

Thank you for your interest in serving as part of an evangelistic team with Vision Baptist Mission (UK). We are excited to offer you this opportunity to gain vital hands-on ministry experience and training and to use your gifts and abilities to carry out the Great Commission in the United Kingdom. In the pages that follow, you will find important information about our team. If you have other questions that are not addressed in the material already provided, please contact us.

# **About Vision Baptist Mission**

Vision Baptist Mission is a UK Charity that is proud to partner with Vision Baptist Missions in Alpharetta, Georgia, USA <u>visionmissions.org</u>. Our vision is to spread the gospel, teach the Bible, train Christian workers, plant churches, and send missionaries around the world. Vision Baptist Mission is led by the following trustees:

Travis & Teri Snode



**James Wilson** 



Sam & Beth Quinn



Travis and his wife Teri have been involved in church planting in the UK since 2004. They are church-planters with Vision Baptist Missions and serve at Downham Baptist in London. He helps oversee and carry out the work of VBM. You can find out more about them at <a href="mailto:travissnode.com">travissnode.com</a>.

James has served as pastor of Derry Baptist Fellowship in Derry, Northern Ireland since 2013 and has a real vision to reach the UK and Ireland with the gospel. He helps oversee and carry out the work of VBM. He also serves as our treasurer. You can find out more about his ministry at derryfellowship.com.

Sam and his wife Beth were missionaries before they got married (Sam - N. Ireland; Beth - Tunisia). They are now church-planters to the UK with Vision Baptist Missions. He helps oversee and carry out the work of VBM. You can find out more about them at samquinn.net.

### **About the Evangelistic Team**

Though the United Kingdom has a rich Christian heritage and many good evangelical churches, there are many areas of the country that still need to be evangelised. The goals of the evangelistic team would be to:

1. **Identify areas of gospel need** - researching churches, demographics, and history of various regions.

- 2. **Plan evangelistic efforts in these areas** surveying the area, organising prayer meetings, hiring relevant venues, designing and printing literature, etc.
- 3. **Conduct evangelistic efforts in these areas** evangelistic meetings, street evangelism, door-to-door, children's ministry, etc.
- 4. **Follow up with and disciple** any people who get saved or express interest as a result of the evangelistic efforts Bible studies, discipleship sessions, online studies, etc.
- 5. Teach and help organise groups of disciples from a region into new churches.
- **6. Assist local churches** in carrying out evangelistic efforts around the country.

There are many ways to be involved with the evangelistic team, whether as a single person or a married couple, whether on a short or long-term basis. These evangelistic efforts will require individuals with a lot of skills: music, administration, graphic design, writing, preaching, witnessing, counselling, teaching children, etc. If you have a heart for the Lord and a burden to reach people with the gospel, then please get in touch with us.

### **Term & Dates**

The dates for your particular time of ministry on the evangelistic team will be arranged on an individual basis. The minimum amount of time we suggest for effective ministry is one month, but we prefer at least three months. To discuss details or to plan your time of ministry, please contact us.

#### **Schedule**

The main purpose of your time in the UK will be to serve the Lord Jesus Christ. You are welcome to spend time off sightseeing, as long as it does not interfere with the ministry. Typically, you will work about 40 hours a week not including church services and meetings. We encourage everyone to take one day off per week. You will be working as part of a team and should do your best to meet the objectives laid out for you by Vision Baptist Mission leaders.

#### Visa

The UK Border Agency requires that all volunteers who enter the country to do religious work obtain a visa. If you plan to serve in the UK for 24 months or less, you will apply for a Religious Worker's Visa (Tier 5). If you plan to serve in the UK for longer than 24 months, you will apply for a Minister of Religion Visa (Tier 2).

In order to obtain this visa, a sponsoring church here in the UK will need to issue you a Certificate of Sponsorship which is basically a number that you enter into your application. We will help you find a church to sponsor you into the country.

The following website will give you more information about the sponsorship and visa process including costs:

- Religious Worker's Visa (Tier 5) https://www.gov.uk/tier-5-religious
- Minister of Religion Visa (Tier 2) https://www.gov.uk/tier-2-minister-of-religion-visa

In order for you to be issued with a certificate of sponsorship, we will need you to read about the sponsorship process, fill out an application form, and follow the steps outlined by the sponsoring church.

Please begin the sponsorship process at least 3 months before you plan to come. This should allow enough time for your certificate of sponsorship to be issued for you to apply for your visa. You will also be asked to agree to a volunteer work contract with the sponsoring church, which will be signed when you arrive in the country.

Copies of the following along with other documents may be required at the time of application: current passport photo, passport (front and inside photo page), birth certificate, ordination certificate (if applicable), social security card, college diploma (if applicable), proof of health insurance, driver's license (if applicable), five year address history, bank statements showing income, and criminal record background check number or document.

# Cost

The cost of your time in the UK will vary greatly depending on several factors: the price of airfare, how long you arrange to stay, what time of year you come, what you plan to do, where you stay, etc. The prices below are a rough estimate based on one person staying for a minimum of 6 months and living by themselves in a house share:

#### **One-Time Costs:**

Visa \$350 (Based on fee of £244 for Tier 5 visa applied	s)
Visa \$\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	ation)

House Furnishings \$550 (For various furnishings and/or appliances for your house)
Lodging Deposit \$1000 (A security deposit that may be returned to you by your landlord

depending on the condition of the premises at departure)

<b>Monthly Costs:</b>	\$1980*	
Lodging	\$775	(Based on £550 to rent a room near Downham)
Utilities	\$225	(Based on paying £160 for utilities and phone in a room rental)
Transportation	\$225	(Based on walking some and occasionally using public transport)
Trips/Tours	\$200	(Various tours and trips that will vary depending on the individual)
Food	\$375	(Based on spending about £60 per week on groceries/eating out)
Spending	\$200	(For offerings, snacks, souvenirs, and miscellaneous expenses)

<sup>\*</sup>All above costs are based on estimated costs and an exchange rate of \$1.40 to £1.

### **Deadlines**

In order to be most effective, we require all team members to meet the following deadlines:

6 months before departure - Confirm dates of ministry with us.

- Your time in the UK might be able to coincide with a special outreach or event.
- This would allow you the opportunity to be more involved in the ministry here.

3 months before departure - Begin application process for visa.

2 months before departure - Purchase plane tickets.

- You will be responsible to purchase your own plane tickets.
- Be sure to confirm all flight details with us before final booking.

6 weeks before departure - Send money for your first month of lodging and utilities.

 This will only be necessary if you need us to make deposits on your behalf for your lodging and accommodation.

### **Plane Tickets**

You will be responsible to purchase your own plane tickets two months prior to your departure. The price of tickets varies considerably with the time of the year. The most expensive time to fly is during the summer. When purchasing your tickets, the best airports to fly into are London Heathrow (LHR), London Gatwick (LGW), or London Stansted (STN). Prior to booking your flight, please be sure to confirm the flight details with us.

## Lodging

Where you will stay depends a great deal on how long you are planning to serve in the UK, how much money you have/raise, and whether you are coming as a single person or with a family. Options include:

- Staying with a ministry family for a shorter period of time (typically 1 month or less)
- Staying in a "spare room" which is a bedroom in someone else's home with shared access to a bathroom, kitchen, and living room.
- Renting an apartment or a house.

As you consider accommodation options, please understand that housing is quite expensive in the UK especially in urban areas. Also, be prepared for housing, space, and life in the UK to be quite a bit different for those who are from outside the UK.

# **Getting Your Money**

There are various ways you can get your money while you are here. Here are a few options:

- You can pull it out in British Pounds Sterling from an ATM (recommended). If you choose to do this, you need to check with your bank to find out what fees are associated with this.
- You can use some kind of online transfer service. Be sure to check to see what kind of fees and commission
  are included as well as the rate of exchange.

#### **Dress and Weather**

The temperature in London ranges between 52-73° F in the summer and 36-46° F in the winter. It can be quite windy and rainy at any time of the year and may even snow in the winter.

If you will be here during the winter, be sure to bring a warm jacket, preferably waterproof with a hood. You should bring mostly long-sleeve clothing for the winter months. A lightweight waterproof jacket and short-sleeve clothing will be fine for the summer.

You will want some relatively comfortable shoes for all the walking we do here. Please be modest in everything you wear so you will set a good example for the people on the field.

## **Application**

To apply for the UK Evangelistic Team, you must:

- Complete an application form.
- 2. Have a completed recommendation from your pastor.

For access to all these forms, please go to www.visionmissions.co.uk/opportunities.