

Parish Musician
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Asheville, North Carolina

Job Title: Organist/Pianist /Church musician (part-time)
Opening available: September 1, 2024

Reports to: Rector

Position Overview: Plan, organize and direct parish music program to enhance worship and the spiritual experience of our church community. The church musician will provide music and musical leadership for regular Sunday services; for services that are part of the church's liturgical year, including Easter and Christmas seasons. The church musician may provide music for other occasions as requested, such as weddings and funerals.

Our organ is a 4 rank Zimmer pipe organ, one manual, no pedals. This church musician position is unique in that a trained pianist could be qualified for this job. There is an extensive, 60+ volume library of "Music for Manuals." In general, our parish does not use "contemporary" or "praise" music during worship. We currently do not have a regular choir.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Music degree or equivalent experience in organ and/or piano performance
- Knowledge of use of church music during various liturgical seasons.
- Familiarity with Episcopal liturgy or willingness to learn.
- Experience directing/rehearsing/accompanying a choir, vocal, or ensemble is desired.
- Self-motivated with a collegial style of leadership.

Essential Functions:

- Plan and play prelude, hymns, responses, anthems or accompaniments, communion music, and postlude for services. Provide strong, supportive accompaniment for hymn singing.
- Look ahead and plan service music for upcoming Sundays and for special and seasonal needs during the liturgical year.
- Accompany soloists, instrumentalists, possibly "occasional choir."
- Introduce new hymns or service music to the congregation.
- Recruit outside musicians for "special music" Sundays and special occasions.
- Work cooperatively with rector, staff and parishioners as needed.

Responsibilities

- Select, rehearse and perform all music for Sunday and other services (for example, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Easter, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, and others as necessary).
- Play an occasional outdoor service, using the parish hall piano.
- Collaborate with rector in selecting hymns and service music
- Select and rehearse music for an occasional choir, or an occasional children's anthem, if there is interest.
- Contract with guest musicians and soloists when used and submit check request forms.
- Advise Administrative Assistant of music and musician selections in a timely manner.
- Discuss musical needs (organ tuning or repair, parish hall piano, music, etc.) with rector and vestry, and arrange and supervise for the work to be done.
- Oversee administration and expenditure of the music budget.
- Maintain music library.
- Consult with families for weddings and funerals.
- Complete mandatory diocesan Safe Church Training and other training as required.
- Coordinate vacation time with rector. Schedule supply organist when needed.

Terms & Compensation

Part time position.

Salary is \$130 per service.

Weddings and funerals are \$150 per service.

3 paid Sundays off per year.

Continuing education allowance is negotiable.

Employment requires 3 references, approval by the vestry, and a satisfactory background check.

For more information and an application, please contact the Rev. Patty Mouer, Rector, at rector@stlukesavl.org by July 31, 2024.