

MUSIC AT WEST MARKET CHURCH

Music is so powerful — especially in the Church. When we sing it's hard to focus on anything else. Music is a gift and a huge part of what we do at West Market Church, especially in worship. We recognize, however, that people worship differently, and that's why you will find a mix of worship styles at West Market. We offer traditional worship, which features our 25+ voice adult choir performing hymns, anthems, and special musical arrangements, accompanied by our beautiful Dobson-Rosales pipe organ. Additionally, our handbell choir is featured on a regular basis in the traditional worship service. We also offer a modern worship service featuring a Christian rock band that plays the latest worship songs from popular artists. Even though we have both traditional and modern worship services, West Market Church is one congregation. All members of our church staff support and work in collaboration with each other, much like a family, to further the mission and vision of West Market Church. (For additional information, visit westmarketchurch.org.)

TRADITIONAL MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES AT WEST MARKET CHURCH

We believe music is a gift from God and vital for worship and is fundamental to us as a congregation. Accordingly, we offer an assortment of musical groups and styles for adults, youth and children in order to glorify the Lord through music:

CHANCEL CHOIR: The adult choir provides inspiring musical leadership for our traditional worship services (Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00) and for other services and special programs throughout the year.

WEST MARKET MUSIC SPECIAL PERFORMANCES: Inspiring audiences for decades, our music ministry offers a variety of special musical services and performances which attract an audience from West Market Church and the greater Greensboro area (e.g., Good Friday service, Jazz in June, Jazz Nativity).

KIDS VOCAL CHOIRS: Kids (preschool through 5th grades) meet from September through May and sing in worship about 3 times a year.

HANDBELL CHOIRS: Our adult handbell choir rings during worship services throughout the year. We also have a children's handbell choir for kids in grades 2-5.

INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE: "Short-term" intergenerational instrumental ensembles participate in worship services and other opportunities several times per year. The ensemble practices weekly or more often during a 6-8 week period and performs at the conclusion of the period.

YOUTH CHOIR: "Short-term" youth choirs (middle and high school students) participate in worship services several times per year and are a combined traditional and modern music ministry. Such choirs practice weekly or more often during a 6-8 week period and sing in worship at the conclusion of the period.

THE DIRECTOR OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC POSITION

As the primary organist and choir director, the Director of Traditional Music Ministry will provide leadership and development of traditional worship music programs that engage the congregation and help them foster a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Music is a vital part of our ministry together, so as always, we seek a Director who leads from a place of spirituality rather than performance and who promotes a music ministry that is inclusive of various people and talents. As a member of the professional staff, the Director works with the clergy, staff and volunteers to plan and coordinate congregational, choral and instrumental music in Sunday worship services and special services. The Director will share his/her talents and will also seek out and encourage talent from members of the congregation, including youth, and will think creatively about music programs and activities to enhance the worship experience.

Specific Duties:

- Provide organ music and direct choir(s) and ensembles at Sunday morning services throughout the year.
- Conduct regular weekly rehearsals for the adult choir and the adult handbell choir September through June.
- Design and implement current special musical services and programs (including Good Friday service, Jazz Nativity, Jazz in June, Summer Music Series). Develop new musical and artistic ministries in consultation with the pastors and other staff and regularly review existing programs.
- Develop and implement a plan to expand volunteer participation in all choirs and instrumental ensembles.
- Recruit, train, and equip singers and musicians for participation in worship services. Teach, coach and mentor all music ministry team members to become lifelong learners with respect to their musical talents as well as their spiritual development.
- Ensure effective communication to all participants in music ministry activities.
- Assist and support the planning of worship services. Attend regular meetings with pastoral staff and the Worship Committee. Assist the pastors in choosing hymns that both textually and musically aid in worship and in the preaching of the Word. Provide specific music for and proofread Sunday bulletins.
- Actively participate in the music and arts community in the Greensboro area to build relationships with local musicians.
- Work with volunteers to plan and organize occasional special music events (e.g., concerts, tours, mission trips, retreats, festivals, workshops, clinics).
- Recruit and develop a team to delegate tasks and activities to volunteers to maintain balance and a cohesive team approach to the music ministry.
- Develop a plan and work to extend the interest in traditional sacred music in our community.
- Develop program(s) and actions to enhance college student involvement (as volunteers or for school credit) and work to develop a strong relationship with community music educators.
- Participate in promoting attendance at special worship services and events.
- Serve as organist for weddings, funerals, and memorial services as requested. (Compensation provided by the family or couple.) The services of another organist may be used with the permission of the regular organist.

- Secure substitute direction and musicians when not personally available.
- Develop and manage the budget for the traditional music ministry.
- Maintain music library and purchase new music within budget allowances. Supervise volunteers in maintaining music library and keeping music in choir members' folders up-to-date.
- Develop a working knowledge of sound and recording equipment used in worship and special programs and set up for each church presentation, including for Sunday services and performances before Jazz Nativity events.
- Arrange for maintenance of all musical instruments and items (e.g., the organ, pianos, keyboard(s), handbells, chimes and choir robes.)
- Work with the Director of Modern Worship Music, Director of Youth Ministry and Director of Children's Ministry to assist and guide the young people in the congregation to share and nurture their musical gifts and abilities.
- Recruit, train, equip, and encourage lay leaders and volunteers to lead and/or assist with children's and youth choir ministry.
- Procure capable, voluntary accompanists for the children's and youth choirs.
- Search out and introduce diverse musical genres, styles, and programming for worship and concerts.
- Serve as a community arts leader and advocate, actively contributing to West Market Church's music ministry regional outreach, educational and fundraising activities.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE PROFILE

The successful candidate will be a gifted organist and director who will inspire and teach us to lift our hearts and our voices to worship God in new ways. This is a full-time professional position requiring both a high level of artistry and organizational skill.

- Strong organ and keyboard skills and experience
- Strong choral conducting skills and experience
- Understanding of vocal pedagogy and voice development
- Experience directing handbells
- Experience directing small instrumental ensembles
- Innovative and open to new ideas
- Leadership skills for initiating, developing, and maintaining a high-quality music ministry program
- Strong teamwork and conflict resolution skills
- High emotional intelligence and people skills
- Creative, energetic, and resourceful
- Willingness to be a flexible and committed team-member
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Strong Christian faith
- Minimum of B.A. or B.S. in Music or a related discipline

Interested and well-qualified candidates should send a personal letter of interest that speaks to your experience and passion for music ministry and resume or CV to: wmsumcjobs@gmail.com. Applicants are encouraged to submit links to streaming audio or video of their current choir and/or organ playing. Applications must be received by January 20, 2020.