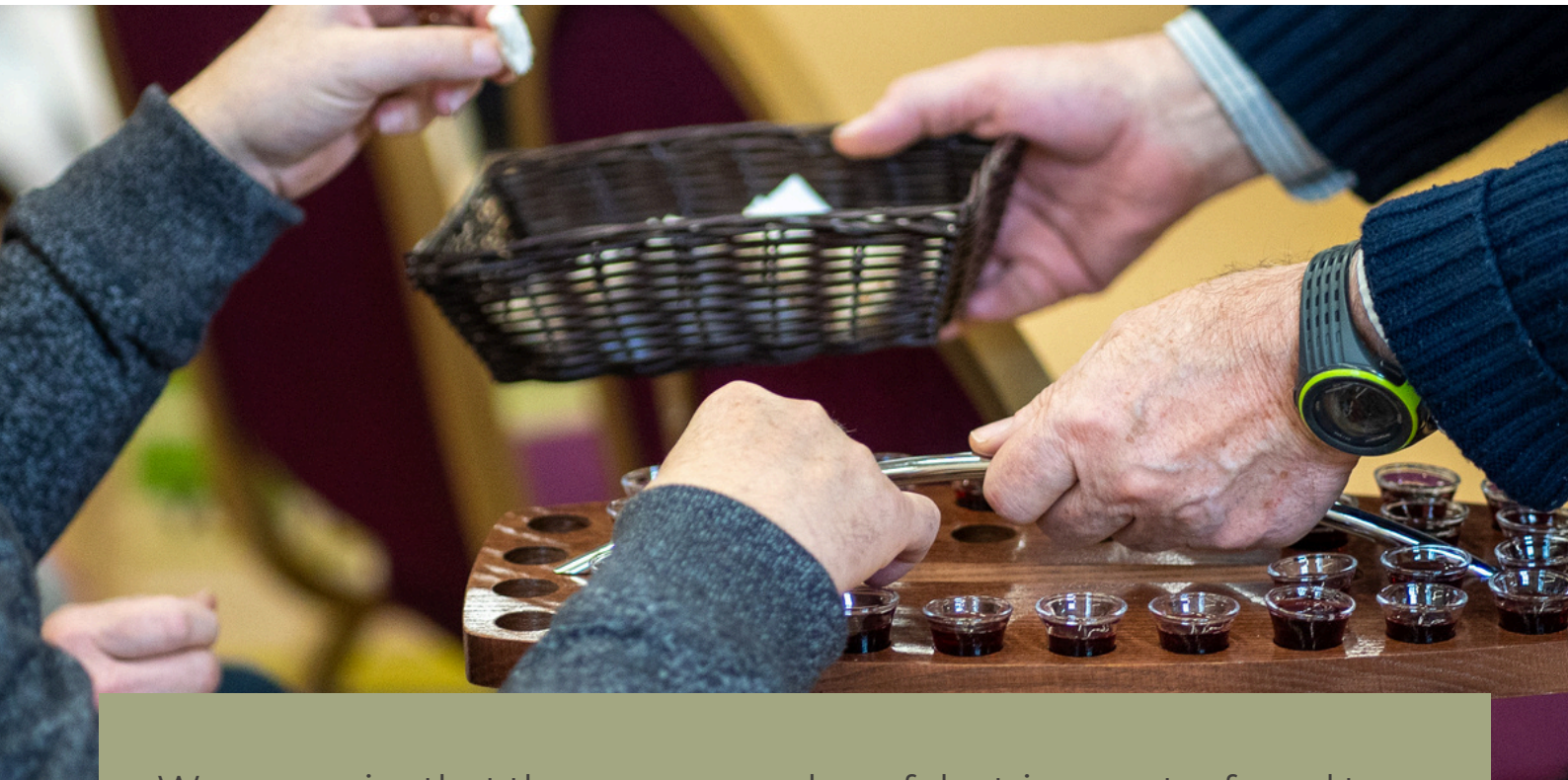
Reflecting our semi-rural location, the membership is spread over a large geographical area. Very few of our members or attendees live in the local estate where we are based.

What we believe

Our Statement of Faith can be found on our website:



www.abercec.org.uk/beliefs



We recognise that there are a number of doctrines, not referred to in the Basis of Faith, over which genuine Christian believers may take different views. Our Doctrinal Distinctives on baptism, the Lord's Supper and Christian unity are outlined in our Church Handbook, available on request.

We are affiliated to the FIEC and uphold its ethos statements regarding gospel unity, same-sex marriage and women in ministry. These statements can be found on the FIEC website:



<https://fiec.org.uk/resources/fiec-distinctives-our-ethos-statements>



Sundays

Sunday morning services are our main gathering, centred around worship and the preaching of God's word. The style of the service seeks to reflect the varied traditions of worship within the fellowship, which has become more diverse with the growth of the church in recent years.

We place high value on being a church family that worships corporately across all age groups, so there is a weekly children's slot, regular all-age family services and youth 'takeovers'.

Our evening services are smaller gatherings with more informal teaching, and opportunities for discussion, interaction and prayer.



Midweek

Community Groups

We place a high value on community groups as a place to deepen faith and friendship. There are currently nine separate community groups with the vast majority of the church assigned to the care of a community group, whether they attend regularly or not. Venues, schedules, teaching subjects and activities are decided by each group individually depending on their needs.

Other midweek activities

The full range of our midweek ministries can be viewed on our website. Many of these are based on children and youth work, but there are further opportunities for fellowship and outreach through a weekly coffee morning, craft group, ladies' bible study and monthly prayer meetings.

Our Leadership

The church is registered as a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) with the Charity Commission. Our most recent set of accounts and annual review can be viewed here:



<https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/en/charity-search/-/charity-details/5100154>

Elder-Trustees

We have four elders, all of whom are trustees, who provide the overall spiritual leadership for the church. The incoming pastor, as an elder, would also take on the responsibility of trustee.

Non-Elder Trustees

The role of our three non-elder trustees lessens the elders' administrative load to enable them to focus on spiritual leadership and care of the flock.

Deacons

Deacons are assigned to specific areas of responsibility, which currently are:

- Discipleship
- Treasurer
- Technology
- Facilities
- Secretary

Staff

The church employs three members of staff on a part-time basis.

- Children, Families and Youth Worker
- Children's Worker (under 10s)
- Church Administrator

Children and Youth

Our two children's workers lead a full programme of Sunday morning and midweek activities, supported by a committed group of volunteers. Our aim is for every young person from age 0-17 to have fun, learning about Jesus, from the Bible, in a safe space.



Teaching + Friendship

On a Sunday morning, there is tailored teaching according to age, with a phased introduction to sitting through the whole service as children move through the age groups

There are midweek clubs for babies and pre-schoolers, primary aged children, and onto secondary years.



Cross generational

As an all-age church, we want every child and young person to feel part of the wider fellowship, where there are opportunities for cross-generational interaction.

Each young person is encouraged to explore and use their own gifts to serve the wider church family.



Safeguarding Policy

All our volunteers receive annual safeguarding training, as well as being DBS-checked. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead reviews our Safeguarding Policy & procedures annually, with the support of a wider Safeguarding team.

Our Safeguarding Policy can be downloaded from our website.

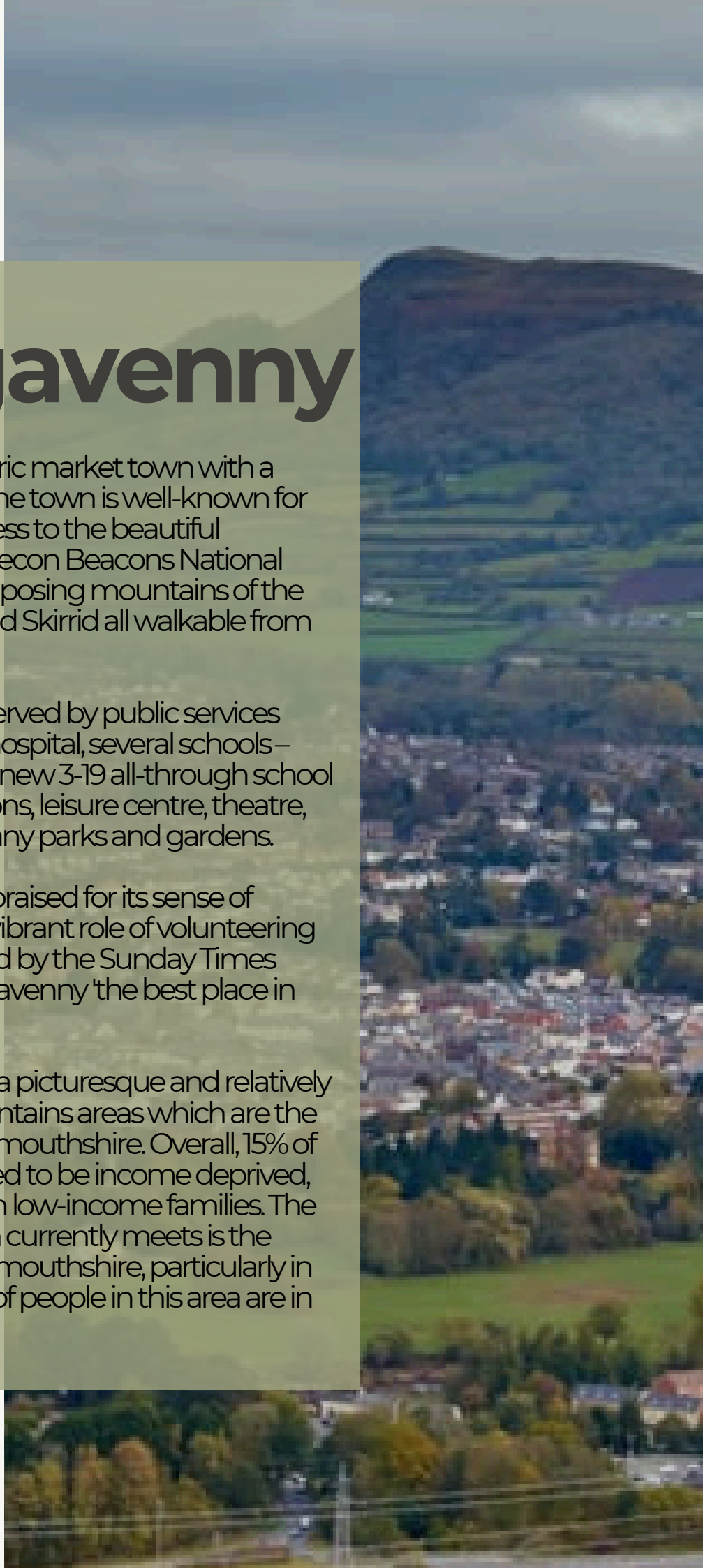
Abergavenny

Abergavenny is a historic market town with a population of 14,000. The town is well-known for its food scene and access to the beautiful surroundings of the Brecon Beacons National Park, with the three imposing mountains of the Bloreng, Sugarloaf and Skirrid all walkable from the town centre.

The town itself is well served by public services and amenities with a hospital, several schools – including and a brand new 3-19 all-through school – bus and railway stations, leisure centre, theatre, shops, cinema and many parks and gardens.

Abergavenny is often praised for its sense of community, with the vibrant role of volunteering in the town highlighted by the Sunday Times when it named Abergavenny 'the best place in Wales to live' last year.

While Abergavenny is a picturesque and relatively affluent town, it also contains areas which are the most deprived in Monmouthshire. Overall, 15% of residents are considered to be income deprived, with 16.6% of children in low-income families. The area where the church currently meets is the most deprived in Monmouthshire, particularly in terms of income: 28% of people in this area are in income deprivation.





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