

Barrington United Methodist Church

Job Description

Organist

Date: January 24, 2023

Position Title: Church Organist

Reports to: Director of Music and Worship Arts (DMWA)

Position:

The Barrington UMC Organist is a worship music leader, working with the BUMC worship team(s) to draw our congregation into vibrant worship experiences to encounter the Living God. The Barrington UMC organist supports the mission and vision of the church as a part of the Music and Worship Arts Ministry.

Purpose:

The Music ministry serves as an instrument of inspiration for the congregation on their journeys of faith.

The Organist is an integral member of the Music Ministry, contributing to the growth and vitality of the church. This staff member shall, through personal example, exemplary teamwork and nurturing leadership, contribute to excellent and dynamic worship experiences for our members, constituents and visitors. The Organist works with music staff, laity and other staff members to lead BUMC in fulfilling its mission of Building a Community to Worship God and Create Disciples to Serve All People, as well as the mission of The United Methodist Church to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World.

Responsibilities:

The primary responsibility of the Organist is to create vibrant worship experiences through organ and piano performance and accompaniment. The organist plays, with excellence, organ and piano music at traditional and chapel worship services, weddings (including rehearsals as necessary), funerals and other services.

Qualities:

The Organist is a highly accomplished musician who possesses a spirit of collegiality, compassion, and cooperation. The Organist has a heart for ministry, and a love of God.

In addition, the Organist:

- is flexible and adapts to last minute changes,
- has a positive attitude,
- has a high level of personal and professional integrity,
- works collegially with staff, musicians, colleagues and laity,
- has a focus on quality and is committed to excellence, and
- is punctual.

Essential Functions:

- Select and perform service music (typically the prelude, offertory, and postlude) in keeping with weekly worship plans and themes.
- Accompany congregational singing.
- Accompany the Chancel Choir, including rehearsals.
- Accompany and rehearse with soloists as requested.
- Assist the accompanists and/or accompany various choirs and ensembles as requested.
- Have the option to play for weddings and funerals at the request of the DMWA, for additional compensation. This includes consulting with people regarding the music chosen for services, and accompanying vocal soloists and instrumentalists.
- Periodically record hymn accompaniments for use in virtual worship.
- In consultation with the DMWA and Chair of the Trustees, arrange for service and upkeep of the organ.
- In consultation with the DMWA, arrange for service and upkeep of BUMC pianos.
- Develop and maintain a list, with associated costs, for increasing or enhancing the capacity of our organs.

Additional Duties:

- The Organist shall assist the DMWA, if requested, in arranging for substitute organists whenever s/he will miss a worship service or rehearsal.
- Act as substitute director for choirs, groups and ensembles as required and/or assigned by the DMWA.
- Other tasks as deemed necessary.

Education and Skills:

- Degree in music (M.M. degree preferred; B.Mus. or B.A. in music acceptable in combination with experience and demonstrated excellence).
- Strong experience and expertise in leading and playing church music.

Work Hours:

- Part-time salaried position, approximately 12-15 hours/week
- Hours include Sunday morning worship services and Thursday evening Chancel choir rehearsals.
- Have the option to play for weddings and funerals at the request of the DMWA, for additional compensation.
- Special services could include (but are not limited to): Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Memorial Communion (November), Thanksgiving Community Meal (November), Blue Christmas (December), Christmas Eve
- Actual weekly working hours of the Organist shall be coordinated with and approved by the Director of Music and Worship Arts (DMWA).

Resignation:

The Organist, by accepting this essential staff position, shall, unless there are extenuating circumstances, agree to provide thirty (30) days prior written notice of an intended resignation.

Salary: Based on experience and expertise and competitive with similar positions in the area.

Vacation: Four Sundays off each year.

Date updated: 01/24/2023