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OGDEN MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Pianist / Vocalist

Ogden Memorial Presbyterian Church is a warm and welcoming, culturally diverse and ethnically inclusive, congregation. While we would call ourselves a traditional church, we are flexible in our approaches to worship, ministry and mission, seeking the movement of the Holy Spirit as it guides us in whom we are called to be and how we are called to serve. In all we say and do, we hold before us our motto of “Putting Love First In the Heart of Chatham.”

Our Church is very near (walkable) the Chatham Train Station with easy access to New York City and a range of New Jersey suburbs, including Hoboken, and towns like Morristown and Summit.

The sanctuary contains an excellent August Forster grand piano and a Rodgers digital organ enhanced with pipes in the Great Division.

Purpose: To enhance the Sunday morning worship service and create an environment of spirited worship through music, playing piano music and providing vocal leadership during Sunday services; and providing music during worship services for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Christmas Eve, and any other additional special services or events (such as weddings or funerals with additional compensation) that may arise. There is the possibility that occasionally some of the responsibilities for this position will occur off-site.

Responsibilities:

Work in conjunction with the minister and the Worship and Music Committee to create a Sunday morning experience (and/or online experience) of spirited worship and music.

Meet with the Worship and Music Committee (normally after church on the second Sunday of the month) which includes the minister, to decide on themes, special activities, and supporting liturgy, including selection of hymns. (Final approval on the selection of hymns rests with the minister.) In general, support and assist in the work of the Worship and Music Committee.

Plan for, rehearse and play appropriate service music on the piano, paying close attention to encourage congregational singing and participation.

Arrange for soloists and instrumentalists (both paid and volunteer) to support the worship services, as appropriate.

Provide musical support for all special worship services beyond Sunday morning, including but not limited to Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Christmas Eve, as well as any other special event or service. This will include providing support for the annual Christmas Pageant.

Arrange for substitute musicians to play services when the Pianist / Vocalist is unavailable. This applies to services such as weddings or funerals, as well (fees for weddings/funerals to be negotiated on a case by case basis).

Coordinate the maintenance and tuning of all pianos and the organ.

On occasion organize special musical events/concerts. This will include the annual Christmas Caroling Event.

If and as required, provide music for online services.

Accountability: Accountable to the Session through the Pastor as Head of Staff and the Worship and Music Committee.

Evaluation: The Pastor and Personnel Committee of Session will conduct a performance evaluation within the first six months of employment and annually thereafter. The Worship and Music Committee will be consulted and may be included in that evaluation.

Terms: This is a part-time position requiring no fewer than 10 hours per week with three (3) weeks paid vacation. If needed and as the church schedule allows, other unpaid time may be possible.

Qualifications:

Minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Music or a related field, or equivalent experience. Excellent organizational and communication skills. Obvious skills in piano playing and worship leadership. Organ playing skills is a desired qualification.

Obvious skills in the selection of music and the direction of choirs with a specialization in traditional choral and instrumental music but an ability to blend the best of other genres, including spirituals and contemporary music.

A vocal performance background is desirable, as it relates to leading hymns and other music from the keyboard.

Knowledge of the Christian faith and the willingness to incorporate this into the musical experience of all choir participants. A sincere commitment to and love for the work of the church and the people of God, and an ability to work with all ages, especially children. A deep sense of the value of worship and how music can enhance the worship experience.

Producing online content/services

Experience with online promotion, including social media

The ideal candidate is joyful, faithful, creative, a good listener, and open to differences among people. Must be collaborative with the congregation and staff, as well as other committees, and demonstrate an entrepreneurial spirit and enthusiasm about growing the music program at Ogden.

Experience with live, amplified sound systems used in worship

Salary Range: \$15-20K

October 28 2020