

MUSIC MINISTRY LEADERSHIP
WEST CHESTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Please send résumé and cover letter to westchesterpres@gmail.com

For the past several years our musical leadership has consisted of three roles. We have:

1. An organist/pianist - who accompanies congregational singing of traditional hymns during worship and also accompanies the choir at rehearsals and in Sunday worship.
2. A choir director - who conducts weekly choir practice from September through May to prepare an anthem for performance on Sunday morning. The choir director also leads congregational traditional hymn singing throughout the year.
3. A guitarist/vocalist - who leads the congregation in singing contemporary Christian songs.

This leadership team has given us an opportunity to experience both the freshness of the “new” and the solidity of the “traditional” as we worship the eternal God on Sunday mornings. Our single worship service includes various styles of worship.

All three of the people currently serving in these roles plan to vacate the roles starting in June of this year. Two are retiring after decades of service in our congregation and the third is completing a graduate degree and moving into a new career field.

We strongly desire to continue with traditional and contemporary Christian musical expression. How we do so will depend upon the talents of the available applicants. We are willing to combine or modify music leadership roles, based on the unique abilities of applicants.

Music ministry at WCPC should be led by individuals of faith who cherish musical expression as a central element of individual and corporate worship of Jesus Christ. As a congregation, we are open to various styles of Christian music and have cherished how this musical variety enriches our ability to proclaim and receive God’s glory and grace.

Here is a description of each of the three jobs in music ministry leadership that we have at West Chester Presbyterian Church:

Choir Director:

- provide overall direction of the adult choir, leading its once-a-week rehearsals (Currently, the choir sings on Sunday mornings from September through May and practices on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30PM from late August through May)
- select the choir anthems for the Sunday morning worship services
- be at church on Sunday mornings by 9:30 AM to rehearse with the choir prior to worship
- be responsible for submitting an annual music budget
- be responsible for previewing, selecting, ordering and cataloging new music
- plan and carry out choir member recruitment activities

- arrange for special music for Sunday morning worship services when the choir is not performing
- assist with the musical portion of seasonal/special services as necessary
- be supervised by the pastor and serve as a member of the worship planning team that meets weekly to plan worship services
- this is a part-time role

Organist or Pianist:

- accompany the choir, congregation and special music (like a soloist) as needed for Sunday morning worship
- be available on Sunday morning by 9:30 AM to rehearse with the choir prior to worship
- accompany the choir at its once-a-week rehearsals (Currently, the choir sings on Sunday mornings from September through May and practices on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30PM from late August through May)
- provide prelude/postlude/offertory music as needed for worship
- play for seasonal or special services when held, including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Christmas Eve and funeral (celebration of life) services. When more than one service is held on Easter Sunday or Christmas Eve, the organist/pianist is expected to play for each service.
- take steps to ensure that substitute organists or pianists are qualified to use the church organ or piano
- demonstrate (and/or further develop as necessary) the ability to play a range of musical styles including classical hymns, gospel, and contemporary pieces
- be supervised by the pastor and serve as a member of the worship planning team that meets weekly to plan worship services
- this is a part-time role

Guitarist/Vocalist:

- plays the guitar (though keyboard/piano may be an alternative) and leads others in singing modern Christian songs
- has the ability to lead others in group singing and instrumental (band) musical performance
- be supervised by the pastor and serve as a member of the worship planning team that meets weekly to plan worship services
- this is a part-time role

Pay Rate:

All three roles in music ministry leadership combined are paid \$20k annually. Based on individual ability, a person may be able to combine more than one role that we have had in music ministry leadership at our church. In such a case, the hours and pay would be appropriately adjusted.