

Great Falls United Methodist Church
10100 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, Virginia 22066

Position Description: Church Accompanist

Date approved by SPPRC: revised October 2022

Status: Part-Time, salaried

Hours: Part-Time

General Purpose of Position:

To support the Great Falls United Methodist Church (GFUMC) music ministry by providing organ and piano music during the worship services and at scheduled rehearsals as required.

Organizational Relationship and Supervision:

The Accompanist will work with the Pastor in planning worship.

The Primary Tasks and Responsibilities:

The Accompanist:

- coordinate with the Pastor regarding the general planning of the church music program.
- provide organ and/or piano music during worship services and at required scheduled rehearsals including, but not limited to:
 - One Sunday morning service of approximately one hour, which is currently scheduled at 10 am each week.
 - Up to one hour immediately preceding the Sunday morning service for warmup and rehearsal for the Adult Choir, Youth Choir, or any other person or group performing during the service.
 - Approximately 75 minutes of rehearsal time for the Adult Choir one evening per week.
 - Additional services as requested by the Pastor including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Christmas Eve (two services).
- The number and times of the services may change. Evening rehearsals for the Adult and Youth Choirs may be suspended during the months of June, July and August with no impact on the compensation of the Accompanist.
- The music to be performed for any services include preludes, postludes, Adult anthems, soloist or ensemble performances, congregational hymns, settings for offerings, processions, service transitions, and special music performances.

- Although not required for the position, the Accompanist is encouraged to provide musical support for weddings, funerals, and special services as requested by the Pastor and compensated by the person(s) for whom such services are performed.
- Provide any information required by the Church office staff necessary for preparation of the Sunday bulletins.
- Preview the order of worship for each service and be prepared to play either the organ or piano as determined.
- Be required to devote sufficient practice time commensurate with his or her proficiency to perform with high quality for all performances, settings, and rehearsals.
- For planned absences, the Accompanist shall notify Pastor at least two weeks in advance and arrange for a substitute with no impact on his or her compensation. The Church Treasurer will pay the substitute directly.
- For illness and emergency absences, the Accompanist shall notify the Pastor as soon as possible.
- Be subject to a performance review conducted by the SPPRC on an annual basis. Compensation of the Accompanist may be adjusted pursuant to such review, in consideration of the annual budget of the Church.
- The Accompanist position is at will and either the Church or the Accompanist may terminate the position for any lawful reason.

Qualifications and Aptitude

The Accompanist shall be proficient in both organ and piano. Shall be required to perform a balance of traditional, classical and contemporary music. While preparation through rehearsal is expected, the Accompanist is also expected to have the ability to sight read music, particularly at rehearsals, and to adjust to last-minute changes to the music program.