

Minister of Music
¾-time (30 hours per week)

About Us:

[Westminster Presbyterian Church](#) (USA) is committed to living out our faith through worship, learning, service to our neighbors, and by pursuing justice, reconciliation, and wholeness for all people. Worship is the center of our life together and coming together as a church helps us to know and love one another and see each other as full members of the body of Christ.

As we offer prayer and praise, we seek to:

- **invite** and **encourage** the significant gifts already within the congregation;
- **welcome** and **strengthen** the participation of our intergenerational community;
- **celebrate** God and God's people in both inclusive and expansive ways;
- **honor** the rich tapestry of experiences, cultures, languages, and traditions present in our community, while remaining open to what is new and yet unknown.

Music plays a formative role in our community's life and musicians with diverse skills and interests have served at Westminster Presbyterian over the years. The Chancel Choir has been a faithful presence, regularly offering music in worship and in the wider community. A three-four octave handbell choir continues to meet. Children's and youth choirs have played a vital part in the congregation's worship life in the past. Additionally, musicians from within the congregation (vocalists and instrumentalists) regularly share their gifts in worship.

The church's musical resources include a 12 rank Schlicker pipe organ (1972) and a Steinway L baby grand piano in the Sanctuary, a 2 manual Wicks pipe/digital organ in the Chapel, 5 octaves of Schulmerich handbells, 3 octave tone chimes, a substantial collection of percussion and Orff instruments, and an extensive music library.

Position Description and Qualifications:

We seek a Minister of Music with the skills and sensitivity to serve as a unifying and energizing presence, who will collaborate with Pastor, staff, and lay leaders to shape worship that honors God, invites experiences of learning and growth, and inspires us to love and serve others. We are especially interested in candidates who are able to model, teach, and organize others, cultivating shared leadership rather than serving as a solo leader.

Successful applicants should be able to demonstrate the following skills and characteristics:

- **Experience as a leader** of choirs and other musical ensembles, including the ability to invite participation, organize schedules, and plan repertoire;
- **Appreciation of music's role** within Christian worship and sensitivity to the emotional and spiritual flow of a worship service;
- **Strong keyboard skills (organ and piano)** as well as the ability to direct from the keyboard;
- **Heart for the spiritual formation** of the community and willingness to incorporate prayer and/or theological reflection in rehearsals, committee meetings, and worship;
- **Stylistic versatility** and willingness to learn and play music from varied traditions and styles, as well as desire to build and celebrate diversity beyond a surface multiculturalism;
- **Willingness to work with volunteers** of varied ages and musical skills, with a commitment to nurturing people and the learning process over perfection;
- **A team player**, able to offer creative input in planning and brainstorming as well as honor the gifts and perspective of others;
- **Strong communication skills**, especially ability to relate to individuals from a variety of backgrounds and experiences;

- **Flexibility and grace**, as well as patience and a sense of humor.
- **Creative leadership and collaboration** as we engage in worship planning and experiment with varied approaches to interpretation of scripture (visual, multimedia, spoken, sung, etc.)
- **A completed Bachelor's degree** in music preferred but not required. We recognize the musical and interpersonal skills we seek are frequently found outside of the church, especially in educational and therapeutic contexts. We welcome those with an understanding of music's ability to build and sustain community to apply.

Responsibilities:

The Minister of Music is a $\frac{3}{4}$ -time position (30 hours/week). Responsibilities include:

- **Planning and leading** music for worship in collaboration with the pastor for weekly 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services and special services including Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Christmas Eve;
- **Hiring, coordinating, and overseeing the music scholar program (3 paid singers from nearby colleges/universities);**
- **Directing the Chancel Choir and Handbell Choirs**, including a weekly rehearsal and additional rehearsals, as needed;
- **Participating in planning for monthly LIFT services, an intergenerational interactive worship format**, and supporting opportunities for intergenerational music-making;
- **Inviting and coordinating** additional ensembles/musicians from the congregation and community;
- **Facilitating the congregation's singing** through sensitive accompaniment of hymns and service music, or by serving as a song leader/cantor;
- **Offering organ and piano music** for Sunday morning worship services and other special and seasonal services throughout the year;
- **Collaborating with pastor and worship leaders** to plan and assess worship;
- **Collaborating with the Worship Team**, a group of congregational leaders who meet seasonally to shape the worship life of the community;
- **Overseeing** the maintenance of instruments and music ministry-related equipment, as well as the worship budget in collaboration with Worship and Music chair;
- **Providing music for weddings and funerals**, as negotiated.

The position provides competitive salary based on experience, as well as:

- Three weeks of paid vacation time (including 3 Sundays);
- One week of continuing education/study leave and funds for professional development;
- Office and rehearsal space within the church;
- Sanctuary or other space available for teaching, performing, and/or sharing artistic gifts with the congregation and community.
- Option of paying into employer-sponsored retirement plan
- Option of health benefits

The application deadline is **May 25, 2018**. To apply, please submit:

- Cover letter explaining why you are interested in the position;
- Resume with two recent references;
- Supporting materials (links to recordings/videos) that demonstrate your skills.

Application materials can be sent to the Search Committee Chair Arthur Riihimaki, ariihimaki@me.com, with **'Musician Search Committee'** in the subject line.

It is the policy of Westminster Presbyterian Church to provide equal employment opportunity (EEO) to all persons regardless of age, color, national origin, citizenship status, physical or mental disability, race, religion, creed, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, genetic information, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local law.