



St. Luke's Episcopal Church

a caring church

www.stlukesmetuchen.org
17 Oak Avenue, at Route 27 ♦ Metuchen, NJ 08840-1529
Phone (732) 548-4308 ♦ Fax (732) 548-5369

Position Description - Church Musician

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, located in Metuchen, NJ, is seeking a new organist and choir director, to play the weekly 10 a.m. Sunday service and lead our 15-voice volunteer choir. In addition, the chosen candidate will accompany our youth choir, the Schola Cantorum, in rehearsal and in church. The choirs are in session from the Sunday after Labor Day until the third Sunday in June, and do not rehearse or sing in services during the summer.

St. Luke's is an open and affirming parish. We are a community of people of all ages who seek and serve Christ in one another. We raise children who know themselves to be beloved children of God. We partner adults in the challenges of living in a demanding world with trust and hope. We treasure the wisdom of our elders. We know that Christ's love is stronger than any barrier human beings can erect. We celebrate that love in music and sacraments ancient, yet freshly relevant to a modern people. With our time, talent, and treasure, we stand with those less fortunate than ourselves.

St. Luke's has a custom-made, three-manual, 80-stop electronic Allen Renaissance Organ. The Renaissance organ has the most realistic pipe organ sound available in a pipeless organ. Allen's Active Pipe Response allows a feel response of a fine mechanical-action pipe organ and Allen's Virtual Acoustics creates an acoustic environment from pipe chamber to cathedral.

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Music with a concentration in organ performance, or similar degree or equivalent experience
- Thorough knowledge of sacred music, particularly that of the Episcopal (Anglican) tradition.
- High level of musicianship
- Experience in vocal coaching for both adult and youth choirs
- Ability to work with singers of all ages

Duties include but are not limited to:

- Play weekly Sunday services year-round
- Play Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Christmas Eve services
- Rehearse with the adult choir (currently Sundays after church), including additional rehearsal time, as needed, for special seasonal services

- Accompany and rehearse with the Schola Cantorum, including a ninety-minute Christmas Pageant rehearsal (usually the Saturday prior to the Pageant) and occasional thirty- to forty-five-minute joint rehearsals with the Schola Cantorum and the adult choir
- Maintain the parish music library (administrative support available)
- Play incidental services (weddings, funerals) as they arise. Bench fee is \$350, waived if the organist is unavailable when requested.
- Locate a replacement to cover absences, in coordination with the rector.

Salary and Other Details

This is a part-time position, estimated to be ten to fifteen hours a week. Hours include regular one-and-a-half to two hours on Thursdays with the Schola Cantorum, and five to six hours on Sundays including adult choir rehearsal, plus personal practice and administrative time. Salary is a minimum of \$20,800, with no medical or retirement benefits. Four weeks paid vacation are included, dates to be determined in consultation with the Rector.

If chosen to interview, the candidate will audition on our organ, and will be allowed up to 1 hour private practice time before audition. He/she will also lead an abbreviated choir rehearsal. Please send a resume and a brief statement of your approach to the vocation of church music, with any other materials the Search Committee should consider, to employment@stlukesmetuchen.org by May 20. Please put the word "Organist" in the subject line.