

Job Title:

Lead Guitarist

Summary:

To serve as a Lead Guitarist for worship services at Watersprings Christian Centre, providing skilled instrumental support to the worship team through melodic arrangements, lead guitar performance and musical collaboration to enhance the congregation's worship experience.

Work Environment:

Church setting - In addition to contractual day time working hours, the position will require availability for evenings, weekends and holidays.

Reporting Structure/Accountability:

Music director (director of worship) or the Senior Pastor.

Annual Salary:

£24,000

Location:

4-6 Melson Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, United Kingdom LU1 2JX

Employment Type:

Full time position

Working hours:

36 hours per week (The nature of this role requires some flexibility in terms of working hours and location)

Visa Sponsorship:

Temporary Work - Religious Worker route, subject to applicable sponsorship requirement

Key Responsibilities:

- Attend all scheduled worship rehearsals and services, including Sunday services, midweek meetings, special programmes, conferences, and other worship events.
- Play the Lead guitar during assigned church services, rehearsals, and worship programmes.
- Provide a consistent rhythmic and harmonic foundation for the worship band, maintaining musical coordination with the drummer and other instrumentalists.
- Demonstrate proficiency in African/Nigerian gospel music styles, including highlife, Afro-gospel, contemporary gospel, and other relevant worship genres.
- Develop and perform appropriate melodies, fills and transitions that complement the musical arrangements and worship direction.
- Maintain accurate timing, tempo and rhythm while responding to spontaneous changes during live worship.
- Work closely with the drummer to establish and sustain a cohesive rhythm section throughout praise and worship.
- Collaborate with the Music Director, Worship Leader, and other musicians to develop suitable musical arrangements.
- Support the worship leader by responding appropriately to musical cues, key changes, and changes in song structure.
- Participate in the Creative Team and contribute ideas to improve worship delivery.
- Support the training and development of other guitarists and emerging musicians where required.
- Maintain and appropriately use assigned musical instruments and equipment.
- Demonstrate commitment to Christian worship, teamwork and the vision, mission, and values of WCC.
- Undertake other duties reasonably assigned by the Music Director or Senior Pastor that are consistent with the role.

Weekly responsibilities:

- Confirm availability for assigned worship services and rehearsals.
- Review the worship song list and familiarise yourself with song structures, keys, chord progressions and lead guitar arrangements.
- Prepare guitar melodies, riffs, solos, and transitions appropriate to the selected worship songs.
- Attend and contribute to Creative Team Nights, band practices and rehearsal sessions.
- Coordinate with the keyboardist, bassist, drummer, and other musicians to ensure musical consistency.

Pre-Sound Check

- Arrive promptly and ensure appropriate preparation for the scheduled service.
- Ensure that the guitar, amplifier, effects pedals, cables and other required equipment are functioning correctly.
- Complete warm-up exercises and review relevant musical arrangements.
- Observe the Church's dress code and presentation standards.

Sound Check

- Participate fully in band sound checks and ensure appropriate guitar tone, volume, and effects settings.
- Work with the sound engineer to achieve a balanced guitar sound within the overall worship mix.
- Check lead guitar levels during both quiet worship passages and energetic praise sections.
- Communicate any technical or monitoring requirements to the sound team.

Rehearsal

- Listen attentively to the Worship Leader, Music Director, vocalists, and other instrumentalists.
- Demonstrate appropriate musical dynamics, phrasing, timing, tone, and improvisation.
- Rehearse guitar solos, melodic arrangements, and transitions to ensure effective coordination with the band.
- Be familiar with song structures and respond appropriately to changes in arrangements.
- Accept feedback positively and make necessary musical adjustments.

Prayer Meeting

- Attend and actively participate in pre-service prayer meetings.
- Support the spiritual preparation of the worship team through prayer and fellowship.
- Remain attentive to the spiritual and musical direction communicated by the Worship Leader and service pastors.

During Service

- Play the lead guitar confidently and sensitively, supporting congregational worship.
- Provide appropriate melodic accompaniment, improvisation, and musical transitions throughout worship.
- Respond promptly to instructions and musical cues from the Worship Leader and Music Director.
- Maintain musical coordination with the drummer, bassist, keyboardist, and vocalists.
- Adjust playing style, dynamics, and intensity to complement the spiritual atmosphere and progression of the service.
- Participate actively in worship and demonstrate appropriate conduct throughout the service.

Dress Code

- Familiarise with the dress code.
- Be willing to adhere to communicated dress code.
- Dress decently and appropriately for the rostered service.

Key Requirements:

- Demonstrable experience playing lead guitar in a church worship team or comparable gospel music setting.
- Good understanding of guitar techniques, chord progressions, scales, improvisation, musical dynamics, and rhythm.
- Ability to perform African/Nigerian gospel and contemporary Christian worship music.
- Ability to learn songs, develop arrangements and perform confidently within a live band.
- Strong listening, teamwork, communication, and adaptability skills.
- Willingness to mentor developing musicians and contribute to the growth of the Church's music ministry.
- Commitment to WCC's Christian worship environment, spiritual ethos, and ministry objectives.

Qualifications:

- Previous experience as a church Musician (Lead Guitarist) or in similar role.
- Strong knowledge of hymns and contemporary Christian music.
- Strong knowledge of Western and African style Christian music.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Desirable:

- Proficiency in playing various musical instruments.
- Previous experience as a music director.

Additional Considerations:

- An excused absence will be granted when it is requested sufficiently in advance from the director of worship or pastor.
- The director or pastor will normally excuse absence for illness or emergency, but the Vocalist must communicate promptly with the director or pastor and in advance of the desired absence. Excessive absence due to illness or other reasons will be considered in performance reviews.
- Employment may be terminated by the incumbent or the church with a 30-day notice.

Evaluation:

1. A performance review will be conducted after 90 and 180 days by the director of worship and/or pastor, with input from the various singers (team members) and the congregation.
2. Musical initiative and the musician's leadership will be important evaluation factors, as will generally attitude and spirit of helpfulness, including punctuality and attendance.

Benefits:

- Spiritual Growth and development.
- A platform to participate in church events and programs.
- Opportunities for musical development.
- Community involvement and outreach.

Equal Opportunity Statement:

We are an equal opportunity employer and do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, colour, national origin, gender, age, marital status or disability status. We ensure that we operate completely based on the doctrines, beliefs, instructions, and principles of the Bible as inspired by the spirit of God and under no circumstance compromise on these tenets.

Application Instructions:

- To apply for this role, please click this link to download the application <https://www.wccuk.com/employment>.
- Once you have completed the application form, please send the application form along with your resume/CVs and a brief statement of faith to admin@wccuk.com
- We will be in touch within 7day.

Our Vision:

Transforming lives (Psalm 36:9) - To Learn more about Watersprings Christian Centre please visit <https://www.wccuk.com/>