



Church Organist/Pianist Job Description

Principal Function:

The Church Organist/Pianist is responsible for organ and piano accompaniment for scheduled worship services and special services in support of the music ministry of the Pilgrim Church United Church of Christ.

Job Description:

This position is a part-time, year-round position. The schedule is flexible to be shared with other accompanist(s) if desired. Participation is expected at the traditional Sunday worship services, season choir rehearsals (once choir resumes), and other special services, including (but not limited to) Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Easter. The organist/pianist may be asked to provide services for funerals, memorial services, and weddings with additional compensation.

Job Requirements:

1. Must be a disciple of Jesus Christ dedicated to personal and communal spiritual growth. Must possess a commitment to maintaining healthy faith life consisting of the spiritual disciplines of prayer, scripture study, worship participation, and Christian service.
2. Dependable, punctual, flexible, and self-motivated.
3. Ability to take direction and work as a team member. Must be able to communicate well and in a friendly, respectful manner with other church leaders, church choir members, other musicians, and members of the congregation. Must possess or be willing to develop good conflict resolution skills.
4. Possess a basic theological understanding of Christian Worship theory and the liturgical calendar.
5. Proficient at playing the organ and/or piano, preferably in a Christian worship service, and able to sufficiently read music to accompany choirs and individuals.
6. Knowledge of basic music theory and ability to perform simple transpositions.
7. Flexibility to play in traditional and blended style services that include diverse styles of worship music.
8. Competent at hymn, song, and anthem accompaniments. Ability to sight read and improvise is ideal.
9. Willingness to rehearse sufficiently to maintain a high quality of music.
10. Participation in traditional as well as blended services that include diverse styles of worship music.

Accountability:

The Organist/Pianist will be accountable to the Senior Pastor. This individual will need to notify the Senior Pastor a minimum of three weeks prior to planned absences (preferably as soon as known) to allow for scheduling of a substitute organist/pianist. A leadership Covenant Agreement will be signed. Performance reviews will be annually.

Responsibilities:

1. Maintain a Christ-honoring Spirit within the church, creating an environment that encourages unity in our diversity as we gather to praise, worship, and serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
2. Attend staff and worship planning meetings.
3. Support the church's worship environment through the well-prepared execution of music.
4. Serve as accompanist for the Sanctuary Choir in regular and special rehearsals and performances as assigned.
5. Help facilitate congregational singing and worship through the excellent execution of hymns and other songs.
6. Participate in rehearsals and performances with other players.
7. Collaborate with the Music Director (this position is also open at the time of this posting) to plan, select, and prepare preludes, postludes, and offertories, according to the needs of the worship services.
8. Serve as accompanist for other choirs, ensembles, and soloists, when needed.
9. Play for weddings and funerals, as requested (and upon availability), being permitted to receive additional compensation from the parties involved.
10. Maintain an accurate account of organ and piano needs and maintenance. Notify the Senior Pastor and church council of any concerns or repairs needed.
11. Assist the Music Director in finding a substitute for Sundays when not available.

Compensation:

This is a salary position. The salary will be consistent with candidate's education, experience, and skill level. Possible to be adjusted to hourly to meet the needs of the applicant and Pilgrim Church.

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