South Congregational First Baptist Church

Director of Music

**Description**

South Congregational – First Baptist Church in New Britain, CT, is seeking an individual to fill the role of Director of Music. In partnership with clergy, the Director of Music is a creative and inspirational leader, responsible for the integration and interpretation of music in worship and in the life of the congregation. Our ideal candidate is an accomplished organist with experience conducting sacred choral music. We seek a dynamic individual with strong leadership skills who will grow our music ministry. South Church has long been known for our Gress-Miles organ and exceptional Chancel Choir, and our goal is to continue to build on that tradition. Yet, while we highly value traditional classical choral music, we understand that different styles of music move people spiritually. We are a diverse congregation looking to continually increase in diversity and number. Our motto, “In the Heart of the City for the Heart of the City”, represents very much who we are and want to be. Thus, we feel the need for a more varied music repertoire that includes gospel, contemporary praise music, and sacred music from South America, the Caribbean, and other cultures. We seek a Director of Music with vision to build an expansive and inclusive ministry.

One aspect of our music legacy is The Music Series at South Church, which has traditionally produced four concerts annually, including A Candlelight Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, featuring our Chancel Choir. Our ideal Director of Music will fill the role of Artistic Director for The Music Series.

Music is a substantial part of our liturgy, thus the position also requires an individual who is comfortable working with our pastor to shape services in terms of musicality, hymnody and the lectionary.

**Requirements**

**Function**

The Director of Music plans, develops and administers a complete music program for the church, including the ministry of music in worship, and opportunities for outreach through fine arts in our congregation and community; serves as organist and choirmaster; supervises all professional and volunteer music personnel; and assists the pastor in all endeavors for the spiritual welfare of the church.

**Accountability**

The Director of Music is a full-time, exempt position that reports directly to the pastor and congregation through its elected Church Council. He/she has authority in the administration of the church’s music ministry and in the supervision of professional and volunteer music personnel, subject to the limits of the Board of Worship, Music and the Arts (WMA).

**Duties**

* Plans, develops and administers a complete music program for the church, including the ministry of music in worship, and opportunities for outreach through fine arts in our congregation and community.

* Works with pastors and staff in the design, development and execution of all worship services, and participates in all regular and special services of the church.

* Directs the Chancel Choir in weekly rehearsals and Sunday worship services.

* Hires, supervises and evaluates the performance of the Chancel Choir’s professional soloists/section leaders, and hires/supervises the Music Secretary.

* Serves as Artistic Director of The Music Series at South Church, providing artistic consultation, and including the planning and execution of A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, featuring the Chancel Choir.

* Maintains the collection of the church’s instruments, including two Gress-Miles organs – a large instrument in our main chancel (<http://www.southchurch.org/organ>), and a smaller organ located in our chapel.

* Leads recruitment efforts for active participation in the church’s music ministry.

* Researches diverse styles of music for integration into the repertoire to keep pace with the growing diversity within the congregation.

* Selects, orders and maintains, in coordination with the Music Librarian, all music for use by the Chancel Choir.

* Leads special musical ensembles of various ages and abilities as needed, i.e., the Tower Chime Guild, hand bell and contemporary choirs.

* Responsible for providing music at all weddings and funerals held in the church (for additional compensation).

* Attends staff, WMA and Church Council meetings.

* Drafts music notes for the Sunday bulletin and other events, and other communications to the congregation about the music ministry.

* Arranges for special vocalists or instrumentalists to supplement the music at regular and special services.

* Stays current with choral, organ, piano and other instrumental techniques and repertoire.

* Reviews and examines music and related literature to broaden the work of the music ministry.

* Oversees technical aspects of recording and sound systems.

**Core Competencies**

The position of Director of Music requires substantial professional training and experience in organ, piano, choral conducting, sacred music and music education. The preferred candidate should be a degreed professional or have the equivalent work experience, as well as experience in administration and supervision of volunteer and professional musicians.

The start date for this position is August 1, 2018. Your annual salary will be based on your education, experience and potential. We offer a competitive benefit package. Additional compensation offered for Artistic Director consultation to The Music Series at South Church.

To apply, please submit a letter of interest describing how you meet the requirements presented in the job description, a current resume, and contact information for three references to Pastor Jane Rowe at South Church: jrowe@southchurch.org. The application deadline is end of business on May 31, 2018.

*South Church provides equal employment opportunities and does not discriminate opportunities or practices on the basis of race, color, religion (except insofar as ordination or religious background may be a qualification for a position), sex, national origin, ancestry, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, military status or any other class or status protected by law.*