



# Ainslie Church of Christ

## Job Vacancy Pastor

We are seeking an enthusiastic and community minded minister to collaboratively lead our ministries@Limestone and help build our community through:

1. Teaching, worship and discipleship training.
2. Maintaining and extending our existing community outreach and pastoral care.
3. Reinvigorating our existing programs for children.
4. Developing programs for young adults and families.
5. Leading and further developing spirituality within the church.

### ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

- Be passionate about Jesus and His church.
- Authentically model the love of Christ to all.
- Accept all people regardless of race, gender, language, religion, sexual orientation, political or other opinion, nationality, ethnic or social origin, disability, birth or other status.
- Show concern and care for all people, especially those struggling with their spiritual, physical, emotional and mental well-being.
- Provide services and programs that promote physical, emotional and spiritual health for our community.
- Work with the leadership team to develop the church as a community hub.
- Embrace the opportunities of diversity, partnerships, and the empowerment of others.
- Encourage and support all members to become a part of, not apart from, our community to serve our church and local community.
- Have undertaken a formal theological degree and be accredited with or willing to be accredited with Churches of Christ in NSW and ACT.
- Minimum 5 years' ministry experience preferred.
- Must have obtained valid working rights in Australia.



### THE ROLE

**Position:** Pastor

**Term:** Ongoing

**Hours:** Part time 3.5 days / week  
Hours are negotiable up to full time

**Remuneration:** The role will be paid according to Churches of Christ in NSW and ACT recommendations +15% super. Manse accommodation is available.

### KEY RELATIONSHIPS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Accountability:** Be accountable to the Church Board and the Church members.


**Spiritual leadership:** Provide spiritual oversight. Facilitate weekly worship services and Bible study groups, supported by our members.

**Community engagement:** Oversee and support community activities, such as the weekly op-shop, community gardens and youth programs.

**Personal growth and pastoral care:** Work with the pastoral care team to support our community members, including

### HOW TO APPLY

Enquiries or Applications including a cover letter and resume should be emailed to: [iwanttowork@atlimestone.org.au](mailto:iwanttowork@atlimestone.org.au)



## OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

We endeavour to follow Jesus' commandments to:

- Love the Lord our God with all our heart and with all our soul and with all our mind,
- Love our neighbour as ourselves.

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Bringing Christ to community by being His hands and feet within our community.



## ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Ainslie Church of Christ has been sharing the good news of Jesus with our community for over 70 years, and over that time has planted three churches in Canberra. Our current church demographic has an older cohort; however there are a growing number of families now worshipping with us. We have a strong community presence with over 200 regulars enjoying our outreach ministries@limestone and a strong core of over 30 members worshipping and sharing together on Sunday mornings.

Over the past decade we have been diversifying our activities to engage more with the local community. To learn more about our ministries see [page three](#), see [page seven](#) for a map of our premises and view our [ACNC profile](#) for our most [recent annual report](#).

## OUR CORE VALUES AND CHARACTERISTICS

Our faith is a whole of life experience, where we are living and growing and changing because of our relationship with God. We long to share Jesus with the community around us.

We are a warm and friendly place where:

- all are accepted without discrimination,
- we seek to be a part of, not apart from, our community,
- we are concerned about and care for all people, especially those struggling with their spiritual, physical, emotional and mental well-being,
- the Holy Spirit connects us together and draws us into deeper relationships with each other and with Jesus.

## Spirituality @Limestone

### Sunday Services

**Operation:** Church services are held each Sunday from 10.30am and are streamed on Zoom for those unable to attend in person. Average attendance is 27-35 (including Zoom). Members are involved in leading services, Bible readings, playing music, operating technology, welcoming and hospitality. A teaching ministry is led by the minister with visiting speakers and lay preachers from the congregation taking a role from time to time.

**Future goals:** The new sound system was installed in 2022 with audio visual integration to improve the live streaming experience. Continuing to grow our congregation and provide meaningful connections and fellowship.

**Connection:** We come together in fellowship to be the body of Christ. We encourage and support each other, to deepen our connections to God and enable us to be Christ in our community.



## Bible Study

**Operation:** Currently a small group meets weekly via Zoom to study the scripture or to reflect on readings to be used in the following Sunday service.

The format is a discussion rather than a lecture style which allows for wider group participation. Group prayer provides additional pastoral care and support.

**Future goals:** Expand into additional groups to meet the differing needs of the congregation. E.g. face to face, families, different age groups.

**Connection:** Build and deepen our faith and connectedness with each other.



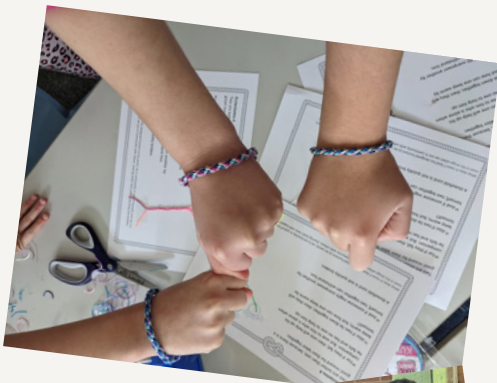


## Sunday School @Limestone

**Operation:** A small number of primary school and early high-school children go out to the annex after communion to explore the word of God through craft and games. Sunday school is led by parents with WWVP cards and safe places policies are in place.

**Future goals:** To deepen the understanding of Jesus for our children, pray that we grow our numbers, and also look at partnering with another church to provide some form of youth group.

**Connection:** We connect children with God's message through different formats, such as craft and drama and provide fellowship connections for the children to share with and pray with other children.



## Kids Nights @Limestone

**Operation:** Once a term we hold a free kids activities night for 8 to 14 year old's, offering video games, craft activities and Karaoke. We always have more than 30 children in attendance. Our 'Halloween' alternative on the 31st of October is an opportunity for children to dress up, join in activities and, of course, eat lollies, within a positive and safe environment. This provides a major outreach for the local children. In 2022, over 50 children attended with their parents.

**Future goals:** We are continuing to establish regular events and build community connections.

**Connection:** Providing a safe place for children to have fun and see the Church as an inclusive community hub to enjoy with their friends.





## Up-opping @Limestone

**Operation:** Up-opping is a thrift shop operated by current ministers and more than 8 volunteers every Friday and on the first Saturday of each month. Open 10am to 2pm, EFTPOS available.

The current ministers are heavily involved in this ministry which provides significant funding (approx. 20% of church budget), in addition to "Kingdom Dollars" from the intentional pastoral care ministry.

**Future goals:** We want to attract more volunteers to prevent burn-out in existing members and continue to attract high-quality goods to sell. We will also continue to provide a safe, inclusive, friendly community where people can feel 'at home'. Ideally we would also move higher priced items online for sale.



**Connection:** The op-shop provides community connectedness as well as ways to redistribute goods to address the different needs of our community. Not all volunteers would consider themselves to be 'Christian', but they are all dedicated to providing care and social support to everyone who comes through the door. An intentional pastoral care ministry operates each week to both Up-opping customers and volunteers.

## Up-opping @Limestone - Music

**Operation:** Musical BYO instrument jam group, "Jammalong" which is open to all. Sometimes up to 15 people playing during op-shop on the first Saturday of each month.

**Future goals:** Continuing to welcome new members and provide atmosphere to Up-opping and grow the Jammalong community.

**Connection:** Enjoy a robust musical fellowship, and provide support and encouragement to fellow musicians.







## Gardening @Limestone

**Operation:** Our manse is next to the gardens and our current ministers co-ordinate this group. Plots are rented by locals who maintain them and often gather together to share meals or chat. All plots are currently taken, and funding is self-sufficient.

Capital Scraps is a local business that keeps compost bins at our garden and provides another community connection.

**Future goals:** We hope to improve the facilities, with some shade, seating and a small gathering and entertaining area.

**Connection:** The gardens provide locals with space to connect with each other, enabling us to appreciate the wonder of God's natural world. It also provides opportunities to build relationships with community members.



## Rentals @Limestone



**Operation:** Church annex is rented to a playgroup on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The church space is also available to rent for other community groups - e.g. Christian Education In Schools (CEIS) and a U3A reading group.

**Future goals:** We have a great building, with free parking, on prime real estate and we want to be a community hub.





**Connection:** Increasing the community connections and sharing our facilities with our neighbours.





# MAP OF OUR PREMESIS

## Map Key

-  Door
-  Wall
-  Gate
-  Fence

