

CHURCH ORGANIST

Job Description

Principal Function

The Church Organist is a committed Christian who provides organ music and accompaniment for scheduled worship services and other activities in support of the music ministry of the church. Having a pivotal role in the musical life of the church, this individual is a strong team player, being a full partner with the ministerial staff and the Church Pianist of Shades Crest Baptist Church.

Job Description

This year-round position is defined as salary (no overtime pay), restricted part time. Expectation of attendance is for Sunday worship services, rehearsals with the Sanctuary Choir and the Orchestra, and other special services, including (but not limited to) Christmas and Easter. The work is done cooperatively, especially with the Music Minister and the Church Pianist. As a part of the musical leadership team of the church, the Organist is expected to advocate for the music program.

Job Requirements

1. A disciple of Jesus Christ, committed to growing in faith through practicing the spiritual disciplines of prayer, Scripture study, worship participation, and service at and beyond Shades Crest Baptist Church.
2. Experience in church worship, with both organ and other music and hymnody (understanding and familiarity with blended worship preferred).
3. Flexibility to play in blended style services that include all types of worship music.
4. Knowledge of the instrument and keyboard ability sufficient to play hymns, songs, and anthem accompaniments. Ability to sight-read and improvise is desired.
5. High degree of competence on organ, and the ability to accompany groups and individuals.
6. Knowledge of basic music theory and ability to perform simple transpositions or harmonizations.
7. Willingness to rehearse sufficiently to maintain a high quality of music.
8. Sensitivity and the ability to interact with a variety of people.
9. Ability to take direction and work as a team member.
10. Ability to communicate well and in a friendly manner with the church leadership, church choir and orchestra, and members of the congregation.
11. Desire to maintain a constant program of self-improvement.

Accountability

The Organist is accountable to the Minister of Music as head of the Worship and Music Ministry of the church. This individual will need to notify the Minister of Music a minimum of three weeks prior to planned absences (preferably as soon as known) to allow for scheduling of a substitute organist.

Successful compliance with the General Employment Practices detailed in the church's Personnel Manual (including background check and drug testing) must be fulfilled.

An annual performance review will be done.

Responsibilities:

1. Support the church's worship environment through the well-prepared execution of music presented by the choir, orchestra, and other musicians.
2. Serve as accompanist for the Sanctuary Choir in regular and special rehearsals and performances as assigned.
3. Facilitate congregational singing and worship through the excellent execution of hymns and other songs.
4. Be a part of the orchestra, attending its rehearsals and performing with other players.
5. Plan, select, and prepare preludes, postludes and offertories, according to the needs of the worship services.
6. Serve as accompanist for other choirs, ensembles, and soloists, when needed.
7. Play for weddings and funerals, as requested (and upon availability), being permitted to receive additional compensation from the parties involved.
8. Maintain an accurate account of organ needs and maintenance, and notify the Minister of Music.
9. Assist the Minister of Music in finding a substitute for Sundays when not available.

Salary

Negotiable, consistent with candidate's education, experience, and skill level.