

Handbell Choir Director

First Presbyterian Church, High Point NC

Description:

First Presbyterian Church, High Point NC is looking for a part-time handbell choir director. This contracted position will oversee and direct two handbell choirs for up to 8 hours a week, rehearsal season from September through May.

First Presbyterian has a large Music Ministry with four vocal choirs, two handbell choirs, a chime choir, and several ad-hoc ensembles. Our handbell and handchime groups are integral parts of our music program.

We hope to expand our ministries through the addition of an experienced, visionary musician who has a background in directing and ringing handbells.

Responsibilities include:

- Direct two rehearsals a week for youth and adults
- Prepare handbell groups, full choirs and/or smaller ensembles, to participate in worship services throughout the ringing season. Participation opportunities include, but are not limited to, prelude, offertory, other service music, in addition to special bell/chime effects (peals, processions, hymn descants, etc.)
- Consult with Director of Music in music selection and scheduling performances
- Organize and facilitate choirs performing in community (non-profit groups, retirement and nursing homes, etc.) when possible
- Manage and file music for handbell choirs
- Communicate and schedule with ringers; provide bulletin announcements, newsletter information and website information for bell choirs
- Recruit new ringers
- Organize and participate in area handbell festivals
- Tend to minor bell repairs/maintenance and alert Director of Music of any major repairs needed.
- Consult with Worship Committee and Director of Music for annual budget

Our handbell choirs often give a Christmas Concert in addition to participation in Advent/Christmas Services. The adult group often participates in Easter morning services. Ensembles also regularly participate in Christmas Eve services.

The position is a contracted position to be reviewed annually by the Administrative Committee in consultation with the Head of Staff and Music Director.

This position reports to and works closely with the Director of Music.

Abilities:

- Commitment to leading volunteers with varying musical ability to share Christian message through the gift of music
- Significant experience with ringing handbells and demonstrated ability to manage rehearsals and direct choirs
- Music Degree preferred
- Experience in church music

- Experience with a variety of styles of music and understanding of basic music pedagogy
- Computer skills for communication and word processing
- Collaborative spirit, communication and organizational skills

Salary range: negotiable

Application deadline April 1, 2018. Contract position begins July 1, 2018.

Please send cover letter, resume and references to:

Doug Clark, Moderator
Handbell Director Search Committee
First Presbyterian Church
918 N Main Street
High Point NC 27262
dougclark55@gmail.com